

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

EcoNewsWire

Environmental Services

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High temperatures and clear skies likely to increase lowa ozone levels Friday and Saturday

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DES MOINES – High temperatures and clear skies on Friday and Saturday are likely to lead to elevated ozone levels.

The Department of Natural Resources recommends that Iowans with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly, and children limit prolonged outdoor exertion during the afternoon and evening on Friday and Saturday.

Hot and sunny conditions are anticipated across the region, which favor the formation of photochemical smog. In these conditions, volatile organic compounds react with nitrogen oxide resulting in an increase in ozone. Volatile organic compounds are emitted from the evaporation of consumer and industrial solvents, such as the evaporation from gas tanks in vehicles or mowers. Nitrogen oxides are created by combustion, and are contained in the exhaust from vehicles and coal-fired boilers.

lowans can keep track of evolving air quality conditions by checking the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's national air quality map at www.airnow.gov.

Air quality permits under review

MEDIA CONTACT: Lori Hanson, DNR, at 515-725-9525 or <u>Lori.Hanson@dnr.iowa.gov</u> for Title V permits.

DES MOINES – The DNR Air Quality Bureau has the following draft permits up for review. The permits help protect Iowans' health and the air where we live. DNR's permitting staff review the applications to ensure facilities comply with state and federal air quality standards. The public has the right and is encouraged to comment on draft permits. DNR considers <u>public comments</u> before finalizing the permits. Submit comments in writing to the assigned permit writer before 4:30 p.m. on the last day of the public comment period.

Title V Operating Permits

Title V Operating permits are reviewed and re-issued every five years. Facilities with a Title V permit have the potential to emit large amounts of air pollutants compared to other facilities. The five-year reviews are a federal requirement and ensure adequate monitoring is included in the permit. The DNR plans to issue Title V Operating Permits for the following facilities. Find permit details at www.iowadnr.gov/titlev-draft.

Clay County

Corn Belt Power – Wisdom Generating Station – 3365 165th Ave, Spencer. The renewal application was submitted to operate their existing electric facility. The public comment period ends July 14.

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