FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:
Joe Gilson
(515) 985-8934
jgilson@ls2group.com

Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities Supports DNR Clean Water Act Rules Clarification
IDNR staff held a public hearing today on proposed clarifications to Iowa’s Antidegradation rules.

JUNE 29, 2016 (Des Moines) – The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) held a public hearing today at the Wallace Building to discuss proposed changes to Iowa’s antidegradation implementation procedures.

“The Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU) is hopeful that today’s hearing will help educate the public and policy makers about the need for clear state permitting rules for communities and industries,” said Timothy Whipple, general counsel for the IAMU.

Today’s meeting was the next step for clarifying the current ambiguous rules and follows the Environmental Protection Commission’s decision to approve a petition submitted by the IAMU, the Iowa League of Cities, and the Iowa Association of Business and Industry. The updated rules add much needed clarity and certainty to the permitting process. The rules will not only be protective of human health and the environment, they will also help communities make the critical infrastructure investments that fuel growth.

“Today was the first step in creating a workable state permitting process for municipal utilities that will help communities avoid unsustainable debt, unnecessary legal challenges, and burdensome project costs. IAMU would like to thank the Iowa DNR for its willingness to make process improvements for Iowa communities,” Whipple stated.

###

About Iowa Association Of Municipal Utilities
The 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.