



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

April 13, 2006

For immediate release

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CONTRACTS DOMINATE EPC AGENDA FOR APRIL

DES MOINES – Commissioners will be asked to approve contracts for demonstration projects, unsewered communities and marketing bio-products at the April meeting of the state Environmental Protection Commission.

Partial funding for an urban storm water demonstration project in Ames is up for approval. If approved, the contract would provide about 20 percent of the funding for the installation and water quality monitoring of pervious pavement on the north side of the Iowa State University campus.

Another contract proposal would help small, mostly unincorporated communities develop and run sewer systems. The contracts would go to four organizations that can construct, operate and maintain wastewater treatment systems, somewhat similar to how rural water associations function.

Commissioners will also be asked to approve a contract designed to reduce reliance on petroleum-based projects by 15 percent through marketing bio-products for fuels, power and other products to a targeted community.

Following the meeting, commissioners will hear a progress update on water quality improvement plans throughout the state. Also known as Total Maximum Daily Loads

(TMDLs), the plans are developed for streams or lakes that have documented problems such as excess nutrients, bacteria, siltation or chemicals.

The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. at the DNR office, 7900 Hickman Road in Urbandale. Public participation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The full agenda follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes
- Director's Remarks
- Contract – Portland Cement Pervious Concrete Demonstration Site
- Contract – Database and Project Tracking Systems for State Revolving Fund
- Contracts - Eastern Iowa Regional Utility Service Systems, Regional Utility Service Systems, ADLM Counties Public Health Agency, Xenia Rural Water District
- Contract – Fostering Bio-Product Markets: Market Conditioning to Increase Market Penetration in Iowa
- Final Rule - Amend IAC 567-Chapter 144 “Household Hazardous Materials”
- Final Rule Without Notice - Chapter 64 – Wastewater Construction and
- Operation Permits
- Referrals To The Attorney General
 - a. Dean Pedersen (Laurens) - Animal Feeding Operations
 - b. Landfill of Des Moines, Inc. (Des Moines) – Solid Waste
- Proposed Rule: Chapters 20, 22 and 31 and 33, Air Quality Program Rules – Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) rules
- Monthly Reports
- General Discussion
- Items for next month's meeting
- Upcoming Meetings
May 15, 2006

More information about the agenda items can be found on the DNR Web site under Commissions and Boards at www.iowadnr.com.

The members of the commission are Darrell Hanson, chair, Manchester; Jerry Peckum, vice chair, Jefferson; Lisa Davis-Cook, secretary, West Des Moines; Francis Thicke, Fairfield; Donna Buell, Spirit Lake; Mary Gail Scott, Cedar Rapids; David Petty, Eldora; Suzanne Morrow, Storm Lake; and Henry Marquard, Muscatine. The director of the DNR is Jeff Vonk.

For more information, contact Karen Grimes at (515) 281-5135.

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DNR REMINDS PRODUCERS THAT MANURE MANAGEMENT PLANS SHOULD BE COMPLETE

DES MOINES – The DNR is reminding producers that all required documents must be part of their manure management plans (MMP).

“Producers should be sure to send us the required information,” said Cindy Martens who coordinates MMP review for the DNR.

“Without this information, we can’t do a thorough review of the MMP,” she added. “If we have all the information, we’re more likely to catch an error in calculations or quantities and prevent over application or excess nutrients from reaching our streams.”

Producers should submit the following information with their MMPs:

- copies of their manure application agreements for fields they don’t own or rent,
- manure sampling results if used to determine the nutrient content of the manure,
- the soil erosion calculations (RUSLE2) from the Natural Resources Conservation Service’s P index when the P index is required. The P index reports will need to be updated every four years.

The DNR is changing the format for legal descriptions in the MMP and other forms, so that it reads the same way for all animal feeding operations forms. Producers should get the latest copy of the form.

“This may seem like a small change,” said Martens, “but it should help cut down on confusion and errors that can cause a construction delay. Sometimes we get several different legal descriptions in one document,” she added. “It’s critical to get the right legal so that we can do site reviews, especially for new projects that don’t have 911 addresses.”

For a current copy of the MMP form, check the DNR Web site at <http://www.iowadnr.com/afo/forms.html>.

For more information, contact Cindy Martens at (712) 262-4177.

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ANIMAL PRODUCERS SHOULD USE SPECIFIC SOIL TYPES FOR THE P INDEX

DES MOINES – Consultants and producers who are required to use the phosphorus or P index in their manure management plans should select yield data for specific soils, and not use the county average yields.

Approximately 3,500 animal producers will begin using the P index to develop their manure management plans over the next one to three years.

Requiring soil-specific yield data will accomplish two things according to Jeremy Klatt, a nutrient specialist with the DNR. “It will make P index calculations consistent with the federal Natural Resources Conservation Service, which developed the P index.

“It could also affect how much manure is applied or whether or not adequate soil erosion practices are in place on a given field,” said Klatt.

