



PA DEP Plan Approval Fact Sheet

What is a Plan Approval?

A Plan Approval is a permit issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) that allows facilities to construct, modify, or install new sources of air pollution. This approval ensures that new or modified sources comply with state and federal air quality regulations before operation begins.

When is a Plan Approval Required?

A Plan Approval is required when a facility:

- Constructs a new air pollution source.
- Modifies an existing source in a way that increases emissions.
- Installs new air pollution control equipment.

Key Steps in the Plan Approval Process

1. Pre-Application Meeting
 - Facilities may meet with PA DEP to discuss their project and compliance requirements.
2. Application Submission
 - The applicant submits a completed Plan Approval application, including:
 - Engineering details of the project
 - Emission calculations
 - Proposed air pollution control measures
 - Compliance with state and federal regulations
3. PA DEP Review and Determination
 - PA DEP reviews the application for technical accuracy and regulatory compliance.
 - If necessary, PA DEP requests additional information from the applicant.
4. Public Notice and Comment Period
 - PA DEP publishes a public notice about the proposed Plan Approval in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.
 - A public comment period (typically 30 days) allows residents and organizations to submit concerns or objections.
 - In certain cases, PA DEP may hold a public hearing if requested.
5. PA DEP Decision
 - After reviewing public comments and ensuring compliance, PA DEP either approves or denies the Plan Approval.
 - If approved, the facility must adhere to all conditions outlined in the permit.