



May 22, 2006



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

Comments due on June 21, 2006

Morrison County Sanitary Landfill

Description: Morrison County is proposing to expand the lined portion of its existing landfill. This will include a 2.5-acre expansion to the west of Phase IV (Cells I, II and III) and a 12.5-acre expansion to the north of the previously proposed Phase IV, Cell V. The preparation of this Environmental Assessment Worksheet was triggered because the additional disposal volume being proposed exceeds 25 percent of the current permitted capacity.

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

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: William Lynott, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN 55155; (651) 296-7794

Southeast Waconia Area Sanitary Sewer Interceptor

Description: The city of Waconia is proposing construction of the Southeast Waconia Area Sanitary Sewer Interceptor, which will connect to the Highway 5 Interceptor located at the intersection of Trunk Highway 5 and County State Aid Highway 30. The project will consist of a lift station, 4,871 feet of 36-inch gravity sanitary sewer pipe, and 1,830 feet of 16-inch sanitary sewer force main and will convey an average daily wastewater flow of 2.98 million gallons per day.

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

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Dana Vanderbosch, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN 55155; (651) 297-1796

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. 3, No. 11

Next issue: June 5, 2006

Submittal deadline: May 26, 2006 (Friday)

Elko-New Market Interceptor – Phase I

Description: The Metropolitan Council is proposing to construct Phase I of the Elko-New Market Interceptor through portions of New Market Township, Eureka Township and Lakeville. The project will consist of the construction of approximately 42,000 feet of gravity interceptor sewer, a new submersible lift station, approximately 3,000 feet of force main, and two meter stations. The project is designed for an ultimate average daily wastewater flow of 7.3 million gallons per day (MGD) and a peak flow of 16.2 MGD.

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

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Barbara Jean Conti, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN 55155; (651) 296-6703

Briard's Hog Farm Project

Description: The proposed project will include two 2,000-head (600 animal units each) swine finishing barns located in Section 24, Ulen Township, Clay County, Minnesota. Both barns will be total confinement, mechanically-ventilated barns. All barns will have an under barn reinforced concrete manure storage tank. Manure will be land applied as fertilizer on an annual basis.

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

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Jim Sullivan, Project Manager, Environmental Planning, Review and Operations Section, Regional Environmental Management Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN 55155; (651) 297-1788

Trunk Highway 149 Reconstruction Project in the Cities of Eagan and Inver Grove Heights

Description: The proposed project involves reconstructing approximately 2.7 miles of TH 149 from Albano Trail in Inver Grove Heights to TH 55 in Eagan, MN. The two-lane rural roadway will be reconstructed to a four-lane, part rural, part urban divided roadway including approaches, storm sewer and ponding. Temporary construction easements and minimal permanent right-of-way will be required.

A public hearing will be held for the project on June 6th at 6:30 in the Council Chambers at the Eagan Municipal Center, located at 3830 Pilot Knob Road.

RGU: City of Eagan

Contact: Russ Matthys, City Engineer, 3830 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan, MN 55122; 651-675-5637; fax: 651-675-5694; e-mail: rmatthys@cityofeagan.com

Reconstruction of Hennepin County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 101 (in city of Plymouth)

Description: The Hennepin County Transportation Department is proposing to reconstruct a segment of CSAH 101 located in the city of Plymouth. The segment extends approximately 1.4 miles from 1400 feet south of CSAH 6, north, to approximately 600 feet south of CSAH 24, in the city of Plymouth. Construction is proposed to begin in the spring of 2008 and be completed in the fall of 2009.

RGU: Hennepin County

Contact: Guy Nowlan, P.E., Senior Design Engineer, 1600 Prairie Drive, Medina, MN 55340; 612-596-0396;
guy.nowlan@co.hennepin.mn.us

The Oaks at Sanctuary's Edge

Description: This project consists of 109 to 115 single-family detached houses on 64 acres of land in Chisago City northeast of the intersection of Stacy Trail and Ivywood Trail.

RGU: City of Chisago City

Contact: Courtney Wiekert, Associate City Planner, 10625 Railroad Avenue, Chisago City, MN 55013; 651-257-4162; cwiekert@ci.chisago.mn.us

Merchants Financial Group Parking Area

Description: The project involves the construction of a 49 space off-street parking area east of the historic district Merchants Bank Building in downtown Winona. Project implementation will be preceded by the demolition of eight 100 year old buildings located in the Third Street Commercial Historic District.

