







# Site Overview

Certificate Issuer:	Equitable Origin, Inc.
Certificate Number:	EO100-30112024-US
Operator:	EQT Corporation
Certifiable Unit Name:	Greene and Washington Counties - Pennsylvania
Certification Standard:	EO100™ Standard for Responsible Energy Development (2017) and the EO100™ Technical Supplement: Onshore Natural Gas and Light Oil Production (2022)
Location of Certified Unit:	Greene and Washington Counties, Pennsylvania, USA
Area:	610,000 net acres
Production Volume:	Approximately 3,600 mmcf/d
Number of Employees:	Approximately 861
Segments of Supply Chain Covered:	Natural Gas Production
<b>Re-Certification Date:</b>	30 November 2024
<b>Re-Verification Date:</b>	30 November 2025
Expiration Date:	29 November 2027
Assessment Period:	October 2024
Assessment Body:	Responsible Energy Solutions, LLC



# ABOUT THIS REPORT

The purpose of this report is to publicly document the EO100<sup>™</sup> Certification assessment conducted of EQT Corporation (EQT) natural gas operations in Greene and Washington Counties, Pennsylvania, USA. The assessment scope covered EQT's *Greene and Washington Counties* - *Pennsylvania*, detailed below, which were treated as one Certifiable Unit.

The EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard for Responsible Energy Development is a set of rigorous performance standards for energy development projects. Developed through an extensive multi-year, and multi-stakeholder <u>engagement process</u>, the EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard is the product of extensive consultation with over 1,000 representatives from the energy industry, international NGOs, Indigenous Rightsholders, financial institutions, government officials, and communities affected by energy projects. The Standard establishes metrics and performance targets that aim to objectively and independently evaluate environmental, social and governance (ESG) impacts of energy development projects. The EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard includes a Technical Supplement for Natural Gas and Light Oil Production that was originally released in 2017 and updated in 2022.

In selecting the management obligations, metrics and performance targets to represent under these Principles, the EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard synthesizes leading international and sectoral Environmental, Social and Governance Performance standards, initiatives and reporting frameworks, including: international human rights standards and conventions (Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights), IFC Performance Standards, Global Reporting Initiative, ISO 26000, AA1000 Assurance Standard, ISO 14001, ISO 45001, Oil and Gas Methane Partnership, the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosure, and the Extractives Industries Transparency Initiative. These global and sectoral good practice benchmarks are selected and codified as specific and auditable indicators, with the guidance of a multi-stakeholder expert Advisory Committee. Standards are reviewed periodically to remain consistent with evolving guidelines, benchmarks and expectations.

A total of over 500 metrics are incorporated in the EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard and associated projectrelated Supplement that are grouped under the following Principles:

- 1. Corporate Governance, Transparency & Ethics
- 2. Human Rights, Social Impact & Community Development
- 3. Indigenous Peoples' Rights
- 4. Fair Labor & Working Conditions
- 5. Climate Change, Biodiversity & Environment

The EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard allocates over 500 of these metrics across three successive levels of Performance Targets (PTs):



- PT1 targets "meet" global or sectoral "good practice" benchmarks;
- PT2 targets "exceed" or go beyond these benchmarks in terms of transparency, management or stringency, or operational performance;
- PT3 targets represent "leadership" and achievement of sector best practices in this area of management or operational performance.

Scoring of an Energy Development Project against the EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard and relevant Supplements is undertaken annually by an expert Assessment Body based on representative sampling of a cross section of observation points following documented procedures and international assurance good practice, including periodic site visits and interviews. The Assessor is required to substantiate their recommended scoring based on evidence provided by the Operator, and on their observations gathered onsite, through interviews and document review. The Assessment Body's findings are subject to expert peer review and periodic Witness Assessment by EO, to ensure consistency of interpretation across sites and assessors.

Participating Producers must at least partially meet all applicable ~270 PT1 targets to achieve certification under the Standard, score a minimum of 70% overall, and commit to fully meet all applicable PT1s by the end of the first 3-year certification cycle. Additional points are awarded for achieving PT2s and PT3s, which indicate that the producer has gone beyond industry good practice to demonstrate leadership and innovation.

Established in 2009, Equitable Origin is a non-profit 501(c)3 charity based in the US that partners with business, communities and government to incent and reward more transparent, equitable, and sustainable development of energy resources through standards and certification. Our mission is to protect people and the environment by ensuring that energy development is conducted under the highest social and environmental standards.

### Read more about our Standards here:

https://energystandards.org/responsible-energy-development/



## Site Profile

EQT is the largest producer of natural gas in the United States, operating in the Northeast states of Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Ohio. The company produces natural gas in the Marcellus and Utica shales. In 2021, EQT first achieved certification of two areas of operations, in Greene County and Washington County, Pennsylvania under the EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard for Responsible Energy Development (2017) and the EO100<sup>™</sup> Technical Supplement: Onshore Natural Gas and Light Oil Production (2022).



