



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

February 16, 2006

For immediate release

- 1. Water quality projects, loan revisions on EPC Feb. 20 agenda**
- 2. DNR hosts student public service announcement contest for scrap tire program**
- 3. Public input sought on DNR evaluation of animal feeding construction permits, MMPs**
- 4. DNR enforcement actions**

**WATER QUALITY PROJECTS, LOAN REVISIONS ON EPC
FEBRUARY 20 AGENDA**

DES MOINES – A proposal to change the state revolving loan fund rules is on the agenda for the Feb. 20 meeting of the Iowa Environmental Protection Commission.

“Major changes in the state revolving fund are with the loan processing responsibilities, which would move to the Iowa Finance Authority,” said Patti Cale-Finnegan, DNR’s loan coordinator.

She added that another proposed change would make the loan program for livestock facilities less restrictive, allowing producers to submit a manure management plan instead of a more comprehensive nutrient plan.

“We are also removing the eligibility date that restricted facilities built after Dec. 31, 2001, from participating in the program,” she said. “We will not fund construction of new facilities or approve loans for facilities that have more than 1,000 animal units.”

Commissioners will also be asked to approve an Intended Use Plan update for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund which includes two non-point source pollution projects:

- A loan project that would filter pollutants out of storm water run-off reaching Spirit Lake and East Okoboji Lake has been proposed by the City of Orleans.

- A request from the Natural Heritage Foundation for a \$6 million loan would allow the foundation to purchase 93 acres along Spirit Lake, including 3,500 feet of natural shoreline for public use.

The EPC will meet at 9:00 a.m., Feb. 20, at the DNR office, 7900 Hickman Road in Urbandale. At 9:15 a.m., commissioners will discuss manure application to soybeans. Public participation is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Appointments are scheduled for 1 p.m. and 1:45 p.m. to discuss referrals to the Attorney General. The meeting is open to the public.

The complete agenda follows:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Director's Remarks
4. Contract with Iowa State University for a Protocol to Assess Sediment Related Biological Impairments
5. Solid Waste Alternatives Program – Contract Amendment
6. Solid Waste Alternatives Program – Recommendations
7. Contract – Iowa Association of Water Agencies, Des Moines Water Works, City of Cedar Rapids Water Division, City of Iowa City Water Dept., and Rathbun Regional Water Assoc.- Source Water Protection
8. Contract – Des Moines Water Works - Coliform Study in Des Moines River and Tributaries
9. Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund – 2006 Intended Use Plan Fourth Quarter Update
10. Final Rule – Chapters 40, 44, 90, 91, 92, 93 – Revisions to State Revolving Fund Rules
11. Final Rule - Chapter 22 (Air Construction Permitting Exemptions)
12. Notice of Intended Action - Chapter 64 – Wastewater Construction and Operation Permits
13. Notice of Intended Action – Chapters 50-54 – Water Use and Water Allocation Rules
14. Notice of Intended Action - Chapter 135 Uniform Environmental Covenants Policy and Procedures.
15. Proposed Contested Case Decisions - Linn Grove Hatchery, Inc.; Mike Elsbernd and Keith Kruse
16. Referrals To The Attorney General
 - a) Kenneth Moellers (Howard County) – Animal Feeding Operations
 - b) Charles F. Deering Jr., (Postville) – Animal Feeding Operations
17. Proposed Rule – Chapters 68 and 69
18. Proposed Rule – Chapter 65 – Technical Correction to 65.17 Manure Management Plan Content Requirements
19. Proposed Rule: Chapters 22 and 23, Air Quality Program Rules - Updates, Revisions, and Additions
20. Monthly Reports
21. General Discussion

- 22.** Items for next month's meeting
Upcoming Meetings
March 20, 2006
April 21, 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 Peckumn, 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) 281-51325.

###

DNR HOSTS STUDENT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT CONTEST FOR SCRAP TIRE PROGRAM

DES MOINES – The Iowa Department of Natural Resources announces a public service announcement radio and television contest for college and university students. The winning entries will be used for the DNR's "Retire Your Tires: Leave the Old When Buying New" statewide public awareness campaign.

