

How to submit written comments to PA Department of Environmental Protection regarding Encina Phase 1 Air Pollution Permit approval – Permit # 49-00069A

Deadline for filing: March 19th, 2024 – (30 days from date of publication of announcement in [Pennsylvania Bulletin](#) – see page 794)

Comments can be submitted to Mr. Muhammad Zaman at mzaman@pa.gov. All comments should reference the permit number: 49-00069A.

DEP has not scheduled a hearing on this application. Any individual wishing to request a hearing may do so during the 30-day comment period. A public hearing may be held, if DEP, in its discretion, decides that a hearing is warranted based on the information received.

You can find and download the documents from the PA DEP for the proposed plan approval [here](#) at the DEP Encina Point Township information page. These are all dated January, 2024 and outline DEP findings and requirements for the proposed plan to go ahead.

[PA environment digest blog](#) on this announcement with helpful information.

Your comment should address concerns regarding this permit application which has been proposed for approval for the air pollution from Encina’s Phase 1 plastics waste sorting facility. This includes an emergency generator, two fire pumps, and fugitive emissions from traffic at the facility. It is also appropriate to express concerns about air pollution from the larger plastics pyrolysis facility because DEP has stated that if the company applies for a permit for “Phase 2” of the facility, the emissions from “Phase 1” (approved here) will need to be incorporated.

Possible points to include in your comment:

- 1) This will be a polluting facility & the community doesn't want it.
- 2) It could also be valuable to thank the DEP for taking a close look at the Phase 1 air permit and ask for DEP to continue to look closely at all permit applications.
- 3) Ask that DEP host a public hearing to share our concerns.
- 4) Share your concerns about the specific expected impacts that this plant will have on you and your family. (e.g., health, right to clean air, quality of life, view of the river, concerns about traffic/ your commute/air pollution and noise from trucks/safety of so many trucks, property values, recreational activities, older relatives in the hospital or nursing home community) It is good to be specific about how the plant will affect your way of life.

Technical points on the permit itself:

- 5) The draft permit allows Encina to monitor visible emissions from generator exhaust stacks using either an approved device or a trained observer. We believe that these opacity limits should be monitored as frequently as possible. An approved device would continuously monitor opacity limits, whereas a trained observer would not. Therefore, the DEP should require approved device monitoring for visible emissions from generators.
- 6) A significant control for fugitive road emissions in the draft permit is requiring Encina to post 20 mph speed limit signs on their property. However, the permit does not require Encina to take any steps to actually enforce the speed limit.