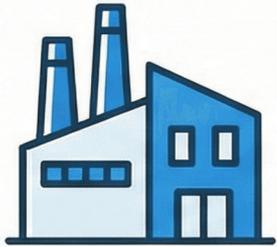




Fairfield Clean Air: Understanding the HyCast the HyCast Foundry Permit Renewal

Community Information on Air Quality
and Public Health Concerns

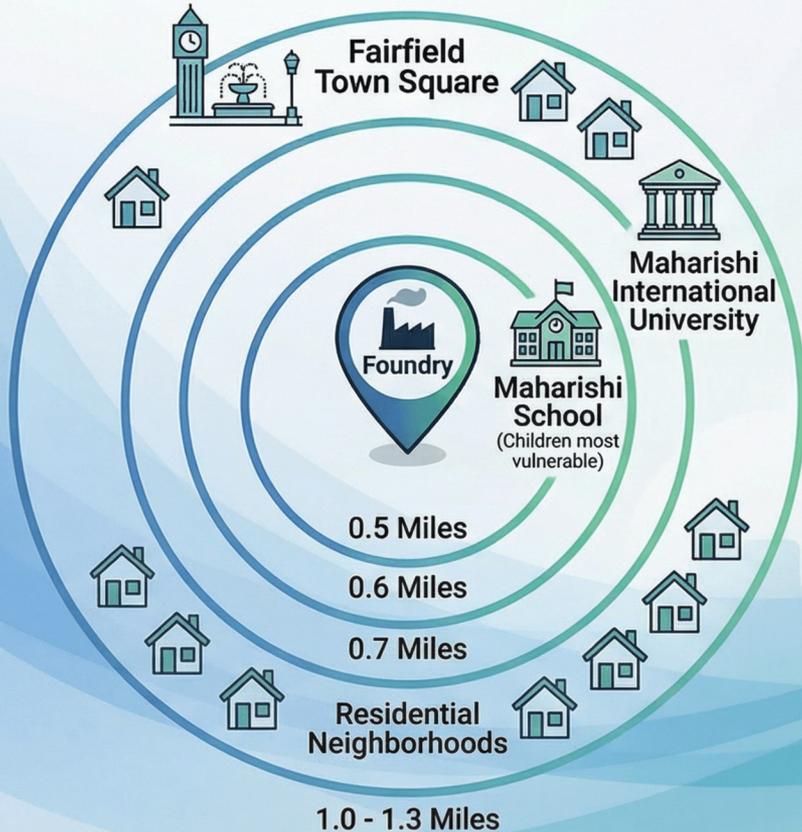
HyCast Foundry Seeks Operating Permit Renewal After Decade-Long Closure



- **History:** Originally built in 1912, operating for over 110 years.
- **Recent Status:** Ceased operations in April 2024; acquired by HyCast LLC in August 2024.
- **Requirement:** Must obtain Title V Air Operating Permit from Iowa DNR to resume.
- **Current Status:** Draft permit in public comment period through Feb 2, 2026.



Foundry Operations Authorized Within Half Mile of Schools and Residential Areas



- **Key Points:**

- **Maharishi School: 0.5 miles**
(Children most vulnerable)
- **Maharishi International University: 0.6 miles**
- **Fairfield Town Square: 0.7 miles**
- **Residential Neighborhoods: 1.0 - 1.3 miles**

Draft Permit Authorizes 441 Tons of Particulate Matter Annually

441 tons/year
Total Particulate Matter

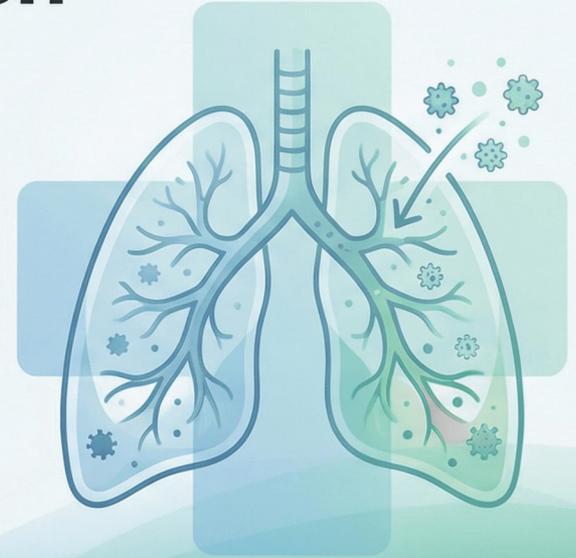
180 tons/year
Fine Particles (PM_{2.5})
(No safe level)

25 tons/year
Hazardous Pollutants
(Includes carcinogens)

144 tons/year
VOCs

WHO Classifies Outdoor Air Pollution as Group 1 Carcinogen

- IARC Group 1 Carcinogen (Same category as Tobacco & Asbestos)
- PM2.5 Risks: Cardiovascular disease, respiratory illness, premature death
- Vulnerable Groups: Children (developing lungs) & Elderly are at highest risk
- WHO Guidelines: No safe threshold exists for PM2.5 exposure



Draft Permit Lacks Adequate Monitoring and Verification Mechanisms

Key Deficiencies



Infrequent Testing

- Relies on periodic checks rather than continuous monitoring (Violates 40 CFR § 70.6).



No Community Monitors

- Zero off-site monitoring to measure actual exposure in neighborhoods (Violates CAA § 109).



Unquantified Emissions

- Fugitive leaks and startup/shutdown events are not measured.



No Health Assessment

- Fails to evaluate risks to children and vulnerable groups (Violates CAA § 112).



Aging Infrastructure

- No verification that aging equipment meets modern standards.

EPA Objected to Similar Permits in 2025 for Inadequate Monitoring



Valero Houston Refinery (Jan 2025)

- **Issue:** EPA objected because periodic testing cannot verify compliance for variable emissions.
- **Relevance:** HyCast permit relies on the same flawed periodic testing method.



South32 Hermosa (June 2025)

- **Issue:** EPA objected due to failure to adequately control and quantify fugitive emissions.
- **Relevance:** Supports objections regarding HyCast's unquantified leaks and dust.

Once Issued, Flawed Permits Are Extremely Difficult to Correct

The “Permit Shield” Problem (Clean Air Act § 504)

- **Legal Protection:** Once issued, the permit “shields” the facility from enforcement on specific requirements.
- **Locked In:** If monitoring is inadequate now, it later is legally difficult and time-consuming.
- **Critical Requirement:** Enforceable, real-world monitoring must be included *before* the permit is finalized.
- **The Goal:** Ensure actual compliance in practice, not just theoretical limits on paper.



Public Comments Due February 2, 2026—Your Voice Matters



Jan 17, 2:00 PM

Public Meeting @ Fairfield Public Library



Jan 29, 7:00 PM

Virtual Public Hearing (Zoom)



Feb 2, 4:30 PM: FINAL DEADLINE

for Public Comments

Your action is **critical**
by this date.

How to Submit



Email: zane.peters@dnr.iowa.gov



Tool: Use the Comment Builder at faircleanair.info to ensure legal validity.



Why: Specific comments are required to preserve your right to petition the EPA.

Tools and Information Available to Support Informed Participation



faircleanair.info

Access the Comment Builder Tool & Evidence Bank.



Iowa DNR Website

View full permit materials and fact sheets.



Community Petition

Sign in person at Everybody's.



Virtual Hearing

Register online for the Jan 29th Zoom hearing.



Scan to Act or Visit **faircleanair.info**