

Air Permitting Requirements for Group 3 and 4 Grain Elevators

Disclaimer

This document, entitled “Air Permitting Requirements for Group 3 and 4 Grain Elevators,” is intended to serve as guidance only, and is not to be construed as taking the place of any statute, rule or other applicable law or any policy of the Department. This document was compiled on November 13, 2007, and may not reflect changes in statutes, rules or other law that occur after this date. In the event that any information contained in this document conflicts with any enacted statute, rule or other applicable law, the statute, rule or other applicable law controls. The purpose of this document is to simplify the permitting process for parties unfamiliar with the Department’s rules. Please contact the Department for the most recent applicable rules.

Applicability:

Existing and new country grain elevators, country grain terminal elevators or grain terminal elevators are considered to be Group 3 grain elevators if they have a facility-wide potential to emit (PTE) of PM₁₀ that is greater than 50 tons per year, but is less than 100 tons of PM₁₀ per year. Existing and new country grain elevators, country grain terminal elevators or grain terminal elevators are considered to be Group 4 grain elevators if they have a facility-wide potential to emit (PTE) of PM₁₀ that is equal to or greater than 100 tons of PM₁₀ per year. PTE is calculated using the PTE Calculation Tool provided by the Iowa DNR. An existing facility is one that construction or reconstruction commenced on before February 6, 2008. A new facility is one that construction or reconstruction commenced on or after February 6, 2008.

Submittal Requirements and Processing:

Owners or operators of a Group 3 or 4 facility must submit construction permit applications for each piece or air pollutant emitting equipment located at their facility. Construction permit application forms may be downloaded from the Air Quality Bureau Web site at <http://iowacleanair.gov/>.

Owners or operators of existing Group 3 or 4 facilities are required to submit completed construction permit applications to the Iowa DNR anytime on or after December 4, 2007 and on or before March 31, 2008. Submittals should be mailed to Iowa DNR, Air Quality Bureau, 7900 Hickman Rd, Suite 1, Windsor Heights, Iowa 50324. The owner or operator of a new facility must submit completed construction permit applications to the Iowa DNR prior to initiating construction or reconstruction of a facility.

The construction permit applications will be processed and permits will be issued and mailed to the facility owner or operator. Upon issuance, the Grain Elevator Amnesty will no longer apply.

Best management practices (BMP) Requirements:

Best management practices (BMP) for controlling air pollution at the facility and for limiting fugitive dust at the facility from crossing the property line must be implemented as specified in the issued construction permits.

Emission Inventory Submittals:

An emissions inventory of all regulated air pollutants emitted from a Group 3 facility will be required to be submitted to the Iowa DNR once every three years. The inventory will be submitted when requested and on forms provided by the Iowa DNR. Owners or operators of a Group 4 facility will be required to submit an emissions inventory annually and pay fees on each ton of actual air pollutants emitted during the previous calendar year. The annual inventory and fees will be submitted when requested and on forms provided by the Iowa DNR.

Changes to facility classification or permanent grain storage capacity:

If a Group 3 facility's operations are changed or the facility's permanent grain storage capacity is increased to more than 2.5 million U.S. bushels, the facility's classification and the allowed method for calculating PTE must be reevaluated to determine if any increases to the PTE for PM₁₀ will occur, prior to making the change. If the proposed change will alter the facility's classification or will increase the facility's PTE for PM₁₀ such that the facility PTE increases to 100 tons per year or more, the permitting requirements for Group 4 facilities must be complied with prior to making the change.

PSD applicability:

If the facility PTE for PM or PM₁₀ is greater than or equal to 250 tons per year, the owner or operator must comply with the Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) requirements specified in Chapter 33 of 567 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC). For grain terminal elevators, fugitive emissions, as "fugitive emissions" is defined in subrule 33.3(1) of 567 IAC, must be included in the PTE calculation for determining PSD applicability.

Operating permits:

The owner or operator of a Group 4 facility must apply for a Title V operating permit for the facility if the facility's annual PTE for PM₁₀ is equal to or greater than 100 tons per year. Fugitive emissions must be included in the calculations to determine if the PTE for PM₁₀ is greater than or equal to 100 tons per year at grain terminal elevators.