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# EQB MONITOR

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: January 3, 2007

### Project Title: Hurd Swine Facility Expansion

**Description:** Mark and Karen Hurd are proposing to expand an existing 600-animal unit (AU) swine finishing site by constructing a new swine finishing barn with a capacity of 2,000 head (600 AU). The proposed expansion (Project) is located in Section 1 of Chanarambie Township in Murray County. For the purposes of environmental review, the Project consists of two swine finishing barns with identical dimensions of 101 feet by 160 feet, housing a total of 1,200 AU of swine, and two existing open lots and an existing partial confinement barn, with a combined capacity for 49 beef cows (49 AU). The total number of Aus at the facility will be 1,249.

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 Person:

Randy Hukriede, Project Manager  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
Brainerd Office  
7868 College Road, Suite 105  
Baxter, MN 56425  
(218) 828-6076

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: Minnesota Sex Offender Program, Moose Lake Expansion Project**

**Description:** The Minnesota Department of Human Services proposes to expand the existing Minnesota Sex Offender Program (MSOP) facility at Moose Lake from 150 to 950 beds to accommodate current and projected program needs. The project will be completed in two phases of 400 beds each. Phase I construction is scheduled to be completed spring of 2009, and Phase II construction is scheduled to be completed spring of 2010. Overall facility square footage will increase by 365,421 square feet.

**RGU:** Minnesota Department of Administration—State Architect's Office

**Contact:**

Gordon Christofferson  
301 Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar St.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
Phone: (651) 201-2380  
Fax: (651) 296-7650  
[gordon.christofferson@state.mn.us](mailto:gordon.christofferson@state.mn.us)

**Project Title: Shorewood**

**Description:** Shorewood is a proposed 8-lot single-family riparian residential subdivision on 14.2 acres located on Lantern Bay of Woman Lake in Woodrow Township in Cass County, Minnesota. Residents will access the bay through a common access lot. All lots will be served by ISTS and individual wells.

**RGU:** Cass County

**Contact:**

Paul Fairbanks, ESD Planner  
PO Box 3000  
Walker, MN 56484  
Phone: (218) 547-7241  
Fax: (218) 547-7429  
[paul.fairbanks@co.cass.mn.us](mailto:paul.fairbanks@co.cass.mn.us)

**Project Title: At Rest Pet Cremation**

**Description:** Project involves Conditional Use Permit application for a pet crematory entitled At-Rest Pet Cremation, due to relocation of an existing business in Itasca County. An existing 30-foot by 40-foot structure will house the crematory. All MPCA and EPA requirements will be complied with.

**RGU:** Itasca County

**Contact:**

Don Dewey, Environmental Services Administrator  
123 NE 4th St.  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744  
Phone: (218) 327-2857  
Fax: (218) 327-7331  
[don.dewey@co.itasca.mn.us](mailto:don.dewey@co.itasca.mn.us)

**Project Title: The Woods on Lake Maud**

**Description:** The Woods on Lake Maud is a residential development consisting of 16 lots on the west shore of Lake Maud. The lots are either 8,000 or 10,000 sq. ft. in size under a MURD development with 80% of the 20-acre site being common ownership, including the 1,400 ft. of shoreline.

**RGU:** Becker County

**Contact:**

Patricia Johnson, Becker County Zoning Administrator  
835 Lake Ave.  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501  
Phone: (218) 846-7314  
Fax: (218) 846-7266  
[pljohns@co.becker.mn.us](mailto:pljohns@co.becker.mn.us)

**Project Title: High Prairie Wind Farm 161 kV Substation and 161 kV Transmission Line**

**Description:** High Prairie Wind Farm II, LLC is planning to construct and own a new 161 kV substation in the SE 1/4 of Section 10, Clayton Township in Mower County, Minnesota. High Prairie Wind Farm II, LLC also proposes to construct, own and operate an approximately three (3) mile 161 kV transmission line from the new substation in the SE 1/4 of Section 10, Clayton Township to the SE 1/4 of Section 23, Clayton Township. This new facility is part of the High Prairie Wind Farm. These new facilities will facilitate the transmission of electricity to the substation for distribution to the other needed areas.

