



September 11, 2006



*EQB Monitor*

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

*Comments due on: October 11, 2006*

**Project Title:** Otter Tail Ag Enterprises, LLC

**Description:** Otter Tail Ag Enterprises, LLC, proposes to construct a dry mill ethanol production facility in Otter Tail County, with a maximum capacity of 65 million gallons per year of 200-proof ethanol. The facility will produce 212,220 tons per year of distiller's dried grains with solubles as a co product that would be used as animal feed.

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

**Control Person:**

Kelly Garvey, Project Manager  
Environmental Review and Operations Section  
Regional Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road No.  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
(651) 296-7796

### 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. 19

Next issue: September 25, 2006

Submittal deadline: September 18, 2006

**Project Title:** Bauerly Brothers Gravel Mining/ Stark Mine

**Description:** Bauerly Brothers, Inc., intends to expand gravel mining operations in Section 2 of Haven Township within Sherburne County from 38 acres to 50 acres. Mining activities will occur below the water table, no dewatering will occur. Mining will be conducted across and through property boundaries to an adjacent gravel mine.

**RGU:** Sherburne County zoning

**Contact Person:**

Marc Schneider, Zoning Specialist  
Sherburne County Planning & Zoning Administration  
13880 Hwy. 10  
Elk River, MN 55330  
Phone: (763) 241-2900  
Fax: (763) 241-2910

**Project Title:** Northstar Property

**Description:** The proposed project is a mixed-use development on approximately 92 acres of largely vacant land within the city of St. Cloud in Stearns County. The proposed project includes 45 unattached residential units, 370 attached residential units, approximately 12 acres of commercial development, and more than 30 acres of parkland and open space.

**RGU:** City of St. Cloud

**Contact Person:**

Matt Glaesman  
City Planning Director  
400 2nd St. So.  
St. Cloud, MN 56301  
Phone: (320) 650-3110  
Fax: (320) 255-7238

**Project Title:** Lone Oak Business Campus

**Description:** Construction of 676,000 square feet of office space, including 32,000 square feet of warehouse and 3,106 parking spaces, north of Lone Oak Road at the eastern corporate limit of City of Eagan.

**RGU:** City of Eagan

**Contact Person:**

Michael Ridley, City Planner  
3830 Pilot Knob Road  
Eagan, MN 55122  
Phone: (651) 675-5650  
Fax: (651) 675-5694  
[mridley@cityofeagan.com](mailto:mridley@cityofeagan.com)

**Project Title:** Wisel Creek Trout Stream Habitat Restoration / Improvement Project

**Description:** The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) proposes to improve stream habitat for trout and associated cold-water organisms along 4,375 feet of Wisel Creek in Newburg Township, Fillmore County, Minnesota. The proposed stream channel restoration, including re-alignment, will involve the reconstruction of channel dimensions, pattern, and profile resulting in a more stable stream channel with improved trout habitat.

Written comments on the EAW must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 11, 2006. Electronic or e-mail comments may be sent to [environmental.review@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:environmental.review@dnr.state.mn.us) with "Wisel Creek Trout Stream" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, please include your name and mailing address.

Public review copies of the EAW are available at the following locations:

- DNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155;
- DNR Regional Headquarters, 261 Highway 15 South, New Ulm, Minnesota, 56073;
- DNR Rochester Office, 2300 Silver Creek Road, N.E., Rochester, Minnesota, 55906;
- DNR Lanesboro Area Fisheries Office, 23785 Grossbeak Road Box B, Lanesboro, Minnesota, 55949;
- Rochester Public Library, Reference Department, 101 Second Street, S.E., Rochester, Minnesota, 55904;
- Legislative Reference Library, 645 State Office Building, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155;
- Minneapolis Public Library, Technology and Science, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55401.
- Harmony Public Library, 225 3rd Ave SW, P.O. Box 426, Harmony, Minnesota; and.
- Mabel Public Library, 110 E Newburg, P.O. Box 118, Mabel, Minnesota. 55954.

**RGU:** Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

**Contact Person;**

Dean Paron, EAW Project Manager  
Hinckley DNR Area Office  
PO Box 398  
Hinckley, MN 55037

## DRAFT SCOPING EAW, DRAFT SCOPING DOCUMENT, AND SCOPING MEETING

**Project Title:** New Ulm Municipal Airport

**Project Description:** The New Ulm Municipal Airport is proposing to extend their primary runway and relocate their crosswind runway. A scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) has been completed for review and comment along with a draft scoping document. A government agency scoping meeting will be held to take comments October 5, 2006, at the New Ulm Airport conference room, from 2-4 p.m. A tour of sites around the airport may be undertaken if there is interest among attendees. Written comments may be submitted to:

Steve Koehler, City Engineer  
City of New Ulm  
100 No. Broadway  
New Ulm, MN 56073

The deadline for comment is October 13, 2006. If you have any questions or require additional information, contact Erik Carlson, AICP, at (652) 941-5619.

## DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE

**Project Title:** East Reserve Project

**Description:** 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 Mittal Steel USA - Micorca Mine, Inc. (formerly Ispat Inland Mining) to open the East Reserve; a new open-pit mine area located between the towns of Biwabik and McKinley. The purpose and need for the proposed project is to mine taconite ore from the East Reserve to meet market demands and extend the production life of the Minorca taconite production facility.

The DNR will accept comments on the Draft EIS during the public review and comment period that concludes at **4:30 PM on Thursday, October 26, 2006.**

Written comments should be submitted to Scott Ek, Principal Planner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Ecological Services, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, 500 Lafayette Road, Box 25, St. Paul, MN 55155-4025. Comments may also be e-mailed to [environmental.review@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:environmental.review@dnr.state.mn.us) with "East Reserve" in the subject line. All e-mails should include a name and legal mailing address.

The DNR will hold a public informational meeting for the purpose of considering public comments on the Draft EIS. The public meeting will be held on Thursday, October 12, 2006 beginning at 5:30 pm at the Biwabik City Hall (Pavilion), 100 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Biwabik, Minnesota. Verbal and written comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted at the meeting.

Public review copies of the documents are available at the DNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul; the DNR Regional Office, 1201 East Highway 2, Grand Rapids, the Gilbert Public Library, 17 North Broadway, Gilbert; the Duluth Public Library, 144 West Second Street, Duluth; and the Environmental Conservation Library, 250 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis. The documents are also posted on DNR's website at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/eastreserve/index.html>.

There are limited hardcopy versions of the Draft EIS available, however a Draft EIS Executive Summary may be requested by calling DNR at 651-259-5156. There are also CD-versions of the full document available upon request.

## FINAL EIS AVAILABLE

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

The Final EIS responds to timely substantive comments on the Draft EIS and substantive comments considered by the Township at the July 5, 2006 adequacy hearing, provides information in addition to that contained in the Draft EIS, and corrects errors in the Draft EIS. Together, the Final EIS and Draft EIS comprise the complete EIS, which documents the analysis of potential impacts associated with the mining operation.

The Douglas Township Town Board will accept comments on the Final EIS during the public review and comment period that concludes at 4:30 p.m. on September 19, 2006. The comments must be received by the Township by 4:30 p.m. on September 19, 2006, to be considered timely. The public may submit written comments to Douglas Township, Attn: Ralph Schweich, 11581 240th Street East, Hampton, MN 55031. The comments submitted may not exceed the scope of the comments and issues established and set forth in Township Resolution 1-2006.

Minnesota Rules part 4410-2800, subpart 4 requires that the EIS be found adequate if it:

- a. Includes topics required to be in the EIS or that were in the scoping document and does a reasonable job analyzing the topics
- b. Includes responses to comments on the draft EIS
- c. Followed procedures for providing an opportunity for public comments on the EIS

Copies of the Final EIS and responses to comments are available for public review at the Douglas Township Town Hall, and three libraries serving Douglas Township: Cannon Falls Library, 306 West Mill Street, Cannon Falls, MN; Dakota County Public Library, 1490 So. Frontage Road, Hastings, MN; and Dakota County Public Library, 14955 Galaxie Ave., Apple Valley, MN

The comment period ends on September 19, 2006. Following the close of the Final EIS comment period, the Town Board will determine whether the EIS is adequate and will prepare a record of its decision. A Special Town Board Hearing will be held on September 20, 2006, at the Douglas Township Town Hall, located at the intersections of State Highway 50, State Highway 20, and State Highway 61, from 7:30-9:30 p.m., where the Town Board will determine the adequacy of the Final EIS.

A notice of the Town Board's adequacy decision will be published in the *EQB Monitor*.

## EAW NEED DECISIONS

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

- Itasca County Board of Commissioners, Pet Crematory in Lake Jessie Township, ordered
- Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Lookout Hill, ordered

## 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.

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, New Prague Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade, August 28, 2006 (June 19, 2006)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Whitewater Pollution Control Facility Expansