



Publication Date July 17, 2006



EQB Monitor

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

Comments due on August 16, 2006

Wal-Mart SuperCenter, #1627-01 Dilworth, Minnesota

DESCRIPTION: Development of a 29.19-acre site as an approximately 220,950-square foot retail center to include a seasonal garden center, tire lube express (TLE), bagged goods area, and liquor store, with associated parking, entrance and frontage roads. Three additional commercial lots may be developed later. A gas station may be developed later. The Project also involves installation of sewer and water lines, improvements to 34th Street North, constructing 8th Avenue NW, and installing a potential traffic signal(s). Copies of the EAW are available for review during regular business hours at the front counter in Dilworth City Hall, 2 1st Avenue SE, Dilworth, MN, and at the Fergus Falls Public Library, 205 E Hampden, Fergus Falls. Comments must be received by Wednesday, August 16, 2006, and should be directed to Ken L. Parke, City Administrator, PO Box 187, Dilworth, MN 56529.

RGU: City of Dilworth

CONTACT:

Ken Parke, City Administrator
21st Avenue SE, Dilworth, MN 56529-0187
(218) 287-2313, (218) 287-2309
kparke@corpcomm.net

ABOUT THE EQB MONITOR

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/>

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NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF EIS: EAW AVAILABLE

Blue's Valley Campground

The Becker County Board of Commissioners has terminated the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Blue's Valley Campground, based upon substantial modification of the project. The project has been modified to reduce the amount of land alteration, campsites have been set back to the second tier of development (267 feet), and green open space has been set aside. Also the previously reviewed mitigation measures (shoreline restoration, storm water protection measures, and screening) will remain as part of the project proposal.

DESCRIPTION: Blue's Valley Campground will consist of a maximum of 54 RV unit sites, 24 boat slips, a storage building, bath house, fish cleaning shed, 10,800 square foot park (picnic and playground) and ~70' swimming beach area. Area is currently used for pasturing beef cattle. Project will be implemented concurrent with federal, state, and local regulations and standards.

RGU: County of Becker Planning and Zoning

CONTACT:

Patty L. Johnson, Planning & Zoning Administrator
835 Lake Avenue, PO Box 787
Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0787
Phone: (218) 846-7314, Fax (218) 846-7266.

EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparations 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.

Hanover City Council, Paumen development June 20, 2006 (May 8, 2006)

City of Eagan, TH 149 Reconstruction Project in the cities of Eagan and Inver Grove Heights, July 6, 2006 (May 22, 2006)

Minnesota Department of Transportation, Trunk Highway 14/61 Reconstruction and Bridge #5475 Replacement, City of LaCrescent, Houston County, Minnesota May 23, 2006 (September 27, 2004)

Council in the City of Pillager, Trunk Highway 210 Backage Road Improvement, June 27, 2006 (May 8, 2006)

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Citizens' Board, Alexandria Lake Area Sanitary Sewer District, June 27, 2006 (January 16, 2006)

Cass County Planning Commission, Ridges of Lantern Bay, May 23, 2006, Project Withdrawn

PETITIONS FILED

The following petition has 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.

Mille Lacs County, Hardwood Harbor & Marina

EAW NEED DECISIONS

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

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Brownsdale Waste Transfer Station, Denied

NOTICES

RECLAMATION PROJECT PLANNED FOR SWAN LAKE-

DNR DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife is planning a rotenone treatment on Swan Lake in Nicollet County, Protected Waters Inventory number 52003400. Middle Lake in Nicollet County (52002300) may also be a part of this proposed treatment if carp are also documented in this lake in the near future. This project will involve the application of rotenone, a federally and state registered pesticide to eliminate less desirable fish species. Endangered or threatened species are not known to be present in the lake. Project goals include treating the undesirable fish species, carp, to prevent this fish from degrading water quality and wildlife habitat in Swan Lake. Other fish present that will be impacted by the treatment are bullheads, green sunfish and fathead minnows.

This lake will be drawn down prior to the chemical treatment to reduce the amount of chemical required. A winterkill of carp through a drawdown failed last winter due to mild weather in which carp survived therefore additional control measures are needed. The lake will be treated with chemical aerially, by drip station and backpack sprayer in the fall of 2006. Target treatment concentration will be 3-6 ppm of 2.5 % liquid synergized rotenone. Benefits of the project will be to prevent carp from degrading water quality, aquatic vegetation abundance, and maintain habitat for wildlife and waterfowl.