The Environmental Assessment for the project has been completed and is available for review. See the contact information below to request a copy. The public may e-mail or mail comments on the Environmental Assessment document to Daryl Franklin by December 15, 2006.

**RGU:** Mower County

**Contact Person:**

Daryl W. Franklin, Director  
Mower County Environmental Services  
1105 1/2 8th Ave. NE  
Austin, MN 55912  
Phone: (507) 437-9560  
[darylwf@co.mower.mn.us](mailto:darylwf@co.mower.mn.us)

## AUAR AVAILABLE

**Project Title: December 2005 Updated Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) Excelsior Crossings Office Development—Hopkins, MN**

**Description:** Excelsior Crossings Office Development has an approved May Updated AUAR for 685,000 SF of office space and 6,000 SF of retail space. The developer proposes to change the project by adding approximately 55,000 more office square footage, an increase of eight percent in office space compared to the May Updated AUAR approved earlier this year. The project totals for the December 2006 Update to the May Updated AUAR are 740,000 FT of office and 6,000 SF of retail.

**RGU:** City of Hopkins

**Contact:**

Nancy Anderson, City Planner  
City of Hopkins  
Phone: (952) 548-6342

**Project Title: Prior Lake Aggregates, Inc.**

**Description:** This end-use proposal on 288 acres in southwestern Savage and 194.70 acres in northern Credit River Township includes up to 1,924 residential units, 778,100 square feet of commercial development and 173.7 acres of open space. The sites are currently occupied by a gravel operation and agricultural fields, respectively.

**RGU:** City of Savage

**Contact:**

Barry Stock, City Administrator  
6000 McColl Dr.  
Savage, MN 55378  
Phone: (952) 882-2660  
Fax: (952) 882-2656  
[bstock@ci.savage.mn.us](mailto:bstock@ci.savage.mn.us)

## UPDATED AUAR

### **Project Title: Cobblestone Lake Development**

**Description:** The Cobblestone Lake Development is being constructed on 323 acres in southeastern Apple Valley. It includes up to 3,000 life-cycle residential units, 300,000 square feet of commercial/institutional development, and 36 acres of regional stormwater ponding. As of January 2006, a total of 538 residential units had been built or platted.

**RGU:** City of Apple Valley

#### **Contact Person:**

Tom Lovelace  
City of Apple Valley  
7100 W 147th St.  
Apple Valley, MN 55124  
Phone (952) 953-2572  
Fax (952) 953-2515

## EAW COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED

### **Project Title: Rucker Hog Feedlot expansion**

**Description:** The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is extending the public comment period for the Rucker Hot Feedlot Expansion Environmental Assessment Worksheet until January 3, 2007.

James Rucker is proposing to add a 51-foot by 328-foot, 2,000 head hog finishing barn to his existing 2,000-hot and 221-head dairy operation in Section 9 of Oronoco Township, Olmsted County. The barn will be equipped with a concrete, slatted floor, a curtain sided, naturally ventilated barn, with powered pit ventilation to a biofilter. Manure from the proposed hog barn will be collected in eight-foot deep concrete pits located beneath the barn. The manure will be pumped from the pits once or twice per year and immediately incorporated at agronomic rates into designated cropland as fertilizer.

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 Person:**

Kevin J. Kain, Project Manager  
Environmental Review and Operations Section  
Regional Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road No.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(651) 296-7432

**EAW NEED DECISIONS**

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

- Becker County Board of Commissioners, Wheeler Lake Residential Subdivision, Aaxis Development, Detroit Township, denied.
- St. Louis County Planning Commission, Preliminary Plat of Arthur Lake Shores, denied.

**SUPPLEMENTAL EIS ADEQUACY DECISION**

As the Responsible Government Unit under State of Minnesota environmental review rules, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) has determined that the 2006 Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the St. Croix River Crossing Project is adequate.

