

# LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

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## ***LEGISLATIVE UPDATE***

The statehouse is at a standstill given the recent announcements of FBI investigations over the past two weeks. OHBA will continue to update on any news and developments as the situation unfolds.

### ***OEPA PUBLIC NOTICE MS4 PERMIT***

OHBA has heard concerns from a local HBA on the proposed draft Small MS4 General Permit. Ohio EPA has public noticed a draft general permit renewal for public comment.

Please visit the following website to view documents associated with the draft general permit and information regarding an August 5, 2020 virtual information session to discuss the draft general permit renewal: <https://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/storm/index>

OHBA is currently reviewing further. Let us know if you have any comments or concerns ASAP.

### ***OHBA FILES NOTICE OF APPEAL WITH ERAC FOR GENERAL PERMIT TO REGULATE EPHEMERAL STREAMS***

As the new navigable waters rule removed “ephemeral streams” from its definition of Waters of the United States, the OEPA issued a draft general permit to regulate as a water of the state. OHBA had filed extensive comments and participated in multiple stakeholder forums prior to issuance. The permit issued failed to respond to any of the concerns raised. As a result, OHBA and several other stakeholders filed a Notice of Appeal with ERAC and a preliminary preconference hearing scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup>. Please let us know if you are interested in receiving a copy of OHBA comments or Appeal filed.

## ***OHBA HOLDING FOLLOW UP DISCUSSIONS ON ICC/NAHB DUST UP***

Following lengthy discussions at NAHB on the ICC and code adoption process, OHBA has reached out to Ohio Board of Building Standards (BBS) and Dept. of Commerce Staff to ensure Ohio's code adoption process remains strong. OHBA will continue to follow up both at the state and national level on the ongoing back and forth with the ICC.

## ***PUCO/NATURAL GAS DISCUSSIONS***

OHBA has been in contact with PUCO staff, and will continue to monitor discussions from the PUCO's Natural Gas Access Forums. The presentations and a link to view the third Natural Gas Access Forum, which was held virtually, are available on available at: <https://puco.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/puco/events/natural-gas-access-forum>. The issue of local natural gas bans and related restrictions in building codes is something that OHBA will continue to follow, and work to keep communication open with PUCO staff.

Feel free to contact OHBA with any questions or concerns.