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Administrative Rules Review Committee provides next steps in helping rural Iowa
Proposed clarifications to Iowa’s antidegradation rules were discussed to make it easier for towns across Iowa

JULY 12, 2016 (Des Moines) – The Administrative Rules Review Committee (ARRC) met on Tuesday to discuss the proposed amendments to Iowa’s antidegradation rules. The ARRC is a joint Senate-House of Representatives committee that meets monthly to oversee state executive branch rule making.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) previously held a public hearing on June 29 to discuss proposed changes to Iowa’s antidegradation standards brought forth by Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU), Iowa League of Cities, and Iowa Association of Business and Industry. Many of the comments from the Iowa DNR public hearing were in favor of capping utilities expenses at 115 percent of the utility upgrade.

“The Administrative Rules Review Committee provides an essential duty in executive branch ruling making,” said Timothy Whipple, general counsel for the IAMU “Iowans have spoken and are against rules that could bankrupt Iowa cities and towns. The ARRC’s rulemaking process is essential to the education of the public and policymakers about the need for clear state permitting rules for communities and industries.”

An adjustment to the current antidegradation rules will not only be protective of human health and the environment, but will also help communities make critical infrastructure investments to fuel growth, without placing an increased cost on the shoulders of consumers.

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About Iowa Association Of Municipal Utilities
Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU) represents over 750 municipal electric, gas, water, storm water, and broadband utilities statewide. Organized in 1947, IAMU represents municipal utility interests before the Iowa Legislature, administers disaster assistance, provides employee trainings, and assists in the formulation and implementation of energy efficiency programs.