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# EQB MONITOR

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: December 19, 2007

### Project Title: Northern Lights Over Roosevelt Lake

**Description:** An 88.7 acre parcel adjacent to Lake Roosevelt, divided by State Highway 6, within Emily, MN. Proposed rural Conservation Subdivision of 48 3/4-acre single-family backlots, served by ISTS's, including 6.2 acres of wetland and 1,600 feet of shoreline across the highway for membership recreation, swimming, and boat dockage.

**RGU:** City of Emily

**Contact Person:**

Charles Marohn, City Planner  
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Emily, MN 56447  
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marohn@communitygrowth.net

The *EQB Monitor* is a biweekly publication of the Environmental Quality Board that lists descriptions and deadlines for Environmental Assessment Worksheets, Environmental Impact Statements, and other notices. The *EQB Monitor* is posted on the Environmental Quality board home page at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/>.

Upon request, the *EQB Monitor* will be made available in an alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or audio tape. For TTY, contact Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 and ask for Department of Administration. For information on the *EQB Monitor*, contact:

Minnesota Environmental Quality Board  
658 Cedar St., 300 Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1388  
Phone: 651-201-2480  
Fax: 651-296-3698  
<http://www.eqb.state.mn.us>

**Project Title: CSAH 18 (Lyman Boulevard) from TH 41 to CSAH 17 (Powers Boulevard)**

**Description:** This project involves the reconstruction of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 18 (Lyman Boulevard) from Trunk Highway 41 (TH 41) to CSAH 17 (Powers Boulevard). The project will improve the roadway facility, drainage, and access management. A pedestrian/bicycle trail will also be considered.

**RGU:** Carver County Public Works

**Contact Person:**

William Weckman, P.E.  
Assistant County Engineer  
11360 Hwy. 212 West, Suite 1  
Cologne, MN 55322  
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**EAW NEED DECISIONS**

The noted responsible governmental unit has made a decision regarding the need for an EAW in response to a citizen petition.

- Stearns County, Culvert replacement on Hidden Cove Road, Collegeville Township. Denied.

**EIS NEED DECISIONS**

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparation of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the *EQB Monitor*.

- Regents of the University of Minnesota, ANOVA Off Axis Facility, November 8, 2007 (September 10, 2007)
- MPCA, MGT Products, LLC, Feedlot Expansion project, Todd County, October 25, 2007 (September 10, 2007)
- Stearns County Board, County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 2-South, November 6, 2007 (September 10, 2007).
- City of Bloomington, 5100 W 82nd St., November 5, 2007 (September 24, 2007).

**FINAL AUARs ADOPTED**

- The City Council of the City of New Brighton adopted the Updated AUAR for the Northwest Quadrant (NWQ) project at its October 23, 2007 council meeting.

- The City of Edina adopted the Final AUAR for the Gateway Study Area on November 5, 2007.

## PETITION FILED

The following petitions have been filed with the EQB requesting preparation of an EAW. The EQB has assigned the indicated unit of government to review the petition and decide on the need for an EAW.

- Greenwood Township, Waters of Vermilion project
- City of Ramsey, Diamonds Sports Bar and Grill project

## NOTICES

### NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT AVAILABILITY

Issued: October 31, 2007

**In the Matter of the Elm Creek Wind, LLC, Certificate of Need Application for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Martin and Jackson Counties**

**PUC Docket No. IP6631/CN-07-789**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Environmental Report (ER) for the Certificate of Need (CON) on the Elm Creek Wind Project (Project) proposed by PPM Energy has been completed and is available to the public. The ER addresses potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) and alternatives to the Project. Copies the ER and other relevant documents are accessible at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19191>

and

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp>

Paper copies of the ER may be requested from the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) staff listed at the end of this notice.

#### ***Project Description***

The proposed Elm Creek Wind Project is a LWECS of approximately 100 megawatts (MW) and consisting of up to 66 wind turbines. The turbines proposed are utility grade wind turbine generators between 1.5 MW and 3.0 MW in capacity, mounted on freestanding tubular steel towers. The towers will be 80 meters (262 feet) to 105 m (345 feet) in height. The rotor diameter will be 78 meters (256 feet) to 100 m (328 feet), resulting in a maximum overall height of 119 meters (390 feet) – 150 m (493 feet) when one blade is in the vertical position. The electrical collector system will consist of underground and overhead 34.5 kV collection and feeder lines and facilities providing step-up transformation. Power from the Project will be delivered to a five acre

expansion of the existing Trimont Substation, which serves the Trimont Area Wind Farm. Other Project associated facilities will include pad mounted step-up transformers, junction boxes, a permanent meteorological tower and SODAR unit, and turbine access roads. At this time, the PPM Energy has not entered into a purchase agreement (PPA) for sale of the electricity generated by the Project and intends to sell the electricity to utilities serving retail customers in Minnesota.

### ***PUC Review Process***

On June 12, 2007, PPM Energy, on behalf of Elm Creek Wind, LLC, filed an application for a CON for the Elm Creek Wind Project. On August 1, 2007, the PUC issued its Order accepting the application as substantially complete.

The Project is a “large energy facility” as defined by Minnesota Statute 216B.2421 and requires a CON from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Minnesota Statute 216B.243. An ER is required for the CON. The PUC is jointly considering a site permit application for the Project in PUC docket number IP6631/WS-07-388.

A public hearing on the Elm Creek Wind Project Certificate of Need will be held by Administrative Law Judge Steve Mihalchick. Detailed information about the hearing is listed below:

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**November 27, 2007  
6:00 p.m.  
AmericInn  
110 Belmont Lane  
Jackson, MN 56143**

Notice of the hearing will be published in local newspapers and mailed to persons receiving this notice by U.S. Mail and those who register their names on the project mailing list with the Department. Persons interested in adding their names to this mailing list should contact the DOC or register on the webpage cited below.

### ***Project Contacts and Additional Information***

Persons interested in receiving additional information regarding the environmental review in this matter can register their names on the Project Docket webpage at <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19191>, by contacting Adam Sokolski, Energy Facilities Permitting, 85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101, phone (651) 296-2096, e-mail: [adam.sokolski@state.mn.us](mailto:adam.sokolski@state.mn.us), or by contacting PUC staff person Bret Eknes, Public Utilities Commission, 121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101, (651) 201-2236.