

Oil & Gas Construction Activity in Unincorporated Arapahoe County Outside of the SEMSWA Service Area

The requirements presented in this section apply to oil and gas developments in unincorporated Arapahoe County's (County's) municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit boundaries and outside of the Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA) service area. These requirements are in addition to the grading, erosion, and sediment control (GESC) permit requirements in the County's *GESC Manual*. Erosion and sediment control permits, formerly known as Low-Impact GESC permits, are not applicable to oil and gas construction activities.

A GESC permit must be issued for oil and gas construction activities that disturb 1 acre or more, or less than 1 acre, but are part of a larger common plan of development or sale that disturbs 1 acre or more. The GESC permit must be issued prior to beginning any grading for the purpose of oil and gas development. Two types of GESC permits can be issued for oil and gas construction activity—a standard GESC permit and a field-wide GESC permit. The submittal requirements for a GESC permit for oil and gas construction activity are the same as outlined in the County's *GESC Manual*, except for the following:

1. GESC Plan Checklist
 - a. The Final GESC Drawing shall include the following additional information:
 - i. Location of permanent improvements such as well heads, tanks, etc.
 - ii. Location and limit of production area.
2. The GESC Standard Notes and Details shall include the following additional notes:
 - a. At sites where the Oil and Gas Company or its contractor is not the site owner or operator, i.e. where proposed construction sites overlap existing construction sites, the Oil and Gas Company or its contractor must comply with the provision of the County GESC and the State of Colorado Stormwater Management Plan for the project their construction activities will impact. The Oil and Gas Company or its contractor must ensure that their activities do not render ineffective the erosion and sediment control measures for the site. Should the Oil and Gas Company or its contractor damage or render ineffective any control measures for the site, the Oil and Gas Company or its contractor will repair or replace the control measures affected. The Oil and Gas Company or its contractor will be responsible for control measures that includes seed or sod and must provide maintenance, including any watering necessary to ensure that establishment of the sod or seed.
 - b. The Oil and Gas Company or its contractor is required to provide street sweeping of paved roadways and other control measures as necessary to ensure that sediments, resulting from their activity, do not enter the stormwater system, during or following construction. The street shall be swept throughout the day and at the end of each working day at minimum, but if tracking is identified, sweeping must be implemented immediately and continue until such time that tracking is no longer identified as a potential pollutant source.
 - c. The use of hoses and water to flush or wash any material into any stormwater facility is prohibited.
 - d. The Oil and Gas Company or its contractor must practice good housekeeping practices. This includes proper storage of hazardous material, waste disposal,

equipment and material storage, fueling procedures, spill response and material recovery.

3. Approved land use document(s).

Field Wide GESC Permit Requirements

For multiple (two or more) projects that are similar in nature and where construction will occur within a 2-year period, the County will use a field wide review process for oil and gas well operations, pipeline connections, and midstream construction that replaces the GESC Narrative Template review. This review process will streamline the GESC permitting process for those projects that are consistent and repetitive, and performed by vetted companies that will be constructing multiple projects.

The field wide GESC documents differ from the standard oil and gas GESC documents with the addition of a total project area map, example site plans, and a different report. The field wide GESC plans provide example site plans for the various working conditions (e.g., pad on cut area, pad on fill area, pad crossing multiple sections, and access roads grading encroached into floodplain). The field wide GESC report revises the overall costs by taking an average unit cost per acre in lieu of determining collateral based on the total control measures proposed.

The Field Wide GESC report and example site plans and are valid for a period of 2 years from the date of County approval.

To begin construction or land disturbing activities on an individual project site, as shown in the approved field wide GESC total project area map, a site-specific standard GESC permit shall be required along with individual site GESC plans. Individual site GESC plans shall be provided conforming to the approved field wide GESC plans for the various working conditions. The field wide GESC narrative template shall be used for each individual project and an individual site GESC narrative template is not required.