

## Petroleum Dry Cleaning General Permit (GP- 6)

### Introduction

Owners and operators of a petroleum dry cleaning facility in Pennsylvania may be required to obtain an operating permit from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Dry cleaners that use petroleum-based solvents are subject to different regulations than those who use perchloroethylene (perc). This fact sheet has been developed to help petroleum dry cleaners understand the air quality regulations that affect them.

### What is a General Permit?

DEP has issued General Plan Approvals and General Operating Permits (**GPs**) to specific categories of sources that are similar in design and operation, and can be adequately regulated with standardized specifications and conditions. A GP serves as a general plan approval and a general operating permit. When a company seeks an authorization to use a GP, it must demonstrate to DEP that the affected source complies with the requirements specified by the GP. A GP is a permit where all the terms and conditions of the permit are developed in advance. An applicant can review the GP qualifying criteria, terms and conditions, and then apply to DEP for coverage under the general permit. DEP reviews the applicant's information to confirm the applicant meets the qualifications and then issues the authorization to use the general permit.

The application and permit renewal fee for GP-6 is \$375.00, payable every five years.

A GP-6 authorization is valid for five years.

### Who is Eligible for a GP-6?

The owner or operator of a dry cleaning operation that has petroleum dry cleaning equipment **installed or modified after Dec. 14, 1982**, and has a **total manufacturer's rated dryer capacity** (capacity of dryers, washers, filters, stills and settling tanks) of **84 lbs. or more**, is eligible for this permit.

The owner or operator of a petroleum dry cleaning operation that is not a major volatile organic compounds or major hazardous air pollutant emitting facility, as defined in 25 Pa. Code § 121.1, is eligible for this permit.

Manufacturers' rated dryer capacity means the dryer's rated capacity of articles, in pounds or kilograms of clothing articles per load, dry basis, that is typically found on each dryer on the manufacturer's name plate or in the manufacturer's equipment specification.

### Federal Requirements for Petroleum Dry Cleaners

On Sept. 21, 1984, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency finalized the Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources, 40 CFR Part 60, Subpart JJJ – Standards for Performance for Petroleum Dry Cleaners. [www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=d35e2e805ce842bf6cd7ed8b303d207b&node=40:7.0.1.1.1.77&rgn=div6](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=d35e2e805ce842bf6cd7ed8b303d207b&node=40:7.0.1.1.1.77&rgn=div6).

### GP-6 includes the following provisions of the federal regulation:

- The dryer must be a solvent recovery dryer.
- The filter must be a cartridge filter.
- The cartridge filters in their sealed housings must be drained for at least eight hours prior to their removal.
- An initial flow rate test must be performed to verify that the flow rate of recovered solvent from the solvent recovery dryer at the termination of the recovery cycle is not greater than 0.05 liters per minute. The initial flow rate test shall be conducted for a duration of not less than two weeks

during which no less than 50 percent of the dry loads shall be monitored for their final recovered solvent flow rate.

- A copy of the initial performance test must be maintained for future review.

**GP-6 also contains the following requirement:**

- Monthly records of petroleum solvent consumption must be maintained for five years.

**To obtain additional information please use any of the following resources:**

Visit [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us) and select Air, then select Bureau of Air Quality, then select Permits, then select General Plan Approval and/or General Operating Permit, and then select GP-6. Owners can click on the Request for Determination (RFD) link and submit an RFD if they are unsure if their equipment requires a permit.

Call the Air Quality Program at the local DEP regional office:

- Southeast (Norristown): 484-250-5920
- Northeast (Wilkes-Barre): 570-826-2435
- South-central (Harrisburg): 717-705-4702
- North-central (Williamsport): 570-327-3648
- Southwest (Pittsburgh): 412-442-4161
- Northwest (Meadville): 814-332-6940

Philadelphia and Allegheny counties each have their own air pollution control program. Please contact them for more information.

- Allegheny County Health Department: 412-578-8103
- Philadelphia Air Management Services: 215-685-7585

Small businesses that need assistance may contact the Environmental Management Assistance Program (EMAP) at [www.askemap.org](http://www.askemap.org) or by Toll-Free Hotline: 877.ask.EMAP.

EMAP will provide free, confidential permitting assistance to small businesses.

For more information, visit [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us), keyword: Air Permits.