



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

BUREAU OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

DIVISION OF MUNICIPAL and RESIDUAL WASTE

GENERAL PERMIT WMGM055

**BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE
LANDFILL DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE**

Issued: June 15, 2026

Expires: June 15, 2036

GENERAL PERMIT NO. WMGM055
BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE LANDFILL DISPOSAL
OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE

A. Description:

This general permit authorizes the processing and beneficial use of landfill gas (LFG) generated by the landfill as a result of disposal of municipal waste or residual waste.

- a. The approved processing is limited to the removal of nitrogen, water and particulates; filtration; temperature adjustment; compression; and, if needed, excess hydrogen sulfide and carbon dioxide removal.
- b. The processed LFG is approved for the following beneficial uses under this general permit:
 - i. As a substitute high or medium British Thermal Units (Btu) LFG for natural gas or other fuel.
 - ii. As a substitute for natural gas or other fuel that will be:
 - a. Transported in a pipeline that is interconnected with another pipeline for consumer use.
 - b. Transported in a pipeline that is directly interconnected with a near-by industrial facility.
 - c. Used by the landfill operator for the landfill's daily needs.
 - iii. As an alternative fuel for the electric generators to produce electricity that will be:
 - a. Used by the landfill operator for the landfill's daily needs.
 - b. Transmitted to the local electric utility grid for consumer use.
 - c. Distributed for direct consumer use.

B. Determination of Applicability Requirements.

A person or municipality that proposes to operate under the terms and conditions of this general permit after the date of permit issuance must obtain a "Determination of Applicability" ("DOA") from the appropriate Department Regional Office (see attached list) prior to commencing authorized activities under this general permit. A completed application on forms provided by the Department and the application fee may be submitted electronically through the Department's Public Upload with Electronic Payment website at:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/DataandTools/ElectronicSubmissions/Pages/default.aspx>.

GENERAL PERMIT NO. WMGM055
BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE LANDFILL DISPOSAL
OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE

If an alternative method of submittal of the application and application fee is necessary, the appropriate Department Regional Office should be contacted for further instructions. No activities shall commence unless approved, in writing, by the Department.

C. Sampling and Analysis.

1. For each LFG stream, prior to the processing for beneficial use as authorized in Condition A of this general permit, the permittee shall collect samples and analyze the LFG for the following: temperature, moisture content, and hydrogen sulfide. Thereafter, each LFG stream shall be managed in a manner that meets applicable Federal and/ or State regulatory requirements. Re-analyzing LFG streams shall be performed on an annual basis, when a change in the LFG processing occurs; or the quality of incoming LFG varies significantly. Alternatively, the permittee can satisfy the requirements of this condition using sampling and data analysis provided by the generator of the LFG, if approved in writing by the Department.
2. The chemical analyses required in this general permit shall be performed by a laboratory accredited or registered for accreditation under the Pennsylvania Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Act, Act of 2002, No. 25.
3. Upon request by the Department, the permittee shall collect for representative samples of the LFG stream(s) and analyze for the parameters required in Condition C.1. of this general permit, within 48 hours of the request.

D. Operating Conditions:

1. LFG shall not be processed within these minimum isolation distances:
 - a. In the 100-year floodplain of waters of this Commonwealth, unless the Department approves, in writing, a method of protecting the facility from a 100-year flood consistent with the Flood Plain Management Act (32 P.S. §§679.101-679.601) and the Dam Safety and Encroachments Act (32 P.S. §§693.1-693.27);
 - b. In or within 300 feet of an exceptional value wetland;
 - c. Within 300 feet measured horizontally from an occupied dwelling, unless the current owner has provided a written waiver consenting to the activities being closer than 300 feet;

GENERAL PERMIT NO. WMGM055
BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE LANDFILL DISPOSAL
OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE

- d. Within 100 feet of an intermittent or perennial stream, unless storage and processing will not occur within that distance and no adverse hydrologic or water quality impacts will result;

Within 50 feet of a property line unless the operator demonstrates that actual processing of waste is not occurring within that distance, or that the current owners of occupied dwellings within that distance have provided written waivers consenting to the facility being closer than 50 feet. The waiver shall be knowingly made and separate from a lease or deed unless the lease or deed contains an explicit waiver from the owner;

- e. Except for areas that were subject to a Department-issued permit prior to September 26, 1988, within 300 yards of a park or playground or building that is owned by a school district or a parochial school and used for instructional purposes unless the current property owner has provided a written waiver to the prohibition.
2. Upon cessation of permitted operations at the facility, the permittee shall assure removal of all wastes and provide for the processing, recycling, beneficial use, or disposal of wastes in accordance with the SWMA, the environmental protection acts and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
 3. The processing and beneficial use of LFG authorized by this general permit shall be in a matter that will not create a nuisance, harm or present a threat of harm to the health, safety or welfare of the people or environment of this Commonwealth.
 4. The permittee shall maintain at the permitted facility an updated copy of a Preparedness, Prevention, and Contingency (PPC) plan for the facility prepared in accordance with the most recent edition of the Department's "Guidelines for the Development and Implementation of Environmental Emergency Response Plans"(Document No. 400-2200-001). The PPC plan shall be updated at least once every 5 years.
 5. All activities conducted under the authorization granted in this permit shall be conducted in accordance with the permittee's application. Except to the extent the permit states otherwise, the permittee shall utilize the processed LFG for beneficial use purposes as described in the permit application.
 6. The permittee shall comply with the fugitive emissions regulations under 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 123 (relating to standards for contaminants) issued under the Air Pollution Control Act, the Act of January 8, 1960, P.L. 2119, 35 P.S. §4005, and shall comply with all the applicable provisions of 25 Pa. Code §§123.1 and 123.2 (relating to prohibition of certain fugitive emissions and fugitive particulate matter).
 7. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to supersede, amend, or authorize a violation of any of the provisions of any valid and applicable local law, ordinance,

