

Capitol LINK

CURRENT ISSUES AFFECTING WISCONSIN AGRICULTURE & AGRI-BUSINESS

July 30, 2010

The dairy industry lost a great visionary leader and trusted friend with the passing of Rod Nilsestuen on July 21, 2010. PDPW joins countless others in remembering Rod as a great servant leader, phenomenal man and dear friend. It was obvious from his steadfast work that he loved the land, people of all walks and our industry. We will miss his friendship as we continue to focus, working every day, to help continue the work that he dedicated his entire life to: Making the dairy industry and world a better place for generations to come. Our thoughts and prayers are with Carol and his family.

Legislature Concludes Hearings on NR 151, Nonpoint Pollution Rule Revision

By Jordan Lamb -- DeWitt Ross & Stevens

Both the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Higher Education (chaired by Senator Kathleen Vinehout) and the Assembly Committee on Agriculture (chaired by Representative Amy Sue Vruwink) have held public hearings on the proposed revisions to NR 151, Wisconsin's nonpoint source pollution administrative rule. This rule establishes the performance standards that cropland and livestock operations must meet in order to protect against nonpoint source pollution. (The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection rule, ATCP 50, establishes the technical standards and conservation practices used to *meet* these nonpoint performance standards.)

If the Committees take action on revised NR 151, then they must act on or before September 7, 2010. The Committees have the option under State law to let the rulemaking proceed with no changes, request modifications to the rule, or object to the rule and send it back to the DNR for further work. If the Committee takes no action on the rule, the rule will move ahead and be finalized.

NR Board Poised to Act on Statewide Water Rule

By Jordan Lamb -- DeWitt Ross & Stevens

Several administrative rules dealing with water use in Wisconsin are on the agenda for the August 11, 2010 Natural Resources Board meeting in Superior. One of these rules is new NR 856, which creates a statewide water use and reporting requirement for any well (or combination of wells on the same property) with the capacity to withdraw more than 100,000 gallons per day in any 30-day period. If NR 856 is adopted by the NR Board, the rule will move to the Legislature for review.

This draft rule creates a system of registration for wells with this capacity and requires annual reporting of monthly water volumes by the well-users. For more information about this proposed rule, go to the DNR's web site at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/dwg/greatlakes/rules.html>.

DATCP Forms Livestock Facility Siting Technical Expert Committee

By Jordan Lamb -- DeWitt Ross & Stevens

The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has formed a technical expert committee as part of the four year evaluation of the Livestock Facility Siting Rule, ATCP 51. The new committee has been convened to evaluate whether the current siting standards provide for responsible growth of an operation while correctly balancing environmental and other considerations.

Additional information about the Livestock Siting Expert Committee is posted on the DATCP webpage at: http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/arm/agriculture/land-water/livestock_siting/technical_expert_committee.jsp The committee's first meeting was July 21st. The following individuals are committee members:

- **Richard Castelnovo**, Committee Co-Chair, Chief, Resource Planning Section, Division of Agricultural Resource Management, DATCP
- **Ed Odgers**, Committee Co-Chair, Chief, [Conservation Engineering Section](#), Division of Agricultural Resource Management, DATCP
- **Tom Bauman**, Agricultural Runoff Management Coordinator, [Bureau of Watershed Management, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources](#)
- **Dave Buss**, Nutrient Management Consultant, NuSOLUTIONS Agronomy
- **Patricia Cicero**, Resource Management Specialist, [Jefferson County Land and Water Conservation Department](#)
- **Jeff Endres**, Dairy Farmer, Town of Springfield Plan Commission Member, Dane County
- **Dennis Frame**, Co-Director, [University of Wisconsin Discovery Farms Program](#)
- **Jerry Halverson**, Department Director, [Manitowoc County Soil and Water Conservation Department](#)
- **Brian Holmes**, Professor, [Biological Systems Engineering Department, UW-Madison](#)
- **Carrie A.M. Laboski**, Associate Professor, [Soils Science Department, UW-Madison](#)
- **Pat Murphy**, State Resource Conservationist, [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)
- **Charles McGinley**, P.E., Technical Director, [St. Croix Sensory & Associates](#)
- **Dean Perlick**, Manager, [Dodge County Planning & Economic Development Department](#)
- **John M. Roach**, P.E., Roach & Associates
- **Robert L. Thiboldeaux**, Toxicologist, [Wisconsin Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health, Department of Health and Family Services](#)
- **Jeffrey Voltz**, Agricultural Sector Specialist, [Bureau of Cooperative Environmental Assistance, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources](#)
- **Richard Wagner**, Dairy Farmer, Weyauwega

The following individuals are Committee Advisors:

- **Andrew Craig**, Nutrient Management Specialist, [Bureau of Watershed Management, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources](#)
- **Larry Jacobson**, Professor and Extension Engineer, [University of Minnesota, Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering](#)
- **Mark Powell**, Professor, UW-Madison Department of Soil Sciences and [Dairy Forage Research Center](#)
- **John Ramsden**, State Conservation Engineer, [Natural Resources Conservation Services](#)

Capitol Link Details

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