



**Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
Air Quality Division – Permit Section**

**GENERAL PERMIT TO INSTALL PROGRAM  
Program Description, Submittal Requirements, and Modifications**

**BACKGROUND**

R 336.1201a, promulgated pursuant to Part 55, Air Pollution Control, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Rule 201a), allows the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to issue a general permit to install, covering numerous similar processes or process equipment, after public notice and opportunity for public participation. The use of a general permit provides a streamlined permitting alternative to the normal permitting procedure for processes that meet the following criteria:

- a) The processes must produce the same or reasonably similar products.
- b) The processes must emit the same or similar air contaminants.
- c) The method for capturing and controlling the air contaminants must be the same or limited to a small number of specific alternatives.
- d) The processes must be subject to the same emission limitations, monitoring requirements, federal standards, or state rules.

For each proposed general permit to install, the MDEQ holds a 30-day public comment period and a public hearing, if requested, prior to making the general permit final. The Chief of the Air Quality Division (AQD) will approve a general permit to install unless substantial comments are received during the comment period that cannot be resolved.

**APPLICABLE REQUIREMENTS**

The following state and federal requirements are applicable to all sources, processes, or process equipment and are addressed in the General Conditions of each general permit.

<u>Citation</u>	<u>Description</u>
R 336.1201a	State rule that gives the MDEQ authority to issue a general permit to install.
R 336.1201(4)	State rule that gives the MDEQ authority to void a permit.
R 336.1207(1)	State rule that gives the MDEQ authority to deny a permit.
R 336.1219	State rule that requires written notification of change of ownership.
R 336.1301	State rule that sets the standards for density of particulate emissions.
R 336.1370	State rule that requires the proper disposal of collected air contaminants.
R 336.1901	State rule that prohibits the emission of air contaminants, which interfere with the enjoyment of life and property and/or has injurious effects to health or safety.
R 336.1910	State rule that requires a pollution control device be operated properly.
R 336.1912	State rule that requires notice of abnormal conditions or malfunctions, which result in emissions in excess of the standards.
R 336.2001, 2003, 2004	State rules that allow the MDEQ to request performance testing, and specify how the test should be conducted.

Additional state and federal requirements which are applicable to each individual source category are also considered in the development of each general permit to install. These requirements are identified in the Applicability Criteria document for each source category and are addressed in the Special Conditions of each general permit.

A general permit to install is not intended to allow circumvention of the federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) regulations as identified in 40 CFR 52.21. Processes or process equipment that are subject to the PSD regulations as a major modification are not intended to be covered by any general permit to install and must obtain a permit to install pursuant to Rule 201. A general permit may not be used for a process or equipment proposed for installation as part of a larger project. Improperly permitted installation and/or operation may constitute cause for civil and/or criminal enforcement proceedings and fines as provided for under Act 451 and other applicable state and federal statutes. In addition, affected units may also be subject to other state rules or federal regulations such as the Acid Rain provisions of Title IV of the Clean Air Act or the Renewable Operating Permit Program. Use of a general permit does not obviate the necessity of complying with these regulations and obtaining any other necessary permits.

Installation of equipment prior to issuance of a permit to install, including a general permit to install, is a violation of Rule 201. A person always has the option of applying for a case-by-case permit to install pursuant to Rule 201 if they are unable to comply with the conditions of the general permit to install.

### **APPLICABILITY CRITERIA**

A source must meet specific criteria to qualify for a general permit. The applicability criteria are identified in a separate document for each individual general permit to install source category.

### **PERMIT CONDITIONS**

The general permit to install must be consistent with the permit content requirements of Rule 205(1)(a). This rule states that if a permit to install includes limitations on a stationary source, process, or process equipment to restrict the potential to emit to a quantity below that which would constitute a major source, the permit shall contain emission limits which are enforceable as a practical matter.

Each general permit includes the terms and special conditions which are necessary to ensure that the process will comply with all state and federal applicable requirements. These conditions may include applicable emission limits; material usage limits; process/operational limits; testing, monitoring, and recordkeeping requirements; and stack restrictions.

