

4. APPLICATION CHRONOLOGY

6/5/2025 – Pre-Application meeting
10/3/2025 – Application ESG294125011-00 received
10/3/2025 – Application E4129225-017 received
10/7/2025 – Application ESG294125011-00 administratively complete
10/14/2025 – Application E4129225-017 administratively complete
10/30/2025 – Technical Deficiency sent for ESG294125011-00
11/1/2025 – E4129225-017 application notice published in the PA Bulletin.
11/08/2025 – Department received first public comments.
11/12/2025 – Conference call (PGE, CEC and DEP) CEC – (Laura Wibble, Pete Staudenmeier), PGE (Kendra Schiappa) and DEP – (Alex Barravecchio, Dan Harvey, Chris Yeakel, Erin Chambers, & Chris Mileto)
11/14/2025 – Conference call DEP – (AB, DH, CY, EC and CM)
11/18/2025 – Department received agency comments from the PFBC for E4129225-017
11/20/2025 – Department sent technical deficiency letter for E4129225-017
12/10/2025 – Department sent draft response matrix to Legal (Nicole Ippolito). Pa Bulletin comments requested public hearing.
12/12/2025 – Conference call with Legal (Nicole Ippolito) & DEP – (AB, DH, CY and CM). Agreed to have virtual public hearing
12/19/2025 – Department meeting with PGE & RES to discuss project mitigation
12/22/2025 – Department meeting with DCNR (Rich Glinski, Charles Engel, Craig Chapman & Stephanie Livelsberger) & DEP (AB, DH, CY, EC and CM).
12/26/2025 – Technical deficiency response comments received for ESG294125011-00.
1/3/2026 – Notice of Public Hearing Published
1/7/2026 – Technical deficiency response comments received for E4129225-017
1/13/2026 – Department sent Pre-Denial Letter for ESG294125011-00.
1/26/2026 – Department sent email guidance for Pre-Denial Letter
2/3/2026 – Virtual Public Hearing to receive public comments
2/9/2026 – Department sent Pre-Denial Letter for E4129225-017
2/18/2026 – Pre-Denial Meeting. CEC – (Laura Wibble, Pete Staudenmeier, Josh Reffner, Julia Pflugrath), PGE (Kendra Schiappa, Logan Langer & Nathan Harris) & DEP – (AB, DH, CY, EC and CM).
2/25/2026 – Conference call Mike Dombroskie (USACOE) & DEP – (DH, CY, EC and CM)
3/9/2026 – Conference call CEC & ACOE–(Laura Wibble, Pete Staudenmeier, Josh Reffner, Julia Pflugrath), PGE (Kendra Schiappa, Logan Langer & Nathan Harris), DEP – (DH, CY, EC and CM) & USACOE (Mike Dombroskie)
3/9/2026 – Formal request from the applicant for a 14-day time extension to respond to TDL (due 3/20/2026)
3/20/2026 – Predenial technical deficiency response comments received for the ESG294125011-00 & E4129225-017
4/1/2026 – Sent Public Comment Response Matrix (RM) to legal for review Elevated Review Process.
4/24/2026 – E4129225-017 application review completed. Permit documents and application sent for denial
5/6/2026 – Elevated Review completed

5. PUBLIC NOTICE/PARTICIPATION

PA Bulletin Published: [November 1, 2025](#) End of 30-Day Comment Period: [December 1, 2025](#)

Public Comments Received: Yes No

Details: [171 commentors. See Response Matrix](#)

Public Hearing/Meeting: Yes No N/A

Public Hearing/Meeting Date: [February 3, 2026](#)

Comment Response Document: Yes No N/A

Date Final Action Published in PA Bulletin: **Permit recommended for Denial**

On October 3, 2025, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (“DEP” or “Department”) received an Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit – 4 application (DEP File No. ESG294125011) (“ESCGP-4”). On October 6, 2025, DEP received a Chapter 105 State Water Obstruction and Encroachment Application (DEP File No. E4129225-017) (“Joint Permit Application or JPA”).

The JPA was submitted to construct, operate and maintain twenty (20) permanent stream crossings, nineteen (19) temporary stream crossings, eight (8) permanent wetland crossings and ten (10) temporary wetland crossings in Gamble & Cascade Township, Lycoming County. The work involves the construction of a permanent access road and staging area.

The proposed project includes the construction of a 3.9-mile-long permanent access road and staging area. The proposed road will facilitate access to an existing well pad and future well pads proposed on the state forest tract. The proposed staging area will be used to store equipment and materials for the construction of future well pads and will later be used as a well pad. The proposed limit of disturbance is approximately 40 acres. All stream and wetland crossings will be open cut. The ESCGP-3 was submitted for permit coverage of the earth disturbance activities associated with the project construction.

