

November 2013 EMAP Newsletter

News from Pennsylvania SBDC Environmental Management Assistance Program

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The Pennsylvania SBDC Environmental Management Assistance Program (EMAP) is pleased to provide this free newsletter to small businesses in Pennsylvania.

Announcements

New DEP Pre-Application Tool

Pennsylvania DEP now has a [Permit Application Consultation Tool](#) which will help businesses better understand their permit and regulatory requirements from the get-go.

The tool is a checklist of questions that helps identify application regulatory requirements. DEP recommends that you complete the checklist before scheduling a pre-application meeting.

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

Permit Decision Guarantee Policy

DEP's [Policy for Implementing the Permit Review Process and Permit Decision Guarantee](#) has been re-opened for supplemental comments until December 4, 2013. This policy establishes a standardized review process and processing times for all DEP permits.

The [PA Bulletin notice](#) provides details on how to comment.

Public Participation Center

Visit DEP's new [Public Participation Center](#) to stay current on all environmental regulatory issues, meetings and other important updates. You can also [sign up](#) to receive DEP's Newsletter.

New OSHA Hazardous Chemical ToolKit

OSHA has a new [online toolkit](#) to help employers and workers find ways to eliminate hazardous chemicals, or substitute them with a safer chemical, material, product, or process. The resource includes information, methods, tools, and guidance on using informed substitution in the workplace.

Funding Opportunities

Natural Gas Vehicle Grant Program Opens

Pennsylvania DEP opened the second round of [Natural Gas Vehicle grants](#) on November 9th. Approximately \$11 million is available to help pay for



Fuel Locator



The National Renewable Energy Laboratory developed a mobile app to help drivers find stations that provide alternative fuel for vehicles including electricity, biodiesel (B20), natural gas (compressed and liquefied), ethanol (E85), hydrogen, and propane. It is a mobile version of the Alternative Fueling Station Locator [website](#).



Boiler Videos

the incremental purchase and conversion costs of heavy-duty natural gas fleet vehicles. Grant requests can be no more than 50% of the incremental purchase or retrofit cost per vehicle with a maximum of \$25,000 per vehicle. Applications are due January 10, 2014.

DEP is hosting a related **webinar** on Wednesday, Nov. 20, from 2-3 p.m. to outline information for potential applicants of this second round of Act 13 Natural Gas Vehicle grants. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.

DEP is also hosting free NGV workshops in western PA to help potential applicants understand the Act 13 NGV program guidelines. The schedule is as follows:

- December 6, Butler County
- December 10, Jefferson County
- December 12, Erie County

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Rebates

Pennsylvania residents can apply for a rebate to assist with the incremental cost for the purchase of a new alternative fuel vehicle, including vehicles powered by: **natural gas**, propane, electric or hydrogen fuel cells.

This DEP program is first come, first served and funds are limited. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Regulatory Information

Regulations for Oil & Gas Surface Activities

Pennsylvania's Environmental Quality Board (EQB) proposed new regulations regarding surface activities related to oil and gas well development. These proposed regulations, which will amend 25 Pa. Code Chapter 78, will set new requirements related to oil and gas operations to ensure increased protection of public health, safety and the environment.

[CLICK HERE](#) to review a summary of the proposed changes. The EQB will be accepting written public comments this fall related to this proposed regulation.

Amendments to AQ Exemption List

DEP has amended the [Air Quality Permit Exemption List](#) for Category 33, pertaining to compressed natural gas fueling and Category 38, pertaining to oil and gas exploration, development, production facilities and associated equipment and operation. The revised technical guidance explains that DEP may grant operators a permitting exemption provided they implement controls and practices more stringent than federal rules.

Proposed CEP Policy

released a [new video series](#) explaining the [area source boiler rule](#). This video series consists of four modules that explain various aspects of the rule including an overview of the rule that includes applicability, specific rule requirements and compliance dates; a module on how to conduct an energy assessment; a module on how to conduct a boiler tune-up; and a module on the recordkeeping and reporting requirements of the rule.



DEP has proposed changes to the [Policy for the Consideration of Community Environmental Projects](#) (CEP).

The policy explains how DEP will consider projects that propose a substantial public health or environmental benefit to a community or the general public through the use of funds that would otherwise be paid to the department as a civil penalty.

Comments are due November 25, 2013. Details on providing comments are provided in the [PA Bulletin Notice](#).

EMAP Assists Your Small Business

[EMAP](#) provides Pennsylvania small businesses with the answers and assistance they need to effectively manage their environmental concerns and reduce regulatory risks.



The Environmental Consultants at EMAP can assist you with:

- [Environmental Compliance](#)
- [Greening your Business](#)
- [Finding Sources of Financing for Environmental Upgrades](#)
- Preparing Permit Applications and Plans
- Waste Exchanges: [Pennsylvania Material Trader](#)

All EMAP services are free and confidential.

For assistance, call the statewide toll-free number at (877)ASK-EMAP (275-3627) or send an email to questions@askemap.org.