"The goal of this campaign is to encourage Iowans to leave their old tires at the dealership when buying new ones and to decrease the number of illegally dumped tires in Iowa," said Jill Cornell, information specialist at the DNR. "The contest raises awareness of illegal dumping and provides an opportunity for students to create an outlet for our message. All Iowans will be able to benefit from these public service announcements."

The contest will award cash prizes to the top three winning entries in two categories: television and radio. In addition, the winning entries will be submitted to radio and television station across Iowa to be included in their programming.

Any college or university student enrolled at the time of submission is encouraged to apply. Entries will be accepted from individuals or groups. Multiple entries will also be accepted.

All submissions must be postmarked by April 3, 2006. Winners will be announced in May.

To obtain an entry form and rule information, visit www.iowadnr.com/waste/ or contact Jill Cornell at (515) 281-0879; e-mail Jill.Cornell@dnr.state.ia.us.

###

PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT ON DNR EVALUATION OF ANIMAL FEEDING CONSTRUCTION PERMITS, MMPs

DES MOINES — The DNR is seeking suggestions and comments on a proposal that would allow the DNR to evaluate construction permit applications, and manure or nutrient management plans from animal feeding operations.

The rule would allow the DNR to deny or place restrictions on proposed construction or expansions due to environmental concerns. The rule proposal would apply to both confinement operations and open feedlots.

The authority would be limited to cases where additional scrutiny is needed because of the potential to pollute a water of the state, violate state water quality standards, or place an unreasonable burden on natural resources or the environment due to the current concentration of animal feeding operations or associated manure application fields in a specific area.

Animal producers could appeal the DNR's decision to the Environmental Protection Commission.

People with concerns or suggestions can submit their oral or written comments at five public hearings. The public hearings will be held in LeMars, Audubon, Urbandale, Ainsworth and Waverly at the following times and dates:

- LeMars: March 7, 9 a.m., LeMars Public Library, 46 1st Street SW.
- Audubon: March 7, 7 p.m., Audubon City Hall, 410 N Park Place.
- Urbandale: March 8, 2 p.m., Urbandale Public Library, 3520 86th Street.
- Ainsworth: March 9, 7 p.m., Marr Park, 2943 Highway 92.
- Waverly: March 10, 9 a.m., Waverly Library, 1500 W. Bremer Avenue.

The DNR will accept public comments until March 10. Written comments can be sent to Gene Tinker, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034. Comments can also be faxed to (515) 281-8895 or e-mailed to gene.tinker@dnr.state.ia.us.

For more information, contact Gene Tinker at (515) 281-3103.

###

DNR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

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

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.

- Rob Harter, dba Harter Custom Pumping and Septic Services, of Dyersville, agreed in a consent order to retain records of sludge application for a minimum of five years and to pay a \$3,000 penalty. The consent order is in regard to effluent discharge from the City of Springbrook's wastewater treatment facility and the sludge application from that facility.
- The City of Spirit Lake agreed in a consent order to submit plans and specifications for additional water supply treatment plant capacity according to a set schedule, and to construct treatment plant improvements to increase the existing treatment plant capacity according to a set schedule.
- Brian Stickney, of Smithland, agreed in a consent amendment to pay a \$1,250 penalty. This amends a 2004 administrative order regarding air quality violations.
- The City of Delta agreed in a consent order to comply with a set schedule for wastewater treatment facility improvements, to properly operate and maintain the existing facilities and to pay stipulated penalties if the compliance schedule is not met. The consent order is in regard to wastewater violations and was agreed upon in December 2005.
- Interstate Power and Light Company, of Cedar Rapids, agreed in a consent order to comply with interim effluent limits for iron. In addition, Interstate Power agreed to complete an iron study to determine any necessary water quality-based effluent limits for the reissue of its Lansing site's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The order is in regard to wastewater violations at a site in Lansing and was agreed upon in December 2005.

For more information, contact Jessie Brown at (515) 281-5131 or Jessie.Brown@dnr.state.ia.us.