Klatt added that for flatter ground, the county average yields and the soil-specific yields are similar. However, there is a greater difference between the two yields on steeper slopes. In one case, the difference between the two was nearly 80 bushels per acre.

“The implication of this difference is that if yields are assumed to be higher than they actually are, the soil loss equations associate a higher crop residue with the higher yields,” said Klatt. “But you actually have a lot less residue, so your field is vulnerable to higher erosion and higher run-off of manure.”

For example, if a producer uses the county average yield of 140 bushels per acre on a steeply-sloped field, the estimated soil loss will be about four tons per acre per year. Using the NRCS soils-specific yield of 60 bushels per acre the estimated soil loss is 10 tons per acre per year, much closer to what would be expected to occur in that field.

If the county average yields are used, producers will underestimate the soil loss on steeper slopes without putting conservation practices in place that could prevent erosion. Since phosphorus attaches to the soil particle, higher erosion rates will place more phosphorus in our streams, potentially increasing algal blooms and stream degradation.

“We need to tell producers to use the NRCS field office technical guide,” said Klatt. “They are the soil erosion experts and we need to be consistent with their recommendations.”

For more information, contact Jeremy Klatt, (641) 424-4073.

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The following news release is a joint release from the DNR and Keep Iowa Beautiful.

For more information:

Gerry Schnepf, Keep Iowa Beautiful, 515-323-6507

Tom Anderson, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 515-281-8623

IOWA ILLEGAL DUMPING PREVENTION PROGRAM PROVES SUCCESSFUL

Best Practices Guide Available for All Iowa Communities

DES MOINES – Three Iowa counties are reporting success at the conclusion of a pilot program to reduce illegal dumping. The program, led by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Keep Iowa Beautiful (KIB), resulted in an increase in public awareness of the problem, as well as an increase in illegal dumping reports and convictions. Best practices from the program are now available at www.iowadnr.com/waste/sw/illdump.html or www.KeepIowaBeautiful.com for communities that want to develop their own illegal dumping programs.

The pilot counties, Linn, Boone and Appanoose, developed and implemented strategies to reduce illegal dumping, the disposal of waste in un-permitted public or private areas, in rural and urban neighborhoods. Activities included newspaper and radio ads, bumper stickers and windshield decals, news articles, posters, brochures, displays at fairs and community events and more. The counties also developed illegal dumping tracking/monitoring databases to be used in partnership by investigating agencies including law enforcement, secondary roads, county public health departments, etc.

The pilot communities used the campaign slogan “Take a Stand for Your Land,” along with a reporting/hotline phone number to encourage residents to report illegal dumping. Their objective was to encourage more people to watch for and report illegal dumping to assist law enforcement agencies to catch and punish offenders.

“The ‘Take a Stand for Your Land’ campaign empowers residents to take action to prevent and reduce illegal dumping,” said Gerald Schnepf, Executive Director, Keep Iowa Beautiful. “In addition to harming the environment and diminishing the beauty of our state, illegal dumping costs taxpayers thousands of dollars every year to clean up. All Iowans have a vested interest in helping solve the problem.”

Iowa communities interested in developing their own illegal dumping prevention programs can access “A Community Guide to Combat Illegal Dumping”, as well as customizable template materials including posters, flyers, brochures, radio and newspapers ads on the DNR and KIB Web sites, listed above.

“The DNR encourages Iowa cities and counties to develop a task force and implement their own illegal dumping programs,” said Tom Anderson, senior environmental specialist with the Iowa DNR. “The DNR investigates hundreds of complaints and provides assistance when it’s possible, however, the vast responsibility of investigating, enforcing and ultimately reducing illegal dumping rests at the local level, with the citizens of Iowa.”

Illegal Dumping Facts

- In a 2002 DNR survey, 66 percent of Iowa city and county officials believed illegal dumping is “somewhat” to a “very big” problem.
- In 2004, Boone County spent \$109,414 to clean up illegal dump sites. Had those items been properly disposed of at the landfill, the fee would have been just \$1,425.

- In 2005, the DNR received 525 illegal dumping/solid waste complaints, 20 of which were referred to legal staff. The cost for investigating those 20 incidents was \$300,000.
- In Iowa, the maximum penalty for illegal dumping is \$5,000 per day of violation, however illegal dumpers are rarely caught and prosecuted.
- Besides costing Iowa taxpayers millions of dollars each year for cleanup, illegal dumping also poses a threat to both the environment and public health and safety. Objects dumped along roadways can be hazardous to travel. Hazardous waste streams can seep into the ground and eventually into water sources. Dumping sites can become breeding grounds for insects and rodents. And, they diminish the beauty and quality of life near these areas.

Pilot Community Contacts:

Appanoose County – Rodger Kaster, 641-437-7279

Boone County – Scott Smith, 515-433-0591

Linn County – Kristin Simon, 319-365-9941

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TRUMBULL LAKE RESIDENTS ASKED FOR INPUT ON WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

DES MOINES – The DNR will present plans for improving water quality at Trumbull Lake in Clay County at a public meeting April 20. The draft water quality improvement plan will be discussed at 6 p.m. at Oneota Lodge, located at 420 10th Ave SE in Spencer.