RGU: City of Winona

Contact: Mark Moeller, City Planner, 207 Lafayette Street, Winona, MN 55987; 507-457-8250;
mmeoller@cityhall.luminet.net

The Ridge Residential Development

Description: This 21.33 acre development is proposed in Fairview Township and will include up to 15 units and three six unit storage units totaling 7000 square feet. The development will access County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 77. All proposed lots will be serviced by community water wells and a community septic system.

RGU: Cass County

Contact: Paul Fairbanks, ESO Planner, Cass County Courthouse, P.O. Box 3000, Walker, MN 56484; 218-547-7287

Westrich RV Campground

Description: Westrich LLP Developers are requesting a conditional use permit to have an 84 unit RV campground with 60 garage units (12' by 20'), 84 storage units (lockers), overflow parking and outdoor boar parking, a recreation area, playground area and a storm shelter.

RGU: City of Spicer

Contact: Jim Solheid, Planning and zoning Administrator, P.O. Box 656, Spicer, MN 56288; 320-354-2444;
spicer.jim@tds.net

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT/EAW

8th Street and Pinecone Road

Description: Stearns County is proposing to upgrade approximately 1.45 miles of 8th Street North (CSAH 4) from Trunk Highway (TH) 15 to County Road (CR) 134. In addition, they are proposing to construct approximate 2.0 miles of 6-lane divided arterial in the Pinecone Road corridor from CR 120 to 3rd Street North. The proposed six lane section will transition back to the existing four lane section between CR 134 and Rolling Ridge Road.

RGU: Stearns County

Contact: Mitchell Anderson, County Engineer, 455 28th Avenue South, Waite Park, MN 56387; 320-255-6180

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 Administration, Minnesota Correctional Facility – Faribault Facility Replacement and Expansion Project, May 10, 2006 (March 13, 2006)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Anoka Interceptor #7707 and Lift Station L-42 Improvements Project, April 28, 2006 (February 27, 2006)
- City of Northfield, Bridge Square Mixed Use Development, April 17, 2006 (March 13, 2006)
- City of Otsego, Boulder Creek Preliminary Plat, April 24, 2006 (March 13, 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.

- Rochester/Olmsted Planning, Willow Heights 5th Addition
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, James Rucker feedlot expansion, Oronoco Township, Olmsted County

EAW NEED DECISION

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

- Pope County Board of Commissioners, Gierke Farms, Inc, Exempt

DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE

3 Bays on Vermilion

St. Louis County has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for 3 Bays on Vermilion, a residential subdivision proposed by U.S. Steel Corporation (USS). USS proposes subdivision of up to 170 single family residential lots on approximately 1,400 acres of property on the south shore of Lake Vermilion in the Town of Breitung, approximately two miles east of the City of Tower.

Copies of the EIS have been distributed and are also available for review at the following locations during regular office hours.

- St. Louis County Planning Department (Duluth Office), 100 Messabi Building, 227 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802. Phone: (218) 725-5000
- St. Louis County Planning Department (Virginia Office), Northland Office Center, East Wing, 307 South First Street, Virginia, MN 55792. Phone: (218) 749-7103

- City of Tower, 602 Main Street, Tower, MN 55790. Phone: (218) 753-4070
- Town of Breitung, P.O. Box 56, Soudan, Minnesota 55782. Phone: (218) 753-6020
- Duluth Public Library, 520 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55802
- Virginia Public Library, 215 Fifth Avenue South, Virginia, MN 55792

The EIS will also be available on the St. Louis County website at www.co.st-louis.mn.us

The EIS will be made available for public review for at least 30 calendar days beginning May 22, 2006. Written comments will be accepted for 10 working days after the public meeting or until July 7, 2006. Written comments may be directed to Mr. Scott Smith, Physical Planning Manager, St. Louis County Planning Department, 100 Missabi Building, 227 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802.

St. Louis County Planning Commission will hold a special meeting for the purpose of considering public comment on the Draft EIS. The public meeting will be held at 9:30 am on Thursday, June 22, 2006 at the Biwabik City Hall, 321 Main Street, Biwabik, MN. Verbal and written comments will be accepted at the public hearing.

