

HB 215 -- Environmental Rules

Co-Sponsors: Myers, Portwood, Whorton, Shoemaker (8), Munzlinger

This bill prohibits most rules of the Department of Natural Resources on clean air, clean water, underground storage tanks, hazardous waste management, surface mining, land reclamation, safe drinking water, and solid waste management from being stricter than federal requirements.

In cases where there are either insufficient or no federal guidelines, the department may develop more restrictive rules if there is substantial evidence that an activity will have an adverse impact on public health or the environment and a rule is necessary to prevent or alleviate the impact. Specific findings on the impact and a justification for the proposed rule must be published in the Missouri Register. The rule's fiscal note must also include an assessment of the effectiveness and cost of any reasonably available pollution control methods required by the rule.

The bill also repeals the provision that allows affected parties to appeal decisions of the director to the appropriate board or commission.