As described in Minnesota Rules 4410.2800, subpart 4, a FEIS shall be determined adequate if it:

- A. addresses the potentially significant issues and alternatives raised in scoping so that all significant issues for which information can be reasonably obtained have been analyzed;
- B. provides responses to the substantive comments received during the DEIS review concerning issues raised in scoping; and
- C. was prepared in compliance with the procedures of the act and parts 4410.0200 to 4410.6500.

All conditions specified above have been satisfied. This Adequacy Determination concludes the Minnesota environmental review process. The project may proceed to final design, permitting and construction.

MnDOT does not intend to circulate paper copies of the Adequacy Determination. These items and others, including the Record of Decision issued by the Federal Highway Administration, are available on the project Website at: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/meetro/projects/stcroix/documents.html>. Should any readers not have access to these electronic documents, paper copies may be obtained by contacting:

Todd Clarkowski  
East Area Engineer  
Minnesota Department of Transportation  
1500 West County Road B-2  
Roseville, MN 55113  
(651) 582-1169  
[todd.clarkowski@dot.state.mn.us](mailto:todd.clarkowski@dot.state.mn.us)

Terry Pederson  
NW Region Planning Projects Engineer  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
718 West Clairemont Ave.  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
(715) 836-2857 voice  
(715) 836-2807 fax  
[terry.pederson@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:terry.pederson@dot.state.wi.us)

## 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*.

- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Interchange on Minnesota Trunk Highway 36, November 15, 2006 (May 8, 2006)
- Lime Township Board of Supervisors, Mankato Kasota Stone Quarry #4, November 14, 2006 (August 28, 2006)
- Anoka County, County State Aid Highway 78/Hanson Boulevard Reconstruction Project, November 14, 2006 (July 31, 2006)
- City of Ham Lake, Phase 2 Lennes non-metallic mining project, November 20, 2006 (June 19, 2006)
- City of St. Cloud, Northstar Property development, November 13, 2006 (September 11, 2006)
- City of Jordan, Restoration of Mill Pond, November 6, 2006 (August 14, 2006)
- Grand Rapids City Council, Wal-Mart Super Center, November 13, 2006 (September 25, 2006)
- Scott County Community Development Division, Pheasant Run, November 14, 2006 (August 28, 2006)
- Hennepin County Transportation Department, Hennepin CSAH 1, Hennepin County Project 9618 and 9619, November 27, 2006 (August 14, 2006)

## 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 Red Wing, Harbor View
- City of Afton, Cedar Bluff Homestead project

## NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AVAILABILITY

**In the Matter of the 115 kV Mud Lake to Wilson Lake  
High Voltage Transmission Line Project proposed by Great River Energy  
MPUC Docket Numbers: ET2/TL-06-980 and ET2/CN-06-367**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Great River Energy (GRE) Mud Lake to Wilson Lake 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 and alternatives. Copies the EA and other relevant documents are accessible at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=18665>

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

### ***Project Description***

The proposed Mud Lake to Wilson Lake Transmission project is a new, 12-mile, 115 kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line (HVTL). The project is proposed in Crow Wing County, Minnesota, between Brainerd and Garrison in Oak Lawn, Nokay Lake, and Bay Lake townships.

The proposed route runs parallel along existing transmission lines from the Mud Lake Substation north to Minnesota Trunk Highway 18 then eastward along Highway 18 to the Wilson Lake Substation. The proposal includes a 5-acre expansion of the Wilson Lake Substation.

The EA analyzed a route alternative utilizing all or a portion of the existing 69 kV Oak Lawn to Wilson Lake transmission line right-of-way, and three route segments linking the Mud Lake Substation and the existing 69 kV transmission right-of-way. The segments are:

- A route segment paralleling Butternut Road, Townline Road, and approximately 1 mile cross country from the Mud Lake Substation east approximately 3 miles to the existing Oak Lawn to Wilson Lake 69 kV transmission right-of-way.
- A route segment paralleling Butternut Road east to County Highway 23, north 1 mile to Timber Lane then east to the transmission existing right-of-way.
- A route segment paralleling Butternut Road and Townline Road east to Burgwald Road then north approximately .5 miles to the existing transmission right-of-way.

