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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

Comments due on March 1, 2006

Boulder Crossing

Description: The proposed project is a 61 single family residential development on a 200.37 acre parcel in Sec 11, Twp 34N, Rg 29W, Becker Township, Sherburne County, MN. The minimum lot size is 2.5 acres with individual wells, on-site septic systems and public roadways. The project is located in the General Rural District, Shoreland District of the Elk River and the Floodplain District.

RGU: Sherburne County Zoning

Contact: Lynn Waytashek, Assistant Zoning Administrator, 13880 Highway 10, Elk River, MN 55330; 763-241-2900; fax: 763-241-2910; e-mail: Lynn.Waytashek@co.sherburne.mn.us

Eagle Ridge Development

Description: The Eagle Ridge Development has constructed Phase I which has 48 lots for unattached units. A second and third phase is proposed to include an additional 128 unattached units near the City of Eagle Lake, MN. The total project size will be 176 unattached units on 71.21 acres. This development includes the construction of roads, lots, and public infrastructure, and all lots will utilize city water and sewer. The Eagle Ridge Development is located in the E ½ of the SE ¼ of Section 13, Township 108 North, Range 26 West (Mankato Township).

Copies of the EAW are available for review during regular business hours at:

- Eagle Lake City Hall, 101 Plainview Street, Eagle Lake, MN 8am-5pm Monday thru Friday
- MN Valley Regional Library Reference Department, 100 E Main Street, Mankato, MN
- A copy of the EAW will also be posted on the I&S Engineers & Architects, Inc. website:
<http://www.is-ea.com>

RGU: City of Eagle Lake

Contact: Brad Potter, City Administrator, 101 Plainview Street, Eagle Lake, MN 56024; 507-257-3218; e-mail: eaglelk@myclearwave.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/>

Vol. 30, No. 3

Next issue: February 13, 2006

Submittal deadline: February 6, 2006



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Bennett Lumber Parcels 1 and 2 Redevelopment

Description: The project is a redevelopment of two industrial parcels located between Colfax and Emerson Avenues north of the Midtown Greenway. Both parcels front the Greenway, which is a recreational trail and a historic district. The parcel between Colfax and Dupont Avenues is within the historic district. The parcels will be redeveloped approximately 178 units of condominiums in four new four-story buildings and one rehabilitated historic building. All existing buildings on site will be demolished, except for the building fronting the railroad grade, which will be rehabilitated for residential use.

RGU: City of Minneapolis

Contact: Becca Farrar, Senior Planner, Room 300 Public Service Center, 250 S Fourth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415; 612-673-3594; fax: 612-673-2526; e-mail: Rebecca.Farrar@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Blaine Sanitary Sewer and Water Main, Section 13

Description: The city of Blaine (City) is proposing to construct a new sanitary trunk sewer and a trunk water main located in District 7 (sub districts 7A-7C) as shown in the City's Comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Plan and the Northeast Area Plan as the North Woodlands, Lochness Lake and East Meadow areas to serve a portion of the City not currently served by utilities. The proposed project was initiated by a petition for public improvements by the existing property owners. The proposed project will use existing right of way and City-owned property for the majority of the proposed route; however, temporary construction easements will be necessary in some locations. This proposed sanitary sewer is designed to accommodate average wastewater flows of 2.25 million gallons per day (MGD) and 3.5177 MGD under peak hourly wet weather capacity.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency website, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Denise Leezer, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, 520 Lafayette Road N, St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-297-8236

Crosslake Construction Demolition Debris Facility, Inc.

