



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF AIR QUALITY

**GENERAL PLAN APPROVAL AND/OR GENERAL OPERATING PERMIT  
(BAQ-GPA/GP – 5)**

**NATURAL GAS, COAL BED METHANE OR GOB GAS PRODUCTION OR RECOVERY FACILITIES**

**1. Statutory Authority and General Description**

In accordance with Section 6.1(f) of the Air Pollution Control Act, 35 P.S. § 4006.1(f), 25 Pa. Code §§ 127.514 and 127.611, the Department of Environmental Protection ("Department") hereby issues this General Plan Approval and/or General Operating Permit for Natural Gas, Coal Bed Methane or Gob Gas Production or Recovery Facilities (hereinafter referred to as "General Permit").

**2. Applicability/Source Coverage Limitations**

This General Permit authorizes construction and/or operation of a natural gas, coal bed methane or gob gas production or recovery facility. Coal bed methane includes coal mine methane that is released from coal seams during the process of coal mining.

This General Permit is limited to a facility engaged in the production of natural gas, coal bed methane or gob gas only. It does not include facilities operated as a part of a transmission pipeline (which shall not be construed to mean any gathering system or associated equipment) or gas storage field, nor does it cover the compression of other types of gases from landfills, refineries, coke ovens, etc. A natural gas, coal bed methane or gob gas production or recovery facility may include internal combustion (compressor) engines, gas dehydration units, crude oil and brine storage tanks, vents and other equipment associated with this activity.

This General Permit has been established in accordance with the provisions described in 25 Pa. Code Chapter 127, Subchapter H (relating to general plan approvals and operating permits). If the natural gas, coal bed methane or gob gas production or recovery facility cannot be regulated under the requirements of this General Permit, a plan approval and/or an operating permit issued in accordance with 25 Pa. Code Chapter 127, Subchapter B (relating to plan approval requirements) and/or Subchapter F (relating to operating permit requirements) will be required, or if the facility is a Title V facility, a Title V operating permit issued in accordance with Subchapters F and G (relating to Title V operating permits) will be required.

**Plan Approval**

Once authorization to use this General Permit is granted, construction of the natural gas, coal bed methane or gob gas production or recovery facility designated in the application may proceed.

This General Permit authorizes the construction of internal combustion engine(s); dehydrator(s) and associated equipment that meet the best available technology (BAT) required under 25 Pa. Code §§ 127.1 and 127.12(a)(5), provided the respective construction is not subject to the requirements of 25 Pa. Code Chapter 127, Subchapter D (relating to prevention of significant