

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES** 

## Air Quality News Environmental Services

## **Consultant Begins Work on Online Air Permit Application System**

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has entered into a contract with enfoTech & Consulting, Inc. to develop a new electronic air permitting application system. The DNR expects the system to be online by Dec. 1, 2019 for Title V and construction permit applicants.

The new system will benefit both those applying for permits and DNR staff, replacing a 17-year-old system that is seldom used (94 percent of applications are received on paper). The DNR's existing electronic application system relies on outdated software, is difficult to use and does not meet minimum federal electronic reporting standards.

Through focus groups, stakeholders identified their needs, insight and interest in a new electronic system. As a result, a modern electronic application system will allow lowa businesses to receive permits through a cheaper, less time consuming and more accurate application process. Stakeholders will continue to be involved in developing the system. Next spring they will have a chance to preview the system and the opportunity to test it next summer. Early next year, DNR will provide more information on opportunities for stakeholders to become involved in the system's development.

When fully implemented, both applicants and DNR will spend less time entering and verifying data. Instead, DNR staff can focus on the technical aspects of the application: evaluating whether proposed production and pollution control equipment will meet specific emissions limits required by law. The new system will save time, which translates into cost savings.

The system is funded by a 2018 appropriation from the Technology Reinvestment Fund (SF 2414, 87th Iowa General Assembly).

Find out more on DNR's <u>eAirServices</u> web page. If you have questions, please contact Marnie Stein at 515-725-9555 or <u>marnie.stein@dnr.iowa.gov</u>.

DNR's Air Quality News listserve is targeted to the regulated public and consultants to deliver timely regulatory news, program updates, and technical guidance to your email. If you have difficulty, please contact DNR's Wendy Walker at 515-725-9570.