

## COMMENT AND RESPONSE DOCUMENT

### **Draft BAQ-GPA/GP-5 (Natural Gas, Coal Bed Methane or Gob Gas Production or Recovery Facilities)**

On November 26, 2005, notice was published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, 35 Pa.B. 6462, regarding the availability of revised air quality general plan approvals and/or general operating permits BAQ-GPA/GP-5. The primary purpose of this revision was to add coal bed methane recovery facilities in the General Permit along with natural gas production facilities. A 45-day comment period was provided, and written comments were received only from one commentator, Mr. Jay Hammond of CNX Gas Corporation.

In his comment dated January 9, 2006, Mr. Hammond proposed to expand the use of the General Permit to coal mine methane and gob gas production or recovery facilities also. The Department determined that coal mine methane is the subset of coal bed methane that is released from the coal seams during the process of coal mining and need not be included separately. The Department accepted the proposed inclusion of gob gas along with natural gas and coal bed methane production or recovery facilities in this revised General Permit. Apart from enlarging the scope of applicability of the General Permit, the changes did not affect any of the General Permit conditions.