GENERAL PERMIT NO. WMGM055
BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE LANDFILL DISPOSAL
OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE

or regulation, providing that said local law, ordinance, or regulation is not preempted by the Solid Waste Management Act (SWMA), 35 P.S. §§ 6018.101—6018.1001; and the Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988, 53 P.S. §§4000.101, et seq.

8. As a condition of this general permit and of the permittee's authority to conduct the activities authorized by this general permit, the permittee hereby authorizes and consents to allow authorized employees or agents of the Department, without advance notice or search warrant, upon presentation of appropriate credentials and without delay, to have access to and inspect all areas on which solid waste management activities are being, will be, or have been conducted. This authorization and consent shall include consent to collect samples of waste, soils, water, or gases; take photographs; perform measurements, surveys, and other tests; inspect any monitoring equipment; inspect the methods of operation and inspect and/or copy documents, books, and papers required by the Department to be maintained. This permit condition is referenced in accordance with Sections 6018.608 and 6018.610(7) of the SWMA, 35 P.S. §§ 6018.608 and 6018.610(7). This condition in no way limits any other powers granted under the SWMA.
9. Any independent contractors or agents retained by the permittee in the completion of activities authorized under this general permit shall be subject to compliance history review by the Department prior to performance of any activities, as specified by the SWMA.
10. Failure of the design, equipment, methods, and/or measures herein approved to perform as intended, or as designed, or in compliance with the applicable laws, rules, and regulations and terms and conditions of this permit, for any reason, shall be grounds for the revocation or suspension of the permittee's approval to operate under this permit.
11. The activities authorized by this general permit shall not harm or present a threat of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of the people or environment of this Commonwealth. The Department may modify, suspend, revoke, and reissue the authorization granted in this general permit if it deems necessary to prevent harm or the threat of harm to the public health, and the environment or if they cannot be adequately regulated under the conditions of this general permit.
12. The permittee shall comply with the terms and conditions of this general permit and with the environmental protection acts to the same extent as if the activities were covered by an individual permit. The Department may require an individual permit be obtained if the permittee cannot comply with the conditions of this general permit or is conducting an activity that harms or presents a threat of harm to the health, safety, or welfare of the public or the environment of this Commonwealth.
13. This permit does not authorize and shall not be construed as an approval to discharge any waste, wastewater, leachate or runoff from the site of processing and storage areas where solid waste management activities are conducted to the

GENERAL PERMIT NO. WMGM055
BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE LANDFILL DISPOSAL
OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE

land or waters of the Commonwealth. Any treatment of wastes or wastewater shall be managed at a treatment facility that is operated and in compliance with the Clean Streams Law (35 P. S. §§ 691.1- 691.1001) and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

14. Best Management Practices shall be implemented to divert storm water run-on from the storage area. Storm water runoff from processing areas shall not cause surface water pollution or groundwater degradation and shall be managed in accordance with The Clean Streams Law and regulations promulgated thereunder. Prior to beginning operations at the facility, the operator must obtain all necessary storm water management permits.
15. The permittee shall maintain a bond, unless operated as part of a permitted facility's gas management plan, in an amount and with sufficient guarantees as provided by 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 271, Subchapter D (Bonding and Insurance Requirements).
16. The bond filed with the Department under Condition D.15. shall continue for the period of operations of the facility, until 10 years after final closure of the facility, unless released in whole or in part by the Department, in writing, prior thereto as provided by 25 Pa. Code §271.341 (relating to Bond Release).
17. The permittee shall maintain a general liability insurance policy, in accordance with 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 271, Subchapter D (Bonding and Insurance) to provide continuous coverage during operation of the facility and until the Department issues a final closure certification.
18. Equipment used for the processing and storage of LFG shall be maintained in good operating condition. Daily inspections of each storage area and surrounding environs shall be conducted to determine compliance with the terms and conditions of this general permit and for evidence of failure.
19. Storage of LFG by the permittee shall be in a manner that complies with the requirements set forth in 25 Pa. Code, Chapter 285 (relating to storage, collection, and transportation of municipal waste).
20. The LFG shall not be mixed with other types of solid wastes, including hazardous waste, municipal waste, special handling waste, or other residual waste, as the terms are defined in 25 Pa. Code §§ 271.1 and 287.1.
21. Analytical testing required by this general permit shall be performed by a laboratory accredited under the Pennsylvania Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Act, Act of 2002, 27 Pa. C.S.A. §§ 4101-4113.

