

Motion regarding placement of manure on frozen ground.

The Environmental Protection Commission considering reports and information brought before the Commission regarding high ammonia, nitrate and bacteria levels in Iowa waters that may result from the placement of animal manure by agricultural operations on frozen ground finds that the practice of placing, spreading or otherwise depositing manure on frozen ground is a source of water pollution in Iowa waters. The Commission therefore directs the Department of Natural Resources to begin rulemaking to protect the quality of Iowa waters by developing reasonable regulations on the practice of placing, spreading or storing animal manure on frozen ground including, where necessary, prohibiting the practice. It is the further direction of the Commission that in developing such a rule the Department consult with affected interests including those representing agriculture, public water supply agencies and environmental organizations and review available scientific data and regulations in neighboring states regarding this practice. The Commission recognizes that while further definitions may be required, frozen ground is defined as existing where due to freezing soil moisture, snow pack or surface ice, manure placed on the ground will not enter the soil and is subject to run off. The intent of the Commission is that the scope of the rule is to be co-terminus with the full legal authority of the Commission to protect the waters of the state from such hazard. The Department is directed to report monthly to the Commission as to the status of the rulemaking.