

**Water Allocation & Use EO10 Fact Sheet**  
**Summary of Proposed Changes for Chapters 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, & 55**

**Changes to All Rules: Chapters 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, & 55**

- Removed or updated out-of-date language.
- Shortened, simplified and clarified rules and terminology where possible. Removed redundancy and guidance text.
- Replaced rules with citations to the Code of Iowa where the rule section was entirely captured by one of those laws.
- Chapters 50, 51, & 52 were combined together into one chapter, which will be known as Chapter 50 – Water Use, Withdrawals, and Diversions.
- Combined Chapter 50 is numbered with the following structure:
  - 567-50.01(455B) Definitions
  - 567-50.02(17A,455B) Forms
  - 567-50.03(17A,455B) When a water use permit is required
  - 567-50.04-09(17A,455B) Reserved
  - 567-50.10(17A,455B) Water use permit applications
  - 567-50.11(455B) Initial screening of water use permit applications
  - 567-50.12(17A,455B) Supporting information for water use permit applications
  - 567-50.13(17A,455B) Review of complete water use permit applications
  - 567-50.14(17A,455B) Initial decision by the department
  - 567-50.15-19(17A,455B) Reserved
  - 567-50.20(455B) Conditions on permitted water uses
  - 567-50.21(455B) Conditions on withdrawals from streams
  - 567-50.22(455B) Conditions on water withdrawals from groundwater sources
  - 567-50.23(455B) Duration of water use permits for withdrawal or diversion of water
  - 567-50.24(455B) Monitoring, recording, and reporting of water use and effects on water source
  - 567-50.25(455B) Modification, termination, and emergency suspension of water use permits
  - 567-50.26(455B) Designated protected flows of streams
  - 567-50.27(455B) Water conservation
  - 567-50.28(455B) Priority allocation restrictions
  - 567-50.29(455B) Well plugging
- The current Chapters, proposed changes versions and clean versions are available on the WQB Rulemaking website at: <https://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Water-Quality/Water-Quality-Rulemaking>

**Changes to Chapter 50 – Water Use, Withdrawals, and Diversions**

- The new Chapter 50 combines three previous chapters that all related to aspects of the water use program. These include when a water use permit is required, when a water use registration is required, the process for reviewing water use applications, and environmental considerations for specific areas and groundwater sources.
- The new chapter has shortened, simplified and clarified rules and terminology where possible. Definition redundancies have been removed.
- The new combined Chapter 50 covers the entirety of the water use program.
- References and rules regarding water storage regulations have been removed, as the storage permit program is no longer under the purview of the water use program.
- Rules and regulations regarding agricultural drainage wells have been removed as all ADWs in the state will be closed by the end of 2024.

- Unnecessary procedural and information content for the water use program has been removed.
- In addition to the former CHAPTER 50, the new CHAPTER 50 includes language from all of old CHAPTER 51 - WATER PERMIT OR REGISTRATION—WHEN REQUIRED, and old CHAPTER 52 - CRITERIA AND CONDITIONS FOR AUTHORIZING WITHDRAWAL, DIVERSION AND STORAGE OF WATER.

#### **Changes to Chapter 51 – Water Permit or Registration – When Required**

- Chapter 51 has been fully rescinded and moved to new Chapter 50.
- Chapter subrules regarding cooling/heating systems, drain tile lines, and the diversion of surface water into aquifer were rearranged to more appropriate sections in the new chapter.
- Sections regarding the storage of water were removed.

#### **Changes to Chapter 52 – Criteria and Conditions for Authorizing Withdrawal, Diversion and Storage of Water**

- Chapter 52 has been fully rescinded and moved to new Chapter 50.
- All limitations on surface water and groundwater withdrawals in watershed areas less than 50 square miles (former 52.4(2) and 52.3(1)) have been removed.
- The 200 gallon per minute restriction for wells within ¼ miles of stream (former 52.4(1)a) has been removed.
- Restrictions placed on the Dakota (Cretaceous) aquifer (former 50.4(4)) have been removed.

#### **Changes to Chapter 53 – Protected Water Sources**

- Definitions specific to Chapter 53 have been moved out of 50.2 and placed in 53.1.
- An updated geographical description, site map, and CERCLA identification number has been included for the Ralston Site in Linn County in 53.7(1).
- The Iowa Army Ammunition Plant RDX Contaminant Site in Des Moines County and Lee County has been added as a protected source area in 53.7(4).

#### **Changes to Chapter 54 – Water Use Permit Restrictions or Compensation By Permitted Users To Nonregulated Users Due to Well Interference**

- Definitions specific to Chapter 54 have been moved out of 50.2 and placed in 54.1.
- No major rule changes were made to this chapter. All changes made were shortening, simplifying and clarifying rules and terminology where possible.

#### **Changes to Chapter 55 – Aquifer Storage and Recovery**

- Definitions specific to Chapter 55 have been moved out of 50.2 and placed in 55.2.
- The chapter was reorganized to improve grouping and flow of information.
- Clarification on application fee for aquifer storage and recovery wells.