DRAFT AUAR AVAILABLE

Alternative Urban Areawide Review for Gateway North Industrial Park and Adjacent Residential Development - Otsego, Minnesota

Description: The existing property is 160 acres of predominantly rolling grasslands and cultivated agricultural land, in addition to several small wetlands and brushy wooded areas as shown on Figures 2, 3 and 5. The industrial zone shown in Figure 5 is currently covered by open fields and meadows. Figures 6 and 7 illustrate how the proposed site will be converted to light-industrial, medium-density and low-density residential lots. It will consist of eight industrial-type buildings along the east side of State Trunk Highway 101, and 54 residential lots in the south area. The majority of these lots will be single-family, with the probability of several twin-homes or multi-family buildings being constructed near the proposed water tower.

The full intent of the proposed industrial buildings is unknown at this time. The construction schedule and exact lot layout of residential development is also unknown at this time, and will mostly likely be determined by others.

“Rolling Meadows Development”, as stated in the EAW, was the original name of this proposed subdivision. The current name of this project, however, is “Gateway North Industrial Development.” The residential area, located in the southeast corner of the site, will be an outlot until another developer purchases the land. Construction of the majority of roads and homes in this area will occur during a separate phase. This residential area will be referred to in this document as “adjacent residential development.”

RGU: City of Otsego

Contact: Judy Hudson, City Clerk/Zoning Administrator, 8899 Nashua Avenue NE, Otsego, MN 55330
Phone (763) 441-4414; Email cityhall@ci.otsego.mn.us

NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE: AERIAL APPLICATION OF HERBICIDES

MN Depart of Natural Resources

Division of Forestry

Division of Wildlife

The MN Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry is planning to aerially apply herbicides on state lands. Herbicide applications will occur on approximately 854 acres and involve 29 individual sites. These applications will be used to prepare sites for the planting of trees as well as for the release of planted trees from overtopping and competing vegetation. Aerial application will begin on approximately July 15 and end on approximately September 12, 2006.

Aerial application of herbicides will also occur on Division of Wildlife administered lands in Aitkin County. Approximately 200 acres will be treated involving 1 site. Herbicides are applied to these lands to reduce brush and rejuvenate habitat suitable for open land species such as sharp-tailed grouse, short-eared owls, and various sparrows. Application will be made approximately July 15, 2006.

Administrative Area	# Sites	Acres	Herbicides
Aitkin (Wildlife)	1	200	2,4-D
Baudette	4	92	Accord
Cloquet	4	144	Accord, Oust
Hibbing	4	40	Accord, Oust
Orr	3	108	Accord, Garlon
Tower	6	159	Accord, Garlon, Oust
Two Harbors	7	311	Accord, Oust
TOTALS	29	1054	

For further information regarding this project, contact:

Forestry

Bill Schnell, Forest Management Aerial Program Leader
 MN DNR Forestry
 1201 E. Hwy 2
 Grand Rapids, MN 55744
 218-999-7842

Wildlife

Dave Dickey, Area Wildlife Manager
 MN DNR Wildlife
 P.O. Box 138
 Aitkin, MN 56431
 218-927-6915

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING****High Voltage Transmission Line Route****Cannon Falls Transmission Project Proposed by Xcel Energy****PUC Docket No. E002/TL-06-459**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) will hold a public informational/Environmental Assessment scoping meeting on the HVTL Route permit application submitted to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) by Northern States Power Company's (d/b/a Xcel Energy) concerning the proposed Cannon Falls Transmission Project.

Public Meeting. DOC will conduct public information/scoping meeting in which details concerning the proposed Cannon Falls Transmission Project will be presented and governmental agencies, organizations, and the general public will be afforded an opportunity to ask questions and provide input into the environmental review scoping decision.

The meeting will be held beginning at 7 p.m. at the following location:

Monday, June 5, 2006
Cannon Falls Government Center
Council Chambers
918 River Road
Cannon Falls, MN

The public will also have until Monday, June 12, 2006, to submit written comments to the DOC on the scope of the environmental assessment. Written comments should be mailed to Bill Storm (bill.storm@state.mn.us), Minnesota Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place, Suite 500, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198.