Swan Lake is a Designated Lake under M.S. 97a.101 and this strategy is consistent with the existing management plan for this basin.

For general information this project, contact Area Wildlife Manager, Joel Anderson (507) 225-3572, Regional Wildlife Manager, Ken Varland (507)359-6030 or Nicole Hansel-Welch, Shallow Lakes Program, 218-833-8626.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The United States Postal Service (USPS) intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, its implementing procedures at 39 CFR 775 and the President's Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), for the possible consolidation of current operations within the Twin Cities area to the existing Eagan Bulk Mail Center (BMC) facility at 3165 Lexington Avenue South in Eagan, MN. The proposed action could have a significant beneficial impact on USPS operations and productivity.

The proposed action would involve expanding the existing Eagan BMC to create a “co-located” facility that incorporates postal operations from other area facilities. The new facility expansion would occur on existing USPS-owned property and would include new workrooms, support areas, additional platforms/loading docks, parking areas, and other features. The project would also involve: relocating mail processing operations from the existing Minneapolis Processing & Distribution Center (P&DC) and the existing St. Paul P&DC to the Eagan BMC; relocating all other administrative and support operations currently housed in the St. Paul P&DC, with the exception of the retail operation, to space in the Minneapolis P&DC; disposing of the St. Paul P&DC; and discontinuing or relocating operations at the Twin Cities Metro Hub (TCMH) in Minneapolis to the Eagan BMC. The TCMH would be “depostalized” and its current lease would not be renewed.

The EA will examine and evaluate the physical and cultural environmental impacts of the proposed action, which represents the most comprehensive level of consolidation activity for the above described facilities under consideration by the USPS. The EA will also evaluate the impacts of a “no action alternative,” which would involve continuing current operations at the Eagan BMC, with no expansion of the existing facility. The EA is expected to be completed in October 2006 and will be made available to the public for review at local libraries or upon request. Additional information about the proposed action can be obtained by contacting: Mr. Scott Collins, Facilities Environmental Specialist, USPS, Headquarters – Major Facilities Office, 4301 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 300, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1861.

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE—MINNESOTA FOREST RESOURCES COUNCIL’S BIOMASS GUIDELINE COMMITTEE

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) Biomass guideline Committee will hold its third meeting on Thursday, July 20 2006, from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. The meeting will be held either at the University of Minnesota’s Cloquet Forestry Center, located at 175 University Road in Cloquet or at the Natural Resources Research Institute, located in Duluth at 5013 Miller Trunk Highway. To get additional details about the meeting and the final location for the meeting, please contact Dick Rossman at (218) 755-4062.

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING

August 3, 2006 ♦ 6:30 – 7:30 pm
Straight River Township Hall
11971 129th Avenue
Menahga, MN 56464

In the Matter of the Application of Great River Energy and Itasca-Mantrap Cooperative Electrical Association for a Route Permit for the RDO Project Transmission Line and Substation in Hubbard County
PUC Docket Number: ET2/TL-06-468

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Great River Energy (GRE) and Itasca-Mantrap Cooperative Electrical Association RDO transmission project has been completed and is available to the public. The EA addresses potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed high voltage transmission line (HVTL) project.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) will hold a Public Hearing on the above matter on August 3, 2006, at the Straight River Township Hall south of Park Rapids, Minnesota. The hearing will begin at 6:30 pm.

Project Description. GRE and Itasca-Mantrap have applied for a transmission line route permit from the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for the RDO Transmission Project. GRE and Itasca-Mantrap propose to upgrade approximately 2.5 miles of existing 34.5 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to a 115 kV High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) near Park Rapids, Minn. They also propose to upgrade the Itasca-Mantrap RDO substation to allow a 115 kV electrical supply source.

Environmental Assessment. The DOC completed and made available to the public the EA on July 12, 2006. Copies of the permit application and the EA are available for public review at the Itasca-Mantrap Cooperative Electrical Association offices in Park Rapids, at the DOC offices in St. Paul, by requesting a copy from the DOC, and electronically on the PUC website below:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=18517>

Purpose of Hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to compile a complete record for the PUC to consider in making a final decision on the route permit application. Upon closure of the public comment period, DOC Staff will write a report and make a recommendation to the PUC on which route to authorize and any appropriate permit conditions. The PUC will make a final decision on the permit at a subsequent Commission meeting.

