# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LAND STEWARDSHIP

## Bill Northey, Secretary of Agriculture

June, 2015

To: Agricultural Anhydrous Ammonia handlers in Iowa

# Re: Further Update on Changes in Regulation of Agricultural Anhydrous Ammonia

The purpose of this 2<sup>nd</sup> letter to Agricultural Anhydrous Ammonia handlers in Iowa is to further ensure you are aware of new Anhydrous Ammonia Standards and changes the adaptation of the new standards and exceptions may bring.

On December 15, 2014, CGA (Compressed Gas Association) received a Notification of Final Action on *ANSI/CGA G-2.1*, 2014, Safety Requirements for the Storage and Handling of Anhydrous Ammonia provided by ANSI's Board of Standards Review. The new ANSI/CGA Standards are now the accepted standard in Anhydrous Ammonia storage and handling and regulatory agencies such as Homeland Security, EPA, and OSHA now have the ability to expect compliance with the standards. The Standards are copyrighted and available for purchase at: <a href="http://ansi.org/">http://ansi.org/</a> or <a href="http://awww.cganet.com/">http://awww.cganet.com/</a>.

As with the 1989 ANSI K-61.1 Ammonia Standards, IDALS has adopted the ANSI/CGA G-2.1-2014 Safety Requirements for the Storage and Handling of Anhydrous Ammonia with exceptions in the Administrative Rules to be effective January 1, 2016. With respect to IDALS, the grace period is now, facilities should be able to operate as normal until the new standards and exceptions are official on January 1. Iowa will not regulate according to the new standards and exceptions until they are officially adopted, (January 1, 2016). IDALS is now conducting Nh3 inspections using a new checklist based on the new standards and exceptions. This year, the checklist will be used as an informational guide in respect to the new changes the standards and exceptions will bring. If the site or firm is not in compliance with existing State regulations, (the old standards and rules), they would be cited for noncompliance as in the past. This new checklist is printed on the back of this notice and available on our website.

For additional guidance on Anhydrous Ammonia and the new changes, IDALS has posted information on our website. The IDALS website is at <a href="www.iowaagriculture.gov">www.iowaagriculture.gov</a>. You will find the subject "Anhydrous Ammonia Regulation and Guidelines" in the center of the Commercial Feed and Fertilizer Bureau webpage, <a href="www.iowaagriculture.gov/feedandfertilizer.asp">www.iowaagriculture.gov/feedandfertilizer.asp</a>. The 1st, or February 2015, letter sent to all Anhydrous Ammonia storage locations can be found there as well. The materials on the website are guidance materials only, and reference to original regulations should be considered for interpretation in each individual situation. This 2<sup>nd</sup> letter will be posted on the website as well.

The 1<sup>st</sup> letter was sent to all Anhydrous Ammonia sites and many were returned as the addresses were simply 911 locations. This 2<sup>nd</sup> letter is being sent to the "mail to" addresses for each location and we ask that you distribute the letter to all of the Nh3 locations within your company. We appreciate your help in sharing this information.

As always, guidance and interpretation will be available from IDALS Feed and Fertilizer personnel.

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