



Instructions for the Completion of the Application for Blasting Activity Permits

1. A person may not put or place in waters, within or on the boundaries of this Commonwealth, explosives without first securing a permit from the Fish and Boat Commission.
2. Blasting operations near streams are prohibited in all cases where the effect of the blasting is liable to change the course or channel of a stream without first obtaining a permit from the Department.
3. Prior to any excavation activity the Pennsylvania One Call System must be contacted. If the Blasting Activity Permit applicant is not the designer or primary contractor for the excavation activity, the Blasting Activity Permit applicant must make sure that Pennsylvania One Call System was contacted by the designer or primary contractor.

To obtain a Blasting Activity Permit you must first obtain a Blasting Activity Permit application or plan to conduct blasting operations that qualify for Permits-by-Rule (See [Blasting Activity Permit or Permit-by-Rule?](#))

Blasting Activity Permit applications are available on the DEP webpage, at the Bureau of Mining Programs, or any of the District Mining Offices. The following contact information indicates the locations of the District Mining Offices, office phone numbers, and the counties each office covers.

PENNSYLVANIA DEP BUREAU OF MINING PROGRAMS

Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 8461
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8461
717-787-5103

CAMBRIA DISTRICT OFFICE
286 Industrial Park Road
Ebensburg, PA 15931
814-472-1900

COUNTIES COVERED: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Cumberland, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Juniata, Mifflin, Perry, and Somerset

NEW STANTON DEP
131 Broadview Road
New Stanton, PA 15672
724-925-5500

COUNTIES COVERED: Allegheny, Armstrong, Fayette, Greene, Washington, and Westmoreland

MOSHANNON DISTRICT OFFICE
186 Enterprise Drive
Phillipsburg, PA 16866
814-342-8200

COUNTIES COVERED: Bradford, Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Lycoming, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga and Union

KNOX DISTRICT OFFICE
White Memorial Building
P.O. Box 669
Knox, PA 16232
814-797-1191

COUNTIES COVERED: Beaver, Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango, and Warren

POTTSVILLE DISTRICT OFFICE
5 West Laurel Boulevard
Pottsville, PA 17901
570-621-3118

COUNTIES COVERED: Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Columbia, Dauphin, Delaware, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Philadelphia, Pike, Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming, and York

Blasting Activity Permit or Permit-by-Rule?

A person can assume they have a permit for a blasting activity if:

- (a) The blasts are designed and performed for a scaled distance of 90 or greater.
- (b) No more than 15 pounds (6.81 kilograms) of explosives are detonated per delay interval of less than 8 milliseconds.
- (c) The total charge weight per blast does not exceed 150 pounds (68.18 kilograms).

If these conditions apply follow the instructions for **Blasting Activity Permit-by-Rule**.

Blasting Activity Permits

After obtaining a Blasting Activity Permit Application the applicant must complete the form as follows:

- (1) Section 1. Indicate the name of the project. This project name must be based on the name applied to plans, permits, or other sources so that there is no confusion as to the identity of the project. Describe the project in general terms and define its character.
- (2) Section 2. Identify the applicant and provide contact information.
Section 2(a). Provide blasting contractor information when the applicant is not a blasting contractor.
- (3) Section 3. Indicate the anticipated duration of the blasting in days. Specify the times of the day and the days of the week that blasting will occur.
- (4) Section 4. Provide the township or municipality and county where the blasting activity will take place. Include a map attachment. The map will be to an appropriate scale and indicate where the blasting will occur. Provide the Latitude/Longitude at the access point to the blasting activity.
- (5) Section 5. Include a certificate of insurance demonstrating the applicant has liability insurance in an amount greater than the \$300,000.
- (6) Section 6. Provide the distance to the nearest structure and proposed methods used to satisfy the monitoring requirements of Chapter 211 Subsection G. If the operator chooses to blast to a scaled distance below the regulatory requirement, state that seismograph readings will be taken at the nearest building for each blast.
Section 6(a). Indicate if blasting will be within 200' of a buried or underground utility line or line making contact with the surface of the ground.
Section 6(b). Indicate if blasting will be conducted within 800 feet of any public road. If blasting will be conducted within 800 feet of any public road describe the precautions that will be taken to protect the public.
- (7) Section 7. Describe the technical aspects of the blast loading plan for mass material blasting or other large scale blasting to be conducted pursuant to this permit.
- (8) Section 8. Describe the technical aspects of the blast loading plan for blasting within 200' of homes or blasting of a significantly smaller scale than the blasting described in Section 7.
- (9) Section 9. Provide proof of notification that residents within 200 feet (65.61 meters) of the blast site were informed of the proposed blasting operation, included as an attachment. The notification will provide general information about the blasting operation including the duration of the operation, times of the day, and days of the week. Examples: This attachment could be a signed statement from the individual(s) who gave personal notification, listing the people notified. It could also be a copy of written material left at each residence or a copy of the material mailed with certified mail receipts, or copies of written materials left at each residence with a list of the residences where the materials were left.

- (10) Section 10. Blasts shall be designed and conducted in a manner to achieve either a minimum scaled distance of 90 or meet the maximum allowable peak particle velocity indicated by Figure 1 of PA Code Chapter 211.151 (c) at the closest building not owned or leased by the permittee or its customer.

Blasts shall be designed and conducted to control airblast so that it does not exceed the noise levels specified in Table 1 of PA Code Chapter 211.151(d) at the closest building not owned or leased by the permittee or its customer or any other structure designated by the Department.

If the applicant wishes the Department to establish an alternative peak particle velocity or airblast level the applicant may submit these requests with this application in the form of an attachment. **In such cases additional review time is necessary to complete the review.** If an alternative peak particle velocity or airblast level is established the limits will be listed on the application by the Blasting and Explosives Inspector.

- (11) Section 11. List appropriate storage permits and permits to purchase required for this project.
- (12) Section 12. This permit application must be prepared and signed by a licensed blaster authorized to perform this activity. Section 11. Provides the name, signature, and blaster's license of the licensed blaster who prepared the application.

Any areas on the application that specify **Department Use Only** are **not** to be filled in by the applicant.

Upon completion the Blasting Activity Permit Application must be sent to the District Mining Office which covers the county where the activity will be conducted.

Blasting Activity Permits-by-Rule

A person can assume they have a permit for a blasting activity if:

- (a) The blasts are designed and performed for a scaled distance of 90 or greater.
- (b) No more than 15 pounds (6.81 kilograms) of explosives are detonated per delay interval of less than 8 milliseconds.
- (c) The total charge weight per blast does not exceed 150 pounds (68.18 kilograms).

The person must notify the Department (through the appropriate District Mining Offices) either verbally (by phone or in person), in writing, or by fax prior to the initial blast. The appropriate District Mining Office is the one that covers the county where the activity will be conducted.

If the person gives verbal notification, a written notice shall be sent to the appropriate District Mining Office within 5 working days.

The notification will indicate the following information for all blasts that will occur under this permit:

- (a) The identity of the person.
- (b) The location where the blasting will occur.
- (c) The purpose of the blasting.
- (d) The distance to the nearest building not owned or leased by the person or its customer.
- (e) The days of the week and times when blasting may occur.
- (f) The duration of blasting activities under this permit by rule.
- (g) The minimum scaled distance.
- (h) The maximum weight of explosives detonated per delay period of less than 8 milliseconds.
- (i) The maximum total weight of explosives per blast.
- (j) A contact person and telephone number.