

FACT SHEET

Mountain Valley Pipeline Lambert Compressor Station Draft Air Permit

Overview

Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (MVP) has submitted an application for an air permit to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to construct and operate the Lambert Compressor Station in Pittsylvania County, east of Chatham. Compressor stations are used to move gas through pipelines.

What is DEQ's role in permitting?

DEQ reviews air permit applications for regulatory compliance, including:

- Type and quantity of air pollutants emitted
- Applicable federal and state air quality regulations
- Best Available Control Technology
- Necessary air quality analysis
- Monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting to assure compliance

What is an air permit?

An air permit is a legal document that describes how a facility meets state and federal air pollution regulations. These regulations set air quality "standards" – limits established to protect public health and the environment from air pollution. A permit establishes limits on emissions into the air to make sure that facilities limit air emissions to keep air pollution below the standards. Most facilities that create emissions must receive permits to make sure that emissions are limited and managed.

What is an air quality standard?

The Clean Air Act requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to set air quality standards for specific pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. DEQ also regulates Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP) via the Clean Air Act and the Virginia Air Toxics Rule. The air quality standards protect public health, "sensitive" populations such as asthmatics, children and the elderly. Additionally, the standards prevent decreased visibility and damage to animals, crops, vegetation and buildings.

Standards are established for "criteria pollutants," the most common air pollutants, and are often produced from mobile and stationary sources, i.e. automobiles, power plants and manufacturing facilities:

- Ozone (O₃); regulated by precursors volatile organic compounds (VOC) + nitrogen oxides (NO_x)
- Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
- Sulfur dioxide (SO₂)
- Particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5})
- Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Lead (Pb)

How does DEQ know how much air pollution is emitted?

When an applicant applies for a permit, the permit application must include how much pollution will be produced. The applicant describes the processes that will produce and limit pollution and includes manufacturers' specifications. DEQ staff determines if the calculations and processes are reasonable and appropriate. DEQ verifies this information by conducting on-site inspections and periodically requires the applicant to test emissions. The permittee must monitor the performance of its control equipment and report emissions, as well as share the type of fuel it uses.

Why does the MVP Lambert Compressor Station need an air permit?

The Lambert Compressor Station will be required to obtain a "minor new source review permit" because the facility has the potential to emit at least one regulated air pollutant above the permitting threshold. The permit requires control equipment, monitoring, testing and recordkeeping and sets limits on the amount of air pollutants that may be released over specific time frames.

What pollutants are included in the MVP Lambert Compressor Station draft permit?

The following pollutants are limited by the permit and cannot be exceeded:

Pollutant	Draft Permit (tons/year)
NO _x	12.4
CO	17.3
VOC	3.3
SO ₂	5.4
PM ₁₀	10.4
PM _{2.5}	10.4
Formaldehyde	0.82

How will MVP limit air pollution from the Lambert Compressor Station?

Virginia's air regulations require a best achievable control technology (BACT) review for all air pollutants that trigger permitting (PM_{2.5} and formaldehyde). For minor new source review permits, DEQ determines which air pollution control technology is considered the BACT for each pollutant and process based on energy, environmental, economic and other impacts and costs, and ensures that BACTs are applied correctly.

The controls required in this permit are state of the art for a project of this type, including catalytic systems and leak detection equipment and monitoring practices. PM_{2.5} emissions will be controlled using low fuel sulfur content, high efficiency inlet air filtration, and good combustion practices. Formaldehyde emissions will be controlled with the use of an oxidation catalyst system (OxCat). The use of OxCat will further reduce CO and VOC emissions, selective catalytic reduction (SCR) will further reduce NO_x and methane emissions and Auditory/Visual/Olfactory (AVO) and Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) to reduce fugitive greenhouse gas emissions (methane).

How can I provide input on the MVP Lambert Compressor Station draft air permit?

- Attend the virtual public informational briefing on **Jan. 7, 2021** at 6 p.m. This is a good way to gain background knowledge to be able to understand the draft permit. Register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8445256865519833104>. The webinar will be recorded for future reference.
- Review the draft air permit documents available at <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/public-notices/air>.
- Submit comments to DEQ. DEQ will accept public comments on the draft permit from **Jan. 8 to March 10, 2021**. Comments are not a vote for or against the issuance of the draft permit. Comments should, however, address the regulatory and technical merits. Comments may be submitted in writing, and/or can also be made in person at the virtual public hearing.
- Provide oral comments during the virtual public hearing scheduled for **Feb. 8, 2021** at 6 p.m. Register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4187178184631959312>.
- Public comments received will help determine whether the draft permit is considered by the State Air Pollution Control Board.

Who can I contact for additional information?

For additional information, contact:
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