Description: The Crosslake Construction Demolition Debris Facility, Inc. project was submitted to the EQB as a petition. The EQB determined that the MPCA was the RGU for this project. The project proposer has volunteered to do an EAW. The project consists of expanding an existing construction and demolition debris land disposal facility in the city of Crosslake. The project proposer is expanding the operation into a recently-excavated sand and gravel mining area, which consists of 5.5 acres. This expansion will provide for operation of the landfill for a five-year permit capacity of 150,000 cubic yards.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency website, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Kelly Garvey, Project Manager, Environmental and Operations Section, Regional Division, 520 Lafayette Road N, St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-296-7796

Hennepin County State Aid Highway 61 (Shady Oak Road) Improvements in the City of Minnetonka

Description: The proposed project includes improvements to CSAH 61 between 1,000 north of Bren Road and 300 feet south of CSAH 3 (Excelsior Boulevard). The primary improvements include:



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- Widening from 2-lane to 4-lane with additional turn lanes
- Provision of a bike trail west of the roadway
- Replacement of Bridge No. 90596 over the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority Southwest LRT alignment
- Rehabilitation and widening of Bridge No. 27533 over the CP Rail line

RGU: Hennepin County

Contact: Brent Lindgren, P.E., Roadway Design Engineer, 1600 Prairie Drive, Medina, MN 55340; 612-596-0395

Sand Hill River Fish Passage Improvement Project

Description: This project involves the improvement of two crossings of the Sand Hill River in order to facilitate improved upstream fish passage along the river. The existing crossings are barriers to fish migration. The proposed project will involve lowering and/or enlargement of the existing structures and installation of rock riffles.

RGU: Sand Hill River Watershed District

Contact: Daniel Wilkins, Administrator, P.O. Box 584, Fertile, MN 56540; 218-945-3204; fax: 218-945-3213; e-mail: shrwd@gvtel.net

MN/DMA ALTERNATIVE REVIEW-ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT – DRAFT

Stationing, Construction and Operation of an Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF), Fielding of CH-47 “Chinook” Aircraft and Restationing of UH-60 “Blackhawk” Aircraft by the MNARNG, St. Cloud, Sherburne County, MN

Description: The Minnesota Army National Guard (MNARNG), proposes to construct a new Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF) at the St. Cloud Regional Airport (SCRA) in St. Cloud, Minnesota, to accommodate the storage, maintenance and operation of six CH-47 “Chinook” heavy lift helicopters being fielded to the MNARNG by the National Guard Bureau. The new AASF will also support four to six UH-60 “Blackhawk” helicopters being restationed from Holman Field in St. Paul, Minnesota to SCRA.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Military Affairs

Contact: 1LT Shannon Purvis, Minnesota National Guard Public Affairs Officer; 651-268-8961

PETITIONS 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.

- City of Breezy Point, Sunrise Point
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, P.S.I of Avon Expansion project
- Cass County, Antler Ridge
- Cass County, “The Ridge”
- Cass County, channel/harbor project re DNR 70-1175



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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.

- City of Crosby, Sanctuary at Serpent Lake, Petition Withdrawn.
- Morrison County Board of Commissioners, Harvey Block – Dog Breeding Facility, Exempt.

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.

- City of Glenwood, Glenwood Marina Project, January 18, 2006 (September 12, 2005)
- Minneapolis City Council, 1010 Park Ave Project, December 23, 2005 (October 24, 2005)
- Minneapolis City Council, DeLaSalle High School Athletic Facility Project, December 23, 2005 (October 24, 2005)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Metropolitan Sewer Board 6901 Diversion Project, January 10, 2006 (October 24, 2005)
- Meeker County, Daniel Fitterer feedlot expansion, January 9, 2006 (October 24, 2005)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Elk River Landfill Internal Combustion Engine D, January 12, 2006 (November 7, 2005)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Barnesville Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion, January 12, 2006 (November 21, 2005)

DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE

UPM/Blandin Thunderhawk

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that describes the anticipated environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the proposal by UPM/Blandin Paper to expand operations at their paper mill in Grand Rapids, Itasca County, Minnesota.

The DNR will accept comments on the Draft EIS during the public review and comment period that concludes at 4:30 PM on Tuesday, March 7, 2006.

Written comments should be submitted to Bill Johnson, NR Program Consultant, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, Division of Ecological Services, Box 25, Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4025. E-mail comments should be directed to thunderhawk@dnr.state.mn.us; e-mails should include a name and legal mailing address.