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

GRE has submitted an Application for a Certificate of Need and an Application for a Route Permit to the PUC. The DOC has been assigned the responsibility to conduct public meetings and environmental review of the proposed transmission lines under the alternative review process found in Minnesota Rules Chapter 4400.

The DOC has prepared an EA analyzing the environmental impacts and alternatives to the proposed transmission project and proposed route. The EA considers issues related both to the need for the project, and issues related to routing.

A public hearing presided over by an Administrative Law Judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings is tentatively scheduled for **Wednesday, December 13, 2006**, at a location near Garrison, MN. 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 Information:** For more information about the process, the project or to place your name on the project mailing list, contact the DOC project manager, Adam Sokolski (Tel: 651-296-2096 or [adam.sokolski@state.mn.us](mailto:adam.sokolski@state.mn.us)) or Deborah Pile (Tel: 651-297-2375 or [deborah.pile@state.mn.us](mailto:deborah.pile@state.mn.us)) Department of Commerce, 85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198. Other contact information: Toll-Free Tel: 1-800-657-3794, Fax: 651-297-7891 or TTY: Minnesota Relay Service, 800-627-3529, and ask for the DOC.

Copies the Environmental Assessment and other relevant documents are accessible at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=18665>

## **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**December 1, 2006**

**In the Matter of the Otter Tail Corporation, d/b/a Otter Tail Power Company, Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, Great River Energy, Heartland Consumers Power District, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (as represented by Missouri River Energy Services) Applications for a Route Permit and a Certificate of Need for the Big Stone Transmission Project in Southwestern Minnesota.**

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Otter Tail Power Company, et al., applied to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on January 9, 2006 for a Route Permit for the Big Stone 230 kV and 345 kV transmission lines project in Southwestern Minnesota. The companies applied to the PUC on September 30, 2005 for a Certificate of Need (CN) for these transmission lines. The lines are proposed to provide Minnesota customers with the output of the Big Stone II large electric power generating plant. The lines are also proposed to improve the reliability of the regional system, given the addition of approximately 600 MW of power to the grid.

An Environmental Report (ER) is required for the CN and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for the Route Application. On November 29, 2005, the PUC issued an Order combining the ER and EIS, determining that the EIS would be prepared in lieu of the ER for the CN application.

The Draft EIS was made available by the Department of Commerce on July 31, 2006. Formal comments on the accuracy and completeness of the Draft EIS were accepted until October 31, 2006. The Final EIS, including comments and responses to comments, is now available from the Department.

See the permitting web site at <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=18215> or “eDockets” at <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> to download an electronic copy of the EIS. Contact David Birkholz at (651) 296-2878 or [david.birkholz@state.mn.us](mailto:david.birkholz@state.mn.us) if you need to receive a copy on CD-ROM.

Following is the 2007 publication schedule for the *EQB Monitor*.

**EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2007**

<b>Deadline for Submission</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>	<b>EAW Comment Deadline</b>
January 8, 2007	January 15, 2007	February 14, 2007
January 22	January 29	February 28
February 5	February 12	March 14
February 16 (Friday)	February 26	March 28
March 6	March 12	April 11
March 19	March 26	April 25
April 2	April 9	May 9
April 16	April 23	May 23
April 30	May 7	June 6
May 14	May 21	June 20
May 25 (Friday)	June 4	July 4
June 11	June 18	July 18
June 25	July 2	August 1
July 9	July 16	August 15
July 23	July 30	August 29
August 6	August 13	September 12
August 20	August 27	September 26
August 31 (Friday)	September 10	October 10
September 17	September 24	October 24
October 1	October 8	November 7
October 15	October 22	November 21
October 29	November 5	December 5
November 9 (Friday)	November 19	December 19
November 26	December 3	January 2, 2008
December 10	December 17	January 16, 2008
December 24	December 31	January 30, 2008