

**DNR REGULATORY AGENDA FOR SFY 2008
FORM FOR REGULATORY ACTION DESCRIPTION**

Rule Making Authority

Director
Environmental Protection Commission (EPC)
Natural Resource Commission (NRC)
Energy & Geological Resource Division

Title of Regulatory Action

General permit for regulating effluents from drinking water treatment works

Rule Chapter(s) that may be involved

567 Chapter 64

Description of Contemplated Regulatory Action

(Including, to the extent reasonable and practicable, alternatives to be considered and preliminary estimate of costs and benefits of the Action)

We propose to develop a general permit to effectively regulate effluent from drinking water treatment facilities to ensure quick issuance of permits for WTP. Historically these facilities have been overlooked due to lack of permitting staff. Furthermore, most facilities did not know they needed to apply for permits, since they were producing "cleaner" water to be discharged. Most of the water treatment facilities in Iowa are operating without discharging permits. Such discharges without permits are prohibited by federal and state regulations. Since most of the water treatment facilities are very similar in terms of effluent characteristics, a general permit would be more efficient and appropriate in regulating them. There would be no additional permitting costs to the WTP. The benefit to the Department would be to regulate these facilities effectively and efficiently to meet all federal and state regulations.

Legal Basis

(Include whether action is required by statute or court order)

455B.103A

Need for Regulatory Action

(Include if applicable how the action will reduce risk to public health, safety, or the environment)

Discharge from WTP typically consists of backwash water from filters and may include chlorine or other oxidizing chemicals. In other cases WTP have been directly discharging lime sludge to rivers. A general permit would help regulating WTP effectively and efficiently.

**Other Affected/Interested
Rule Making Authorities**

DED, DOT, IDALS, DPH, Engineering and Land Surveying Board

**Potential Public Groups
Impacted**

Iowa Chapter of the American Water Works Association
Iowa Rural Water Association
Iowa Water Pollution Control Association
Water treatment plants
Iowa Environmental Council
Other environmental groups
General Public

Schedule:
(Actions & month/year)

EPC informational item by 5/1/2008
Notice of Intended Action to be filed by 7/1/2008
Public hearings in September and October of 2008
Final rule to EPC by 12/31/2008

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