GENERAL PERMIT NO. WMGM055
BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE LANDFILL DISPOSAL
OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE

E. Recordkeeping:

1. The permittee shall maintain records of all analytical evaluations conducted in accordance with this permit, and records shall be made available to the Department upon request. Required records shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years. Records of analytical evaluations must include, at a minimum, the following for each sample: the dates of sampling and testing, sampling procedures utilized, name of the individual who collected the sample, the volume or weight of the sample, each parameter tested, the analytical results, the name of the analytical laboratory used, and the analytical methodologies employed.
2. The permittee shall maintain records of all waste accepted by the facility, and records shall be made available to the Department upon request. Required records shall be retained for a minimum of 5 years. Records of each source of incoming waste must include, at a minimum, the following: the name, address, and phone number of each source of incoming waste; the date of receipt; the quantity of waste received; the results of visual observations; and the name, address, and phone number of the destination and the amount of all outgoing waste streams (including processed LFG). The permittee shall also maintain records of spills or releases that include, at a minimum, the following: the location, date, time, identification, and quantity of spilled or released material, and a description of how the material was cleaned up. The permittee shall also maintain records of all reports submitted to the Department or to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
3. The permittee shall maintain daily records of the volume of LFG processed and its BTU value.
4. The permittee shall maintain records demonstrating that any processed LFG sent for beneficial use meets each users specifications.
5. The permittee shall maintain records of inspections of the facility, by facility personnel, including those inspections required by Condition D.18.

F. Reporting Requirements:

1. Any person that operates under the provisions of this permit shall immediately notify the Department via certified mail of any changes in: the company name, address, owners, operators, and/or responsible officials of the company; the location of the facilities; land ownership and the right to enter and operate on any land occupied; the physical or chemical characteristics of LFG; the status of any bond or insurance required by this permit; compliance status, and the status of any permit issued by the Department or federal government under the environmental protection acts.

GENERAL PERMIT NO. WMGM055
BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE LANDFILL DISPOSAL
OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE

2. Persons operating under the provision of this general permit shall submit to the appropriate Department Regional Office (see attached list), an annual report on the beneficial use activities conducted under this permit, by March 1 for the preceding calendar year. This report shall include the information required by Conditions C.1 and E.
3. The permittee shall immediately notify the Department's Emergency Hotline by telephone at 800-541-2050 and the waste management program in the appropriate DEP regional office (see attached list) in the event of a discharge or spill of liquid waste to soil in the amount of 5 gallons or more, and shall take appropriate immediate action to protect the health and safety of the public and the environment.

G. Renewal:

A permittee that plans to continue the operations authorized under this general permit, after the expiration date indicated on the approval for coverage page, shall file a complete application for permit renewal at least 180 days before the expiration date of this general permit unless permission has been granted by the Department for submission at a later date. The renewal application and the renewal application fee in the amount identified in Section A (General Information) of the Form 20 may be submitted electronically through the Department's Public Upload with Electronic Payment website at:

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/DataandTools/ElectronicSubmissions/Pages/default.aspx>

and shall include, at a minimum, the following:

1. General Information Form (Authorization Application for a Residual or Municipal Waste General Permit Application),
2. Form B (Professional Certification),
3. Form 20 (Application for a Municipal or Residual Waste General Permit),
4. Form 27M (Acceptance of General Permit Conditions), and
5. Updated bonding worksheets, if applicable.

If an alternative method of submittal of the renewal application and renewal application fee is necessary, the appropriate Department Regional Office should be contacted for further instructions.

In the event that a timely and complete application for renewal has been submitted and the Department is unable, through no fault of the permittee, to reissue the general permit or approval for coverage before its current coverage expiration date, the terms and conditions of the approved coverage will automatically continue and

GENERAL PERMIT NO. WMGM055
BENEFICIAL USE OF LANDFILL GAS GENERATED BY THE LANDFILL DISPOSAL
OF MUNICIPAL OR RESIDUAL WASTE

will remain fully effective and enforceable pending the issuance or denial of the renewal for permit coverage, provided the permittee is, and has been, operating in compliance with the terms and conditions of the general permit.

**Department of Environmental Protection
Regional Offices
(and Counties Served)**

- I. Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia.

Southeast Regional Office
2 East Main Street
Norristown, PA 19401
Phone: (484) 250 - 5960

- II. Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming.

Northeast Regional Office
2 Public Square
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0790
Phone: (570) 826 – 2516

- III. Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, York.

Southcentral Regional Office
909 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200
Phone: (717) 705 – 4706

- IV. Bradford, Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union.

Northcentral Regional Office
208 West 3rd Street - Suite 101
Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: (570) 327 – 3653

- V. Allegheny, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland.

Southwest Regional Office
400 Waterfront Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745
Phone: (412) 442 – 4000

- VI. Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango, Warren.

Northwest Regional Office
230 Chestnut Street
Meadville, PA 16335-3481
Phone: 814-332-6848