The applications include Act 14 notifications that were sent to Lycoming County, Cascade Township and Gamble on September 22, 2025. On November 1, 2025, DEP published notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin (52 Pa.B 3443) regarding the receipt of an application for the JPA. The thirty (30) day comment period remained open until December 1, 2025.

On February 3, 2026, DEP conducted a virtual public hearing during which the applicant provided additional information on about the proposed project and the alternate routes evaluated. Public testimony was recorded and added as part of the JPA application documents.

This comment response document contains the public comments submitted to DEP by 171 commentors since the receipt of both applications, including the thirty (30) day Bulletin comment period for the JPA. The following pages contain the submitted comments and DEP's responses. Comments are listed with identifying Commentor ID number and all pertinent responses.

The thirty (30) day comment period remained open until December 1 , 2025. Multiple commentors requested a public meeting. On January 3, 2026, the Department published notice of a public hearing to be held on February 3, 2026. On February 3, 2026, the Department conducted a virtual public hearing during which the applicant provided additional information on the proposed project and the alternative routes evaluated. Public testimony was recorded and added as part of the project application documents.

A Comment Response Document was prepared by the Department and contains the public comments submitted to the Department by 171 commentors since the receipt of both applications, including the thirty (30) day Bulletin comment period for the JPA and the additional comment period used to capture the elevated interest in this project. The document contains the submitted comments and the Department's responses.

6. FEDERAL PERMITTING/LICENSING

Army Corps of Engineers 404 Permit: No Federal Jurisdiction Ineligible for SPGP
Army Corps District: Pittsburgh Philadelphia Baltimore
PASPGP Category: Reporting Non-Reporting (Attach SPGP to Permit)
Date Application Sent to Corps (Reporting Only): N/A
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC): N/A
Other Federal Permits or Licenses: N/A

7. STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION (SWQC)

- SWQC Issued integral with Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit
 SWQC (Site-Specific) Issued separate from Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit

8. COORDINATION WITH OTHER PERMITS OR APPROVALS

- Conservation District E&S Plan Approval
 NPDES Construction Permit
 Erosion & Sediment Control Permit – ESG294125011-00 recommended **Denial**
 Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit (Multi-County Projects)
 Other (e.g. Dam, Clean Water, Air, Waste, Safe Drinking Water, ECB)

9. MUNICIPAL CONSISTENCY

Act 14/67/68/127 Notification: County: [Lycoming](#) Received Date: [9/22/2025](#)
Municipality: [Gamble](#) Received Date: [9/22/2025](#)
Municipality: [Cascade](#) Received Date: [9/22/2025](#)

Stormwater Management Analysis:

Required per 105.13(e)(1)(v): Yes No Waived per 105.13(k)
Comments Received: Yes No Received Date: [N/A](#)

Floodplain Management Analysis:

Required per 105.13(e)(1)(vi): Yes No Waived per 105.13(k)
Comments Received: Yes No Received Date: [N/A](#)

10. SUBMERGED LANDS OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Submerged Lands License Agreement (SLLA) Required: Yes No

11. COMPLIANCE REVIEW

Compliance Review Completed: Yes No [04/24/2026](#)

12. PERMIT SPECIAL CONDITIONS

N/A


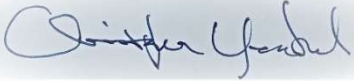

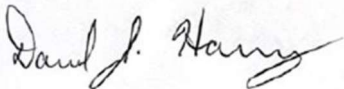
APPROVED PERMIT NOT PROVIDED

13. PERMIT RECOMMENDATION

ISSUANCE

DENIAL

With the provided information and the results of this engineering review, it has been determined that the proposed project does not meet the engineering requirements of Chapter 105. The project is proposed in a manner that will have a significant adverse effect upon safety or the protection of life, health, property or the environment. This application is therefore recommended for denial.

<u>Erin Gocek</u> Name of Biologist Reviewer (print)	
 Signature of Biologist Reviewer	<u>05/06/2026</u> Date
<u>Chris Yeakel</u> Name of Biologist Supervisor (print)	
 Signature of Biologist Supervisor	<u>05/06/2026</u> Date
<u>Chris Mileto</u> Name of Engineering Reviewer (print)	
 Signature of Engineering Reviewer	<u>05/06/2026</u> Date
<u>Daniel Harvey, P.E.</u> Name of Section Chief (print)	
 Signature of Section Chief	<u>05/06/2026</u> Date

14. ATTACHMENTS

N/A

[SEE APPROVED RECORD OF DECISIONS](#)