



Iowa Chapter December 1999 Newsletter

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Summary of November 9, 1999 SPARS Workshop

Corey Detter, Kevin Connolly, and Kent Zwickefuss of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Air Quality Bureau presented information and took comments about the early version of the State Permitting and Air Reporting System (SPARS). A computer projection system was used to demonstrate the current version of SPARS.

SPARS is intended to allow industry to use electronic application forms for construction and operating permits and to allow the public access to air pollution information and data on the Internet.

Corey Detter presented a review of how to use construction permit applications on the SPARS system. Kevin Connolly presented a review of how to use operating permit applications on the SPARS system.

Both applications use a windows based format. Point, click, and fill in the information. Some of the capabilities available include marking forms confidential, sample applications for viewing, and the ability to add various attachments.

The stand-alone version of SPARS that will be distributed should not be placed on a network server. Due to the size of the program and the databases it contains it is designed for operation from the CD-ROM on a desktop computer. The faster the computer the better the program will operate.

As of the time of this workshop IDNR intends to have extensive training around the state starting in late January/early February. Release of the database is anticipated in March or April of 2000.

Summary of November 9, 1999 Iowa Tire Recycling, Recovery and Disposal Program Presentation

Mr. Mel Pins of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Waste Management Assistance Division made a very interesting presentation regarding waste tires in Iowa and what methods of disposal are available for this product.

Iowa typically produces 3 million waste tires each year, about 30,000 tons of material. Tires make up approximately 1% of Iowa's solid waste stream. Of this 1%, about 85% is recycled or reused.

Whole tires were banned from landfills in 1991. Whole tires have the tendency to float or rise in a landfill over time and bring other landfilled materials to the surface.

Currently there are four Iowa permitted waste tire processors that handle 2.5 million waste tires each year. 80% of the waste tires are converted to tire derived fuel (TDF). Holnam Cement Co. combusts TDF in a cement kiln, and Grain Processors Corp. and the University of Iowa combust TDF in steam boilers. Other tire uses include playground chips, tire bales, and crumb rubber.

Mr. Pins told us that waste tires are very difficult to recycle. Waste tires are rough on handling equipment, often contain steel belts that must be processed, and the economics are poor for the

promotion of reuse. Crumb rubber has value but is difficult and costly to produce.

Don't forget to note that the next A&WMA Iowa Chapter meeting is on a Wednesday, instead of our usual Tuesday meeting date.

**So come to the meeting on January 12th, not
January 11th.**

In 1996 the Iowa State Legislature passed house file 2433 appropriating 15 million dollars over 6 years to cleanup existing tire stockpiles, to develop waste tire markets, and to provide local education. Some of the programs developed under this legislation include the Board of Regents Tire Derived Fuel Program, an end users incentive program, and a \$1,000,000 per year county grant program.

In 1996 there were 5 million tires in 60 stockpiles across the state. IDNR issues contracts for the cleanup of these large stockpiles. All tires must be processed into value added products. In 1998-99, one million tires were processed from these stockpiles.

The future for waste tires in Iowa is unknown. The funding for the current IDNR tire program ends in 2002. The economics and dynamics of waste tire processing are poor and are doubtful to continue without extra incentives. It is unclear who will enforce existing regulations once the current program ends in 2002.

For more information or questions please contact Mel Pins at 515-281-8489 or e-mail at mpins@max.state.is.us

NEXT AWMA Iowa Chapter Meeting on January 12, 1999

Amana Holiday Inn, 2:30 Workshop, 5:00 Social, 6:00 Dinner

RSVP by Friday before meeting

Rich Stephens: 319-398-3551 or richs@air.linn.ia.us

Solid Waste Recycling, Recovery, and Disposal

Guest Speakers: **Ms. Jennifer Drenner, Iowa Waste Reduction Center at UNI**
Elizabeth Koesterer, EPA Region VII RCRA Section
Larry Gibson, Safety Kleen Corporation
Tom Kestner, Iowa Department of Transportation

Presentation Topics: **Ms. Jennifer Drenner, Iowa Waste Exchange Program & Universal Waste Rule**
Elizabeth Koester - RCRA Regulations
Larry Gibson - Hazardous Waste Disposal
Tom Kester - Transport of Solid Waste and Hazardous Materials

Evening Program: **Sean Fitzsimmons from the IDNR Air Quality Bureau - Iowa's ambient air monitoring program.**

Potential Regulatory Changes and New Regulations Members Should Monitor

IDNR is considering a couple of changes in the air permitting process that the regulated community should track, as it may require permitting for sources that have in the past been exempt. IDNR is considering the possibility of development of new rules to permit fugitive sources that "could reasonably pass through a stack, chimney, vent, or other functionally-equivalent opening." Thus air pollution control devices discharging inside a building may need a permit in the future, since these are ducted. At this point, the future of such a requirement is undetermined.

At the IDNR Client meeting in Des Moines on December 16th, it was stated that IDNR is changing the meteorology data set used for air dispersion modeling the State of Iowa. In the past, IDNR has relied on data produced in the 1979 timeframe. The update will include more recent weather data. It is unclear how this will affect current dispersion modeling results. Since it appears that the weather has been more erratic in the 90's, there may be some surprises for those with construction or operating permit that show modeled compliance using the 1979 weather data.

Final Phase II Stormwater rules for municipalities of less than 100,000 population and for construction on sites that disturb 1 to 5 acres were published in the December 8, 1999 Federal Register, pages 68721-68851. The regulation is effective on February 8, 2000.