

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" or "DEP") 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 the 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 coal mining process.

This General Permit is limited to a facility engaged solely in the production of natural gas, coal bed methane or gob gas. BAQ-GPA/GP-5 does not apply to 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 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. If the Department determines that the facility is a Title V facility as defined in 25 *Pa. Code* §121.1, a Title V operating permit issued in accordance with 25 *Pa. Code* Chapter 127, Subchapters F and G (relating to Title V operating permits) will be required.

General Plan Approval