

Iowa Update

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Upcoming Events

- September 5 public hearing and comments close Ease of Application Air rule
- September 8 comments close: WLAP and e coli rule
- September 18--EPC meeting
- November 2 -ABI Environment Committee meeting

DNR Proposes doubling of water permit fees

DNR held its annual water use program stakeholder meeting August 17. The proposed fees for 2018 would increase from \$66 to \$133.00, more than doubling the fees. The increase in fees would cover the loss of general fund dollars, which prior had paid for 30 percent of the program. These general fund dollars will likely be reduced to zero. Staffing levels for the program would remain at 4.25 FTEs.

This will also impact the water use program budget going forward. Near term projections show that even with the fees set to collect at the maximum cap of \$500,000, without a general fund appropriation, by FY19 the program will have a budget shortfall of almost \$80,000. This shortfall will increase each year going forward.

The fee increase goes before the EPC at its Monday, September 18 meeting. The meeting will take place at 10 a.m. in Des Moines at the State Capitol building. In addition, the Department will propose rule revisions to allow for long term budgeting and fee stability. ABI will continue to monitor any proposed rules and the budget situation within this program.

DNR Air Quality Bureau fee stakeholder meetings conclude

A series of stakeholder meetings to examine air quality fees have concluded. ABI and other industry representatives participated in five day-long meetings to discuss the bureau's operations and discuss suggestions for funding. The Bureau has released a document containing recommendations that came out of the workgroup. The recommendation document can be found [here and then click on 2017 Air Quality Program Funding Work Group](#). The rest of the stakeholder group information including agendas and background information can be found [here](#).

Some of the recommendations discuss increasing the fees and/or statutory fee caps. Current ABI air quality policy states that ABI does not support increasing fees or fee caps.

Wasteload Allocation Procedure and E Coli rule open for comment

Rule comments on changes proposed to the [Wasteload Allocation Procedure](#) are open until September 8th. Some environmental groups have pushed back on the rule changes which are meant to simplify requirements for industry and save industries and cities between \$26 and \$58 million. One change would eliminate single sample e coli maximum values for certain waters and move to a geometric mean. If you would like to submit comments in support of the rules send them to Connie Dou at Connie.Dou@dnr.iowa.gov by September 8th.

2018 ABI Environment Committee Policy Draft Out to Committee

ABI's Environment Policy Committee meeting was held August 17 to review and set environmental policies for the organization going into the 2018

legislative session. Changes that were suggested and approved by the committee were sent on to the Legislative Committee for consideration on August 31 and will then be presented to the ABI board on September 13 for their approval. If you would like a copy of the suggested policies, email Brad Hartkopf at bhartkopf@iowaabi.org.

EPA Region VII Administrator Chu to headline ABI Environment Committee

The next ABI Environment Committee meeting will be on Thursday, November 2 in Des Moines. The meeting will have Region VII acting Administrator Chu as the keynote speaker. The meeting will be at 11:30 am and lunch will be provided. An RSVP is requested. We are excited to have Administrator Chu provide a Region VII and federal EPA update with ABI members and hope you can attend. To RSVP, please contact Michelle Vollstedt at 515-235-0561 or mvollstedt@iowaabi.org.

Ease of Application rulemaking comment period extended

The comment period has been extended on DNR's proposed air ease of application rule, because the rule had to be noticed once again to comply with administrative procedures. The public is invited to submit comments on proposed air quality rule changes that will amend requirements for submitting construction and Title V operating permit applications by September 5. The proposed rule will clarify the types of mailing services that may be used to submit applications and inform companies that applications do not have to be submitted by certified mail. The rule proposal also describes what constitutes a valid electronic signature for permit applications submitted electronically. The proposal reduces the regulatory burden for construction permit applicants for projects that will not emit Greenhouse Gases (GHG) by eliminating the requirement to submit the current three-page GHG form. Additionally, for Title V applications, the required number of submitted copies is being reduced from two copies to one. Written comments should be directed to Christine Paulson at Christine.Paulson@dnr.iowa.gov by September 5th. There is also a public hearing on the rule at 10:00 a.m. on the 5th.

Invite the public and elected officials to your facility

Manufacturing Day will be recognized nationwide on Friday, October 6. Currently there are more than 1,100 events scheduled nationwide. Whether it be a city official, state legislator or a local school class; inviting the public into your workplace is an opportunity to showcase some of the great things your company is doing to employ people in Iowa and invest in clean technologies to protect the environment. If you're interested in learning more about Manufacturing Day or hosting an event, go to <http://www.mfgday.com/>.

Upcoming Events

- September 5 public hearing and comments close: Ease of Application Air Rule
- September 8 comments close: WLAP and e coli rule
- September 12 - School Board Elections
- September 18 EPC meeting
- September 19 - Legends in Manufacturing Awards Dinner
- September 20 - Advanced Manufacturing Conference
- September 25-29 - Employee Voter Registration Week
- October 6 - Manufacturing Day
- November 2 - ABI Environment Committee Meeting with Region VII Administrator Chu
- November 7 - Election Day