Conduct of Hearing. The hearing will be presided over by Deborah Pile of the DOC Energy Facility Permitting unit in accordance with the requirements of the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statutes 116C.51 to 116C.69, rules of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), and Minnesota Rules 4400.2000 to 4400.2950, for projects of the size and type proposed in this matter.

DOC staff will be present at the hearing, will make a brief presentation about the project and introduce into the record a number of documents relating to the project, including the Application, the EA, and certain procedural documents. Representatives of the applicant utilities, GRE and Itasca-Mantrap, will be present to offer evidence and to answer questions. Members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions of DOC staff and the Applicants, to make statements, and to offer written comments and material into the record. Members of the public are not required to file any papers in advance of the hearing in order to participate and public comments made at the hearing will be included in the record. There is no advance sign-up process. The Hearing Examiner will call on those who want to speak.

Public Comment Period. The record in this case will remain open until August 18, 2006 for interested persons to submit written comments.

More Information. Questions or comments can be directed to:

Adam Sokolski, Project Manager
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101,
phone 651-296-2096
adam.sokolski@state.mn.us

Deb Pile, Project Public Advisor
Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101
phone 651-297-2375
deborah.pile@state.mn.us

Mailing List. Any person may add his or her name to the mailing list maintained by the DOC for future mailings regarding this project, including notice of when this matter is scheduled for a PUC final route permitting decision. Names can be added to the list via the website listed above or by contacting the DOC staff persons named above.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Title-Interstate 94/County State Aid Highways 19 and 37, Interchange Modification Project, City of Albertville, Wright County, Minnesota

Description-The proposed action includes modifying the Interstate 94 interchanges at Wright County State Aid Highways 19 and 37. In addition, the proposed action will involve the addition of collector-distributor roads between the interchanges on both the north and south sides of Interstate 94.

Public Review-Copies of the Environmental Assessment (EA) are being distributed to those agencies on the current MEQB document review list and others. The comment period will begin on **July 17, 2006** and will extend through **August 16, 2006**. Comments should be directed the contact listed below.

The EA which documents the purpose and need of the project along with the anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts, is available for public review at the following locations:

Minnesota Department of Transportation
District 3
3725 12th Street North
St. Cloud, MN 56303

Albertville City Hall
5975 Main Avenue Northeast
Albertville, MN 55301

Wright County Highway Department
1901 Highway 25 North
Buffalo, MN 55313

Roy Simms Community Library
403 Central Avenue East
St. Michael, MN 55376

Great River Regional Library
405 St. Germain Street
St. Cloud, MN 56303

FINAL EIS ADEQUACY DECISION

On behalf of Douglas Township, TKDA prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposal by Edward Kramer and Sons, Inc., to mine a near-surface limestone deposit underlying 675 acres of agricultural lands in Douglas Township, Minnesota.

TKDA prepared a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet and Draft Scoping Decision to identify the issues and alternatives that would be addressed in the EIS. A notice of the availability of these scoping documents was published in the *EQB Monitor* on August 18, 2003. The Town Board held a public scoping meeting in Meisville, Minnesota on September 8, 2003, and issued a final Scoping Decision in September, 2003.

The EIS preparation notice was published in the *EQB Monitor* on November 24, 2003. The Township prepared a Draft EIS addressing all issues and alternatives raised in scoping and identifying reasonable mitigation measures for identified adverse effects.

The Draft EIS notice of availability was published in the *EQB Monitor* on October 10, 2005. The Town Board held a public meeting on November 10, 2005, and accepted comments on the Draft EIS through November 30, 2005.

A final EIS was prepared which included responses to all comments received during the Draft EIS review. The final EIS notice of availability was published in the *EQB Monitor* on June 5, 2006. The Town Board accepted comments on the adequacy of the Final EIS through 4:30 p.m. on June 30, 2006. The Town Board considered additional comments at the public meeting on July 5, 2006.

On July 5, 2006, pursuant to the criteria prescribed in Minnesota Rules Part 4410.2800, subpart 4, the Town Board determined the EIS is inadequate. The Town Board prepared a record of its decision and distributed it to all parties receiving copies of the Final EIS. The Town Board and TKDA shall have sixty days from July 5, 2006 to revise and complete the process to provide an adequate EIS.

The contact person for the Town Board is Ralph Schweich, 11581 240th St. E., Hampton, MN 55031.



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Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
300 Centennial, 658 Cedar St.
St. Paul, MN 55155-1388

Phone: 651-201-2480

Fax: 651-296-3698

E-mail: <mailto:ecb.monitor@state.mn.us>