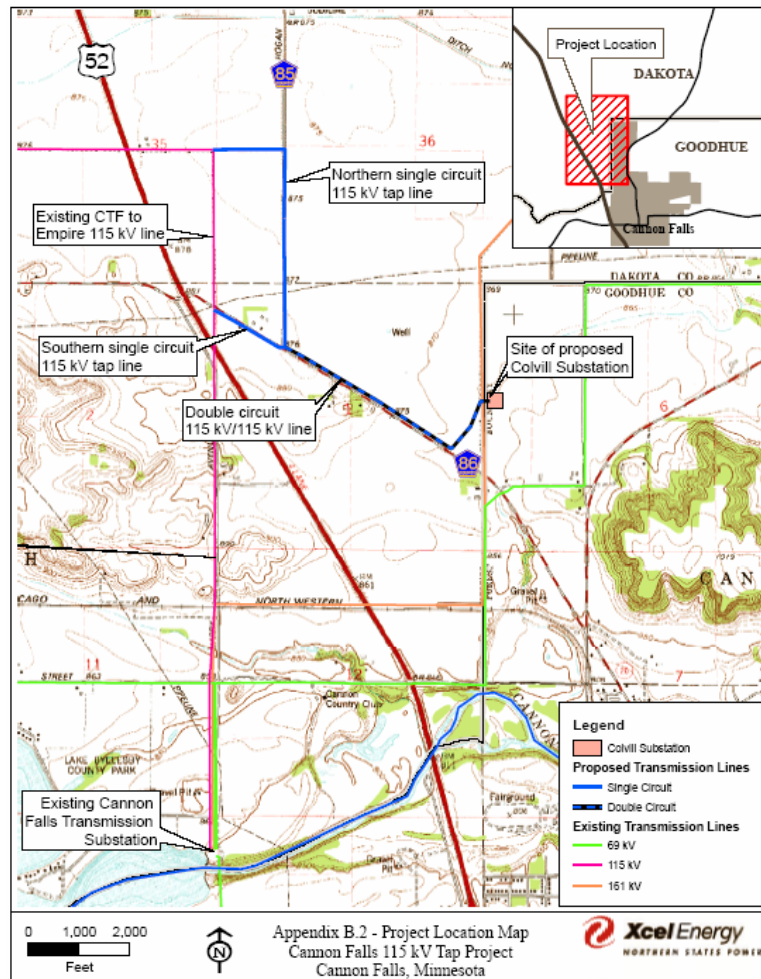
Background. On April 25, 2006, Xcel Energy submitted to the PUC a HVTL Route permit application regarding the proposed Cannon Falls Transmission Project. On May 4, 2006, the PUC accepted the application as substantially complete and notified the applicant in writing of the decision. Copies of the application can be obtained through the DOC Project Manager and maybe viewed at PUC web site (<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=18548>); persons can also register to be added to the project mailing list at this site.

Regulatory Review Process. In accordance with the Power Plant Siting Act a route permit is required before a high voltage transmission line (HVTL) can be constructed. The power plant siting act requirement became law in 1973 in Minnesota Statutes, 116C.51 through 116C.69. The rules to implement the permitting requirement for LEPGP are in Minnesota Rules Chapter 4400.

A HVTL is defined as a conductor of electric energy and associated facilities designed for and capable of operating at a nominal voltage of 100 kilovolts or more either immediately or without significant modification.

The application will be reviewed under the Alternative Review Process (Minnesota Rules 4400.2010) of the Power Plant Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes 116C.51 to 116C.69). Under the Alternative Review Process, an applicant is not required to propose any alternative sites or routes. The Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting Staff prepares a document called an Environmental Assessment, and a public hearing is required but it need not be a contested case hearing. The PUC has six months to reach a decision under the Alternative Process from the time the application is accepted.

Project Description. The project is located in the counties of Goodhue and Dakota. Xcel Energy proposes construction of a 0.98 mile (5,170 ft) double circuit 115 kV/115 kV transmission line, 1.3 miles (6,945 ft) of two single circuit 115 kV transmission lines and the construction of a 161 kV/115 kV substation. The new substation, identified as the Colvill Substation, will be located within the Cannon Falls Energy Center property. The proposed Cannon Falls Transmission Project is required to support the interconnection of the Cannon Falls Energy Center.



Inquiries about this project should be directed to the DOC project manager, Bill Storm (bill.storm@state.mn.us) or the public adviser, Deb Pile (Deborah.Pile@State.mn.us) 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101, telephone 651.296.7502, facsimile 651.297.7891 (TTY relay service 800.627.3529).



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Department of Administration

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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:eqb.monitor@state.mn.us>