### **SOURCE CATEGORIES**

The AQD has approved general permits to install for the following processes or equipment:

- Anhydrous ammonia storage and handling
- Coating lines emitting up to 10 tons per year of volatile organic compounds
- Diesel fuel-fired engine generators
- Ethylene oxide sterilizers
- Natural gas-fired burnoff ovens
- Nonmetallic mineral crushing plants
- Propane or natural gas-fired boilers
- Remediation processes for gasoline and petroleum based contaminants

The documents for each general permit are available on the permit webpage. A Background document describes the basis for the general permit and a summary of all changes/revisions. Applicability criteria and special conditions of the general permit are identified in a separate document, and the application forms are available in both .pdf format and as Word templates.

## **APPLICATION FOR A GENERAL PERMIT**

If a source decides to install and operate a process or process equipment under the terms of a general permit to install, it is the responsibility of the owner/operator to apply to the MDEQ for coverage under the general permit. A person who applies for coverage under the general permit to install must certify that the equipment to be installed meets the necessary criteria for applicability and that they will comply with the special conditions of the permit.

Each general permit to install includes application forms which request the information necessary to determine qualification for, and ensure compliance with the general permit to install. The owner/operator must submit the completed application forms to the AQD Permit Section. Upon receipt, Permit Section staff will review the application for completeness. If the application does not meet all of the applicability criteria, it is returned to the applicant with a letter identifying any deficiencies. If the source meets all of the specific applicability criteria, and the application is determined to be complete, the general permit is approved.

The general permit to install will be granted to sources that qualify within 30 days of receipt of a complete application. The facility will receive an approval letter and the terms and conditions of the general permit to install. Additional public comment is not necessary for each application since the public participation requirements will have been met by the public comment period and public hearing, if requested, on the proposed general permit.

The AQD maintains a list of the sources that have been authorized to install and operate a process or process equipment pursuant to each general permit to install issued by the MDEQ. This list is available to the public, upon request.

## **SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

All information must be submitted in duplicate.

The General Information form (EQP5727) must be completed for each general permit to install. This form addresses information about the source such as applicant name and address; authorized employee and contact names and telephone numbers; and equipment location. If a source is portable with no street address, include the section, township, and range. Two facility codes are required:

- The State Registration Number (SRN) can be determined from the Michigan Air Emissions Reporting System (MAERS) forms that are submitted annually to the AQD. If an application is for a new facility or if a source has not had previous business with the AQD, an SRN will be assigned during the review of the application.
- The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) has replaced the U.S. Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. NAICS was developed jointly by the U.S., Canada, and Mexico to provide new comparability in statistics about business activity across North America. NAICS information can be found on the Internet at the following website: <http://www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html>.

The General Information form also asks if the proposed equipment is new or existing, and requires an installation date for existing equipment. If a Permit to Install (PTI) or a Renewable Operating Permit (ROP) exists for any equipment identified in a general permit application, the PTI/ROP number is required. The applicant must also indicate if any proposed equipment is included in an outstanding consent order or judgment.

The following forms should be attached as part of the application and the appropriate form numbers entered for Item 10.

- The Additional Information form (EQP5729) - This form is optional and should be used to provide additional information that the source feels may be helpful but is not specifically requested.
- Process Forms - These forms, which are specific to each source category, request the information necessary to determine qualification for, and ensure compliance with the general permit to install. The process form asks if the application is for a new general permit to install or a modification to an existing general permit.

### **MODIFICATIONS**

A source may replace or modify equipment or any portion of the process, including control equipment, as long as compliance with the terms and conditions of the general permit continues. To modify an existing General Permit:

- A new process form must be completed, certified and submitted to both the Permit Section and the District Supervisor a minimum of 10 days before the equipment is replaced or modified. All existing and new or additional equipment must be clearly described and identified on the form.

Each general permit includes a special condition which requires the permittee to continue to meet all general permit to install applicability criteria after the replacement or modification is complete, and to keep records of the date and description of the replacement or modification.

The AQD will mail a letter to the company acknowledging receipt of the modification request.