The draft plan, also known as a TMDL or Total Maximum Daily Load, has been developed for Trumbull Lake. TMDLs are calculations used to determine how much of a pollutant a water body can receive and still maintain water quality standards.

The water quality improvement plan also includes information on how water quality can be improved through conservation efforts in the watershed, or the surrounding area that drains into the lake. After receiving public comments, the draft plan will be forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for final approval.

The water quality problems at Trumbull Lake are related to algae and turbidity, or cloudy water. These problems are associated with excessive nutrient loading, especially from phosphorus. Sediment and nutrients in Trumbull Lake are coming from agricultural lands in the watershed and are also being stirred up from within the lake to cause water quality problems. Excess nutrients make the lake aesthetically objectionable and less desirable for uses like swimming, but do not pose a specific human health threat.

Comments on the draft plan will be received through May 5, 2006. Copies of the draft plan are available from the following sources, which can also be used to submit comments:

- Internet: www.iowadnr.com/water/tmdlwqa/tmdl/publicnotice.html

- E-mail chris.vangorp@dnr.state.ia.us
- Telephone: Chris Van Gorp at (515) 281-4791
- Mail: Chris Van Gorp, care of Iowa DNR, Wallace State Office Building, 502 E. 9th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50319

For more information, contact Chris Van Gorp at (515) 281-4791.

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DNR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

DES MOINES — The DNR took the following enforcement actions in March and April 2006, unless otherwise noted. The following are only briefs; please contact Jessie Brown of the DNR for more information at (515) 281-5131.

Administrative Orders

Responsible parties have 30 days to appeal the order or 60 days to pay the penalty.

- CRM Enterprises, Inc., dba Envirobest, Inc., of Des Moines, was ordered to pay a \$7,000 penalty. The order is in regard to asbestos removal violations at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant.
- Alan Bakker, of Hull, was ordered to pay past compliance fees and a \$6,000 penalty. The order is in regard to failure to have a manure management plan (MMP) for a site in Sioux County. An MMP has since been submitted and the order has been appealed.
- Bruce and Jill Rewoldt of Eldora were ordered to immediately land-apply manure from their lagoon at the former All Star Pork facility and to pay an \$8,000 penalty. The order is in regard to manure removal requirements.

Consent Orders

A consent order is issued in settlement of an administrative order or as an alternative to issuing an administrative order. A consent order indicates that the DNR has voluntarily entered into a legally enforceable agreement with the other party.

- Pieper, Inc., of Wever, agreed in a consent order to submit a written plan detailing how it will properly dispose dead livestock, outline the use of all permanent manure piping systems and storage tanks on its property, and to pay a \$5,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to the improper disposal of dead hogs and a manure discharge at a site in Lee County. This order was agreed upon in February, and Pieper has complied with the order and paid the penalty.
- The City of Promise City agreed in a consent order to install a centralized sewer system and wastewater treatment system according to a compliance schedule. The order is in regard to illegal wastewater discharges.

- Point Builders L.L.C. of Cedar Rapids and Steve Crawford, dba Foxbridge Investments, of Charles City, agreed in a consent order to comply with the conditions of NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) General Permit No. 2, including the maintenance and implementation of a pollution prevention plan, and to pay a \$2,000 penalty. The order is in regard to resolving stormwater violations at a site in Mason City. The penalty has been paid.
- West Central Cooperative, of Ralston, agreed in a consent order to operate its land application system in full compliance with its land application permit. West Central Cooperative also agreed to pay a \$3,000 penalty, or in lieu of the penalty, pay \$5,000 to the City of Ralston as a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) to be used for the installation of wastewater facilities, including a central sewer system, for the City of Ralston. The order is in regard to resolving wastewater permit violations concerning West Central's land application disposal system.
- Eugene and Jill Jordan, of Parnell, agreed in a consent order to submit a manure management plan (MMP), filing fee and indemnity fee, and to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The order is in regard to failure to submit an MMP for a site in Iowa County. The penalty has been paid.
- The Murl R. Hansen Farm Account, based in Granville, agreed in a consent order to submit a manure management plan, filing fee and indemnity fee. The account also agreed to pay past compliance fees for 2005, 2004, and 2003, and to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The order is in regard to failure to submit an MMP for a site in Sioux County. The penalty has been paid.
- W. Boyd Jones Company, of Omaha, Neb., agreed in a consent order to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The order is in regard to resolving National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) violations for a renovation project at Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The penalty has been paid.
- MTT Co., of Denison, agreed in an amendment to a 2005 administrative order to pay a \$3,500 penalty. The original order is in regard to open burning violations. The penalty has been paid.
- Iowa Tanklines, Inc., of Webster City, agreed in a consent order to pay a \$600 penalty. The order is in regard to resolving regulatory violations arising out of the unauthorized deposit of petroleum fuel into underground storage tanks (USTS) in Cherokee.

For more information, contact Jessie Brown at (515) 281-5131.