EQT's Greene and Washington Counties - Pennsylvania operations are found in the Marcellus Shale. The Marcellus Shale is part of the Appalachia Basin stretching from Western New York State south through Pennsylvania into West Virginia and including part of Southeastern Ohio. The portion of the Marcellus Shale from which EQT produces natural gas is primarily a "dry" gas formation producing gas with little or no natural gas liquids (NGLs), although EQT does operate four wells within Washington County that produce NGLs associated with the gas. EQT also drills in Greene and Washington Counties, producing from the Utica Shale formation geography includes rolling hills and valleys, primarily woodlands with some agricultural acreage on a relatively small scale. Washington County is part of the Pittsburgh, PA metropolitan statistical area and is a growing, far southern suburb of the city of Pittsburgh.



### Stakeholders

In the course of operating this Certified Unit, VEI engages with:

- Employees
- Landowners
- Communities

- Industry Partners
- Investors

Principle 3, Indigenous Peoples' Rights, was evaluated by the Assessor as having limited applicability to this particular assessment. Additional details on this finding are detailed below.

The Assessor notes that at present, the Lenape Delaware Tribe of southeastern Pennsylvania (near Philadelphia and the Delaware River) is actively seeking recognition by both Pennsylvania and the U.S. federal government. The Assessor noted that the presence of the nearest Indigenous Territory is the Seneca Nation Tribal Territory in Cattaraugas County, New York to the north of the EQT operating area. However, due to the separation of the area of operations from these Indigenous territories, the Assessors concluded that, based on the evidence reviewed, EQT operations would likely have minimal impact on those territories.



### **Assessment Activities**

EQT engaged Equitable Origin-approved independent assessors, Responsible Energy Solutions, LLC, to conduct its recertification assessment in October 2024.

To assess conformance of the Certifiable Unit to the associated performance obligations, the Assessment Team conducted verification activities using desk research and site investigation, focused on assessing improvements that were to be made in conformance with EQT's Continuous Improvement Plan that was a condition of initial certification.

Specific verification activities undertaken as part of this assessment included an on-site visit for environmental, health and safety and community impact observations. Further activities included a review of EQT's documentation and reports (internal and external), interviews with relevant staff and internal stakeholders, discussion with key personnel and site operators.

As part of this work, Responsible Energy Solutions process included document review and discussion with EQT personnel, interviews, field assessment and report preparation conducted over an approximate six-week period. The Assessors spent 2 days performing field assessments, reviewed 158 documents, and conducted 6 interviews with external stakeholders and 20 interviews with internal stakeholders.

All supporting assessment documents are confidential.



### **Certification Results**

Based on the information obtained, Responsible Energy Solutions finds that EQT has met the requirements for the continued certification of its *Greene and Washington Counties* - *Pennsylvania* in Greene and Washington Counties, Pennsylvania, to the EO100<sup>™</sup> Standard for Responsible Energy Development (2017) and the EO100<sup>™</sup> Technical Supplement: Onshore Natural Gas and Light Oil Production (2022).

This recertification assessment concludes that EQT has succeeded in meeting or partially meeting all the applicable Level 1 Performance Targets (see Figure 1, below). During this recertification assessment, found that EQT continues to perform in accordance with the standard and has made improvements in scores across Performance Targets at Levels 1, 2 and 3.

EQT remains focused on achieving emissions reductions in line with their goal to achieve "net zero" Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions by 2025. EQT continues to advance their GHG and methane emissions management through the implementation of programs such as their pneumatic controls change to zero emissions sources. The company also developed new policies to achieve "Fully Meets" status for several Performance Targets.

EQT's scores have improved year to year since the initial assessment in 2021, apart from two level 1 performance targets in Principle 5 that were downgraded to .5 (Partially Meets) from Year 3 reverification.

EQT has been provided with a list of gaps identified during this recertification assurance process for incorporation into the Continuous Improvement Plan that will guide performance improvement efforts for the Certified Unit during the period 2024-2027.

Table 1 shows the results summarized by Principle for each Performance Target level.



#### Table 1: Summary Results by Principle







#### EO100<sup>™</sup> Certificate Certificate Certificate Number: EO100-30112024-US **Operator: EQT Corporation Certified Unit:** Greene and Washington Counties - Pennsylvania Location of Certified Unit: Greene and Washington Counties, Pennsylvania, USA Δ-**Re-Certification Date:** 30 November 2024 **Re-Verification Date:** 30 November 2025 Letter Grade Expiration Date: 29 November 2027 EO100™ Standard for Responsible Energy **Certification Standard:** Development (2017) and the EO100™ Technical Supplement: Onshore Natural Gas and Light Oil Production (2022) Assessment Dates: October 2024 Assessor: Responsible Energy Solutions, LLC Jason Switzer CEO, Equitable Origin

#### **Contact Information:**

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If organizations or individuals have concerns, complaints, or comments about the operator's EO100<sup>™</sup> Certification, they should first contact the Certified Operator directly: 412-720-4500.

#### Equitable Origin: contact@equitableorigin.org

For more information on Equitable Origin's Certification System Comments, Complaints and Appeals processes, please visit our website: <u>www.energystandards.org</u>.