Following the close of the Draft EIS comment period, the DNR will prepare a Final EIS, which will respond to the substantive comments on the Draft EIS and include revisions to the Draft EIS as necessary.

A public informational meeting will be held on February 21, 2006 beginning at 7:00 PM at the Robert J. Elkington Middle School in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Public comment on the Draft EIS will be taken at this meeting.

Public review copies of the documents are available at the DNR library, 500 Lafayette Road, in St. Paul; at the DNR Regional Office in Grand Rapids, 1201 East Highway 2, at the Grand Rapids Area Library, 140 NE Second Street; at the Duluth Public Library, 144 West Second Street; and at the Environmental Conservation Library, 250 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis. The documents are also posted on DNR's website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/index.html. There are limited hardcopy versions of the Draft EIS available,



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however a Draft EIS Summary may be requested by calling DNR at 651-259-5157; CD-versions of the document are available upon request.

EIS ADEQUACY DECISION

“Sand and Gravel Mining and Accessory Uses” Revised Final Environmental Impact Statement

The Empire Township Board of Supervisors has found the “Sand and Gravel Mining and Accessory Uses” Revised Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) to be adequate and authorized publication of this Notice. The potential environmental effects of mineral extraction relate primarily to traffic, noise, air quality, surface water quality, ground water quality, and disruption of native fauna and flora. The revised FEIS addresses the issues raised in the Scoping Decision and comments submitted on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and FEIS, so that all issues for which information can be reasonably obtained have been analyzed. The FEIS sets forth a general plan to mitigate the effects of mineral extraction, and will be used as a reference guide and requirements in the Township’s mineral extraction permitting procedures. Each new mineral extraction operation located within the EIS study area will require an Interim Use Permit by the Township, through which the specific mitigative measures referenced in the FEIS to lessen negative effects will be addressed. All State and Federal permits and rules and local ordinances regarding mineral extraction operations will be enforced.

NOTICE

New Guidance for Environmental Review Participants

Thanks to the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs and intern April Loeding, the EQB has developed nine guidance documents to help stakeholders better understand their roles in environmental review. They are:

For local government RGUs:

- Reviewing Petitions: A Procedural Guide for Local RGUs
- Preparing EAWs: A Procedural Guide for Local RGUs
- Working with Consultants: A Guide for Local Governments
- Establishing Local Government Policies and Ordinances for EAWs

For citizens interested in environmental review:

- A Citizen’s Guide: An Introduction to Environmental Review
- A Citizen’s Guide: The Petition Process
- A Citizen’s Guide: Commenting on Environmental Review Projects
- A Citizen’s Guide: Environmental Review and Local Government Decision-Making

For project proposers:

- Working with Consultants: A Guide for Project Proposers

These documents go into greater detail and cover topics not addressed in the “ABC’s of the Environmental Review Process” and the “Guide to Minnesota Environmental Review Rules.”



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EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2006

Deadline for Submission	Publication Date	EAW Comment Deadline
December 23, 2005	January 2	February 1
January 9	January 16	February 15
January 23	January 30	March 1
February 6	February 13	March 15
February 17 (Friday)	February 27	March 29
March 6	March 13	April 12
March 20	March 27	April 26
April 3	April 10	May 10
April 17	April 24	May 24
May 1	May 8	June 7
May 15	May 22	June 21
May 26 (Friday)	June 5	July 5
June 12	June 19	July 19
June 26	July 3	August 2
July 10	July 17	August 16
July 24	July 31	August 30
August 7	August 14	September 13
August 21	August 28	September 27
September 1 (Friday)	September 11	October 11
September 18	September 25	October 25
October 2	October 9	November 8
October 16	October 23	November 22
October 30	November 6	December 6
November 13	November 20	December 20
November 27	December 4	January 3, 2007
December 11	December 18	January 17, 2007
December 22 (Friday)	January 1, 2007	January 31, 2007



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300 Centennial, 658 Cedar St.
St. Paul, MN 55155-1388

Phone: 651-201-2480

Fax: 651-296-3698

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