

Eau Claire City-County Health Department
Resolution 15-01
January 28, 2015

WHEREAS, this emergency rule adopted by the Natural Resources Board and approved by the Governor impacts public health; and,

WHEREAS, Emergency Rule 1417 substantially changed Chapter NR 150 and the process to adopt the Rule did not require notice, hearing, public input or legislative review; and,

WHEREAS, Chapter NR 150 outlines the definitions, procedures and criteria used by the DNR to consider the public health effects of certain industries known to emit pollutants to air, water, and soil; and,

WHEREAS, Emergency Rule 1417 made significant changes limiting public involvement and reducing Natural Resources Board (NRB) oversight of the DNR's environmental review process; and,

WHEREAS, Emergency Rule 1417 repealed NR 150.10(1m)(b) which required the DNR to conduct a strategic analysis for issues or policies if requested by the NRB or a member of the public whose request was approved by vote of the NRB; and,

WHEREAS, Emergency Rule 1417 expanded the list of actions that do not require environmental analysis under NR 150 because they are now considered minor actions; and,

WHEREAS, Emergency Rule 1417 added Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), nutrient management plans and land application sites, and specifications for industrial facilities to the list of minor actions no longer requiring environmental analysis; and,

WHEREAS, the Eau Claire City-County Board of Health has reviewed this emergency rule and determined that there are potential public health concerns with both EMR1417 and the permanent revisions the rule made to NR Chapter 150.

THEREFORE, that the Eau Claire City-County Board of Health hereby opposes EMR 1417 and the changes it made to NR Chapter 150.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Walker, the Natural Resources Board, DNR Secretary Stepp, State Senators Vinehout and Moulton, and State Representatives Wachs, Bernier, and Petryk.

Adopted by Board of Health on January 28th, 2015.

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