

Economic Impact Statement

LSA Document #10-561

IC 4-22-2.1-5 Statement Concerning Rules Affecting Small Businesses**1. Description of the Rule**

The proposed rule updates the requirements for disposing of animal carcasses including the following:

- a. Changes the license renewal cycle for disposal plant and collection service licenses.
- b. Authorizes disposal of animal carcasses by biodigestion and chemical digestion.
- c. Authorizes disposal of carcasses by feeding to exotic animals.
- d. Clarifies requirements for composting animal carcasses and authorizes centralized composting sites if a disposal plant license is obtained.
- e. Sets requirements for disposal of carcasses by incineration.
- f. Prescribes requirements for disposing of animal carcasses by digestion.
- g. Clarifies and prescribes transportation and record keeping requirements for persons collecting animal carcasses for disposal.
- h. Prescribes the conditions under which a person may dispose of animal carcasses by feeding to exotic animals.
- i. Makes technical amendments to the law of animal carcass disposal.

2. Description of Affected Industry

The rule will affect any person that owns or cares for domestic animals, including livestock and poultry, but not including dogs, cats, and small game ([IC 15-17-11-1](#) and [IC 15-17-11-20](#)).

3. Reporting, Record Keeping, and Other Administrative Costs

Renderers and collection service businesses are currently required to keep records. The proposed rule amends the record keeping requirements for these businesses and adds additional information that must be kept. There are no reporting requirements in this rule.

The rule will authorize persons collecting carcasses for disposal by feeding to exotic animals and require that person to keep records of carcasses that are collected.

4. Estimated Total Annual Economic Impact on Small Businesses

The proposed changes will impose requirements on small businesses but will not substantially increase the reporting, record keeping, or other administrative costs associated with the rules compared to the current requirements.

The rule will authorize carcass disposal at a centralized composting site, using biodigestion or via chemical digestion if a disposal plant license is obtained. A disposal plant license is required, and the fee is set by statute at \$150 per year ([IC 15-17-11-2](#) and [IC 15-17-11-7](#)). BOAH is not aware of any such facilities currently in operation in Indiana. BOAH does not know how many centralized composting, biodigestion, or chemical digestion facilities may open in the state.

5. Justification for Costs

The record keeping requirements for renderers, collection services, and exotic animal feeders will provide an important means by which epidemiologists may trace disease outbreaks. These businesses already keep records that include much of the information required in the proposed rule. The proposed rule adds types of information that must be kept in those records. The proposed changes will impose requirements on small businesses but will not substantially increase the reporting, record keeping, or other administrative costs associated with the rules compared to the current requirements.

The rule will authorize carcass disposal at a centralized composting site, using biodigestion or via chemical digestion if a disposal plant license is obtained. A license is required to operate a disposal plant license and the fee is set by statute ([IC 15-17-11-2](#) and [IC 15-17-11-7](#)). The proposed rule will clarify what is required for persons interested in utilizing these carcass disposal methods.

6. Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The Board of Animal Health considered not changing the current carcass disposal rules. The Board decided that:

- a. the current rules did not provide sufficient options and guidance to animal owners who wanted to try new methods of carcass disposal; and
- b. the current rules did not prohibit certain practices that were unnecessary and unacceptable animal and public health risks.

The proposed rules utilize performance standards rather than design standards whenever possible to allow for creativity and innovation when meeting rule requirements.

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