

How to Comment on the SAP Compressor Station

1. Where can I access relevant documents?

- Visit GASP's website at www.gasp-pgh.org. We have posted relevant documents including draft permitting documents, presentation slides, and this handout.
- You can also visit the ACHD Air Quality Program's website at www.achd.net/air/index.html. On the right side of the page, you can find current public notices, including the notice for this permit, as well as public hearing dates.

2. What issues could I address in my comments?

- Describe your concerns about how this industry will contribute to existing air quality problems in this region.
 - Nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) from this industry are ozone precursors, will contribute to our existing ozone problem.
 - Are NO_x and VOC emissions as well controlled as possible?
 - Have the impacts of these emissions on regional ozone concentrations been adequately considered?
 - Ozone can harm our health, causing problems including coughing, throat irritation, shortness of breath, and asthma symptoms; can lead to increased asthma attacks, hospital admissions, and missed days of school or work.
- ACHD did not include an analysis of the entire gas gathering operation as a single process. Should consider the compressor station, wells, field tank batteries, liquids impoundments, and any other related source.
- Have emissions from intermittent but significant pollutant emitting activities been adequately accounted for? These activities include compressor blowdowns, truck loadout, or cold starts.
- Share any of personal stories or concerns you may have about air quality.

3. How do I submit my comments?

- Via email: Send your comments to aqpermits@achd.net.
- Via first class mail: Send comments to Allegheny County Health Department, 301 39th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15201-1891.
- **Deadline**: Thursday, March 8, 2012 at midnight



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4. How do I write effective comments?

Comments are intended give the public an opportunity to participate, share their concerns, and provide input that will help lead to a better outcome. When drafting comments, you want to make sure that your statements are clearly communicated and can be used by the decisionmaker when revising the proposed action. Here are some tips that will help you write effective comments:

- Write your comments in letter form.
- State who you are and why you are interested in the action.
- Review the documents you are commenting on beforehand so your statements are accurate and make sense in context.
- Break your comment into subheadings or sections to make it easy to read.
- For each topic you discuss, try beginning that section with one sentence, in bold type, that sums up your point for that section. The rest of the text should support this clear, concise statement.
- Stay focused on the topic; only discuss issues relevant to the specific decision being made.
- Be polite. Even if you are upset about the proposed action, your comments will be better received if they are respectful.
- Think about who will be reading your comment. It will likely be a staff person who has to read many similar comments, and who has to read them quickly. Make it easy for them to pay attention to your comments and remember your main points.
- Point out positive aspects of the proposed action that should not be changed.
- Point out anything in the proposal that does not comply with the law.
- Be specific and concise.
- Support your arguments. Do some research and cite to authorities where necessary.
- Propose alternative solutions when possible.
- Get someone else to review your comments before you submit them. This can help catch typographical errors, and make sure you have clearly communicated your message.



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