
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

October 21, 2021



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION MEETING — OCTOBER 2021

Meeting. The [Environmental Protection Commission](#) (EPC) met on October 19, 2021. Among the topics discussed were the following:

Drought Update. An update was given on the drought in the State. The month of September recorded a statewide average of 1.80 inches of rain, which was 1.68 inches below normal average rainfall. The month of October has so far had 1.80 inches of rainfall, which is 0.33 inches above the normal average rainfall for at this point of the month. The year-to-date average rainfall for the State is 3.4 inches below normal for this point of the year.

Director's Remarks. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Director Kayla Lyon gave an update on the Derecho Community Forest Grant Program and reported that the Program had awarded all of its \$250,000 and planted more than 2,500 trees in 19 counties.

Contracts Approved. The following contracts were approved:

- A contract with the GeoTREE Center at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) not to exceed \$150,000, for basic Geographic Information System (GIS) services. The funding for this contract will come from either GIS infrastructure funds or federal grants.
- A contract with Seneca Companies not to exceed \$48,000, to secure professional environmental services for the DNR to achieve objectives of the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Fund Project. The contractor will conduct site visits, collect soil, groundwater, or soil vapor samples at LUST sites and complete necessary reports. The funding for this contract will come from the [Federal LUST Trust Grant](#).
- A contract with Iowa State University (ISU) not to exceed \$105,888 to conduct the Clean Watersheds Needs Survey (CWNS) required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The CWNS is a comprehensive assessment of the capital costs to meet water quality goals of the Clean Water Act and should be conducted every four years. The funding for this contract will come from the [Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund](#).

Administrative Rulemakings. The following Notices of Intended Action (NOIA) were approved:

- NOIA for the cleanup and modification of the wastewater rules in [567 IAC 60](#), [61](#), [62](#), [63](#), and [64](#), which regulate wastewater treatment and disposal.
- NOIA for the cleanup and modification of the sewage sludge rules in [567 IAC 67](#), which regulates land application of sewage sludge generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works.
- NOIA for the cleanup and modification of the water supply rules in [567 IAC 9](#), [40](#), [43](#), and [49](#), which regulate the delegation of construction permitting authority, private well construction, and public water supply construction.
- NOIA for the rulemaking on [567 IAC 81](#). This rulemaking is intended to ensure that the wastewater operator certification grade for facilities designed with new technologies and for smaller facilities can be properly determined, and that the drinking water certified operator requirements are updated and clear.

Other Items. The following items were also approved:

- Approved the State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision that maintains improvements in ambient sulfur dioxide concentrations in Muscatine.
- Approved the meeting dates for the EPC for the 2022 calendar year.

Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

LSA Staff Contacts: Austin Brinks (515.725.2200) austin.brinks@legis.iowa.gov
Joe Simpson (515.725.2251) joe.simpson@legis.iowa.gov

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