Notice of Listening Session

The Department of Natural Resources will hold a public listening session on Sept. 15 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. regarding the updated draft emergency rule language, ch. NR 159, developed to address the use of PFAS-containing firefighting foam consistent with a new state law. The Natural Resources Board (NRB) directed the DNR to seek additional input from stakeholders at the board’s August meeting. The purpose of this listening session is to provide the public with an opportunity to comment or ask questions regarding any changes to the draft emergency rule.

Information

Date: Sept. 15, 2020
Time: 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Location: https://zoom.us/j/94409646003

Rule Information

The DNR developed the draft emergency administrative rule, ch. NR 159, to implement and administer the new state law, Wis. Stat. § 299.48. This state law directed that, with the implementation of new restrictions on the use of PFAS-containing firefighting foam starting Sep. 1, the DNR would promulgate both emergency and permanent rules outlining the limitations pertaining to testing and training with PFAS firefighting foam and use of PFAS foam for emergency situations.

Accessibility

1. Hearing impaired persons may request an interpreter for this session. Please make reservations for a hearing interpreter at least 10 days before the date of the scheduled hearing, by writing to email KathrynM.StromHiorns@wisconsin.gov.
2. Alternatively, you may contact the Department of Natural Resources TDD at 608-267-6897. The hearing facility is accessible to disabled users.
3. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations, including the provision of information material in an alternative format, will be provided for qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. Please call with specific information on your request at least 10 days before the date of the scheduled session.

Appearances at the Session and Submittal of Written Comments

The public can provide input and ask questions at the listening session. The DNR is asking that any written comments on the proposed rule be submitted on or before Sept. 18, 2020. Written comments are preferred by email, but may be submitted through U.S. mail, fax or online. Written comments and any questions on the proposed rules should be submitted to:
Department of Natural Resources
Attn: Kate Strom Hiorns – WA/5
P.O. Box 7921
101 S. Webster Street,
Madison, WI 53707-7921
KathrynM.StromHiorns@wisconsin.gov

The rule language will be made available no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 10 at this online location: https://dnr.wi.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html