



**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)
NOTICE OF INTENT FOR THE GENERAL NPDES
PERMIT FOR DISCHARGES FROM STRIPPER OIL WELL FACILITIES
PERMIT PAG 310001
GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

WHO MUST APPLY FOR A NPDES PERMIT

Persons who operate facilities or activities which discharge pollutants into surface waters of the Commonwealth are required to have such discharges authorized by a NPDES permit. Pursuant to EPA regulations 40 CFR 122.21, when a facility or activity is owned by one person but is operated by another person, it is the operator's duty to obtain the NPDES permit.

WHO MUST USE THIS FORM

This form is to be used by eligible dischargers who wish to be covered by "General Permit for Discharges from Stripper Oil Well Facilities." The operator shall file this notice of intent with the Department and receive approval for coverage under this general permit prior to commencing any discharge.

"General Permit for Discharges from Stripper Oil Well Facilities" applies to discharges of production fluids from primary recovery, gas drive, and waterflood stripper oil well facilities located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A "stripper oil well" includes those facilities covered by 40 CFR Part 435 Subpart F - Stripper Subcategory. These are oil wells which produce 10 barrels per well per calendar day or less of crude oil and which are operating at the maximum feasible rate of production and in accordance with recognized conservation practices. It does not include wells which produce natural gas in a ratio to the petroleum liquids produced greater than 15,000 cubic feet of gas per 1 barrel (42 gallons) of petroleum liquids. "Primary recovery" involves the recovery of oil by any method (natural flow or artificial lift) that may be employed to produce it through a single well bore; the fluid enters the well bore by the action of the native reservoir energy or gravity. A "gas drive" operation is a form of secondary recovery where gas is introduced into specially drilled intake wells at relatively low pressures to increase the rate of entry of oil into the producing wells. Waterflooding is a form of secondary recovery where water (brine or fresh water) is introduced into an oil reservoir through injection wells to replace displaced oil and maintain reservoir pressure. Operations using tertiary recovery methods such as thermal or chemical methods, and commercial, public or off-site centralized treatment facilities are excluded from coverage under this permit.

Discharges to "special protection waters" as defined by 25 Pa. Code Chapter 93 are also excluded from coverage under this permit.

WHERE TO FILE NOTICES OF INTENT

One notarized copy of this form is to be submitted to the appropriate regional office of the Department's Bureau of Oil and Gas Management. The regional offices are located at the following addresses:

Dept. of Environmental Protection NW Regional Office - Oil and Gas 230 Chestnut Street Meadville, PA 16335	Dept. of Environmental Protection SW Regional Office - Oil and Gas 400 Waterfront Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745
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Applications are to be filed on a county basis. If you have discharges in more than one county, submit a separate application for each county.

WHEN TO FILE NOTICES OF INTENT

Notices of Intent are to be filed at least 180 days prior to start up and commencement of discharge (unless otherwise approved by the Department for submission at a later date).

Notices of Intent for renewal of coverage under this permit must be submitted to the Department at least 180 days prior to the expiration date of the approval for coverage (unless permission is granted by the Department for submission at a later date).

MUNICIPAL NOTIFICATION

Act 14, which amended the Commonwealth's Administrative Code (effective April 17, 1984) (71 P.S. §510-5) requires every applicant for a new, amended or renewed NPDES permit to give written notice to each municipality in which the facility is located. The written notice must be received by the municipality and county at least thirty (30) days before DEP may issue or deny approval of coverage under the general permit.

In order to demonstrate compliance with Act 14, submit with your notice of intent:

- (1) A copy of your correspondence notifying the municipality or county of your intentions to discharge under this general permit.
- (2) Evidence that the municipality and county has received your notification. Acceptable forms of this evidence include, certified mail receipt or written

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acknowledgment of the notification from the municipality and county.

Failure to provide a copy of your notification correspondence and evidence of municipal and county receipt of your notification with the notice of intent will delay processing. Failure to comply with Act 14 will result in disapproval of coverage.

AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC

You may not claim confidential any information required by this form, whether the information is reported on the form or in an attachment. This information will be made available to the public upon request.

Any information you submit to the Department which goes beyond that required by this form may be claimed as confidential, but claims for information which are effluent data will be denied. If you do not assert a claim of confidentiality at the time of submitting the information, the Department may make the information public without further notice to you. Claims of confidentiality will be handled in accordance with EPA's business confidentiality regulations in 40 CFR Part 2.

WHO MUST SIGN

Item 10, "Certification and Signature of Applicant," is to be signed as follows:

- (1) In the case of corporations, by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president, or an authorized representative, if the representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which the discharge described in the NPDES form originates.

- (2) In the case of a partnership, by a general partner.
- (3) In the case of a sole proprietorship, by the proprietor.
- (4) In the case of a municipal, state, or other public facility, by either a principal executive officer, ranking elected official or other authorized employee.

REVIEW OF GENERAL PERMIT NOTICES OF INTENT

Once the Department determines that the application for coverage has been properly completed, signed and notarized, has the supporting documentation attached, and has proof of municipal and county notification enclosed, the form will be accepted for review to determine if the discharge qualifies for coverage under the general permit. If a notice of intent is not properly completed, or if all required information is not submitted, the form will be returned to the applicant for corrections.

When a notice of intent for coverage is accepted for review, the discharge location information, effluent quality data, and discharge flow rate information will be used to verify that the discharges will be in compliance with the terms of the general permit.

If the review indicates that the discharges are in compliance, the Department will issue an approval to the operator to discharge under the general permit and will transmit a copy of the general permit bearing an approval identification number. If the review indicates a violation of the permit, the Department will notify the applicant of its findings.