

Environmental Rules Board
Indiana Government Center South
Conference Center Room A
Indianapolis, Indiana
Thursday, October 15, 2026

Summary of August 13, 2026 Meeting

A. Call to Order

Vice Chair Etzler called the meeting to order at 1:29 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members present: Dr. John Graham, William Etzler, Calvin Davidson, Carrie Kozyrski, Brianna Schroeder, Dr. Ted Niemiec, Jamie Brown, R. T. Green, Heather Gries, Keelyn Cook, Eli Eckhart, Stephanie Flittner, and Clint Woods.

Introduction of the board members which included Heather Gries and Keelyn Cook as the new members to the board.

B. Approval of Meeting Summaries from May 7, 2026, and June 15, 2026

Vice Chair Etzler called for a motion to approve the Board's May 7, 2026, and June 15, 2026, meeting summary. Mr. Davidson moved to approve the summary as submitted, Ms. Schroeder seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion carried.

C. IDEM Reports

Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Woods opened his report by highlighting the exciting developments underway at IDEM. He emphasized that the agency is strengthened by more than 800 dedicated public servants and noted that preparations are underway to celebrate IDEM's 40th Anniversary.

He shared that IDEM recently held its quarterly Extended Leadership Team meeting, bringing together roughly 100 leaders, including frontline supervisors. These sessions focus on leadership development, succession planning, and addressing challenges related to upcoming retirements among key staff. As part of this effort, the agency is working to establish a comprehensive strategic plan that will define IDEM's vision and core values for the future.

Commissioner Woods also announced personnel updates. IDEM welcomed Kristin Brier, as our new Chief of External Partner Service. Also, we said farewell to Josh Bain, Executive Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs. He was appointed to serve as Commissioner at the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission.

He also noted that it is an honor to have several Hoosiers to serve on the advisory process at the EPA. We have a staff member from the Office of Water Quality serving on the Science Advisory Board along with 3 other Hoosiers on this board. We also have a staff member from the Office of Air Quality to serve on the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee.

Rules Update

Ms. Billie Franklin, Chief, Rules Development Section (RDS), Office of Legal Counsel (OLC), provided updates on upcoming rulemakings. The next Environmental Rules Board meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 15, 2026. At our next meeting we anticipate presenting the permanent rulemaking for low Reid vapor Pressure (LRVP) for preliminary adoption. This rule was recently approved for an interim rule during the June board meeting while we complete this full rulemaking.

We will also be presenting the Open Burning rule for preliminary adoption. This rule proposes amendments to the open burning requirements, adding an exemption for fire departments and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) that conducts open burning for the purposes of fire training.

D. Rules

1. Title 326 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) references Rule

Vice Chair Etzler opened this is a public hearing before the Environmental Rules Board of the State of Indiana concerning the final adoption of the **National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) references** rule.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is proposing to add and amend rules at 326 IAC 1 and 326 IAC 6-5-1 concerning updates to National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) references in IDEM's permitting rules.

Since preliminary adoption, IDEM needed to make a minor change to the language in 326 IAC 6-5-1. That change was described in detail in the rule information sheet. In short, instead of referencing federal designations, this rule section needs to reference old air quality designations, currently found in the rule that no longer exist in federal law. The change fixes an oversight and maintains the rule's status quo.

****The Notice of Public Comment Period, Regulatory Analysis and the First Notice of Public Hearing posted on February 18, 2026, and the Second Notice of Public Hearing posted on May 20, 2026.**

Ms. Flittner moved to adopt IDEM's suggested changes and Dr. Niemiec seconded.

By a roll-call vote, the changes were adopted.

Mr. Davidson moved to final adopt the rule and Mr. Eckhart seconded. By a roll-call vote, the rule was final adopted.

2. Title 327 Public Water Supply Construction Fees Rule

Vice Chair Etzler opened this is a public hearing before the Environmental Rules Board of the State of Indiana concerning the final adoption of the **Public Water Supply Construction Fees** rule.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is proposing to amend rules at [327 IAC 8-3-7](#) concerning the applicability of construction permit fees and annual operating fees for a public water supply (PWS) owned or operated by churches and governmental nonprofit organizations in the state.

**The Notice of Public Comment Period, Regulatory Analysis and the First Notice of Public Hearing posted on February 18, 2026, and the Second Notice of Public Hearing posted on May 20, 2026.

Ms. Schroeder moved to final adopt the rule and Dr. Niemiec. By a roll-call vote, the rule was final adopted.

E. Non-Rule Actions

1. Vice Chair Etzler opened that the Fees Work Group has been meeting on a regular basis now. Just recently we did some additional research and study on solid waste permit fees, and so, with the addition of that to our work group task, we are going to be continuing to meet for the next few months, and we hope to bring an update back to the Board at the next meeting.

2. CCR Presentation – Brian Wolff, OLQ Assistant Commissioner along with Lindsey Hummel and Thomas Kreke from the Permit group as well as Lori Freeman from the Compliance Branch. They each presented different parts of the application that was submitted to EPA for the Coal Combustion Residual (CCR) program.

Ms. Kozyrski and Dr. Graham had questions. Their questions were answered by IDEM staff.

F. Other Matters

1. Open Forum

No discussion

2. Tentative Date and Location of Next Meeting

The next meeting is tentatively October 15, 2026, Indiana Government Center-South, Conference Room A, 10 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana.

H. Adjournment

Vice Chair Etzler adjourned the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

CHAIRPERSON

The summary is derived from Rules Development Branch staff members' notes. A typewritten transcript of the entire meeting is on file in the Office of Legal Counsel, Indiana Department of Environmental Management and will be made available on the IDEM rules website. To view approved summaries, you may go online to:

<https://www.in.gov/idem/legal/rulemaking/environmental-rules-board-packets/>.