

Is Winona jumping the gun on trying to keep the frac sand industry in line?

Just two weeks after a sand mining moratorium expired in Winona, the city planning commission is talking about doing its own monitoring of air quality at mining sites. Assistant city planner Carlos Espinosa says a special study group may have to decide whether monitoring should be done by the state, instead of the city. The Winona City Council may have the final decision on that proposal. Espinosa tells us that Chippewa Falls already has a monitoring system in place, which has shown little air pollution because of sand mining.