

Waste Conversion Technology Draft Rules

Overview of how we got here

July, 11 2018 Stakeholder Meeting

Legislation

Original reason for legislation was in relation to the city of Marion's interest in building a plasma arc gasification plant to convert all of the city's solid waste to a usable gas.

City of Marion was concerned that the technology was being viewed as no different from landfill disposal in the solid waste hierarchy in the Iowa Code (455B.301A):

- a. Volume reduction at the source.*
- b. Recycling and reuse.*
- c. Combustion with energy recovery.*
- d. Other approved techniques of solid waste management including but not limited to combustion for waste disposal and disposal in sanitary landfills.*

To make a distinction between plasma arc technology and landfill disposal, a legislative bill was introduced in 2016 to Iowa Code section 455B.301A to add plasma arc technology into the solid waste hierarchy above landfill disposal. The term plasma arc technology was expanded to the broader term of "waste conversion technology" to include similar technologies for turning wastes into fuel sources.

455D.15A – A last minute addition to the legislative bill was added to require facilities using waste conversion technologies to annually obtain a permit from the department and for the department to establish by rule a fee for permits.

Draft Rules

First draft created about a year ago. Reviewed both internally and externally.

Heavy focus on anaerobic digestion since it is included in the definition of waste conversion technologies and they are the only waste conversion facilities that we know of operating in the state.

Three anaerobic digesters in operation and a 4th being built.

The three in operation have animal feeding operation permits because they originally only digested manure.

The current draft incorporates elements from the AFO rules, mostly construction design and siting, as well as provisions found in other solid waste chapters and rules from Oregon's waste conversion technology rules (very few states have waste conversion technology rules at this time).

Extra Notes

This is a rewrite (rescind and replace) of an existing solid waste chapter 104. Chapter 104 is never used.

We're still in the drafting stages of rulemaking so the purpose of this meeting is to get your feedback to see whether we are on the right track with this draft.

We are not wedded to the language in this draft so any and all suggestions are welcome.

We've allotted time for the rule sections that we felt needed the most discussion so we'll skip over some sections. We've left time at the end to go back to those sections in case any of you had comments. We can also use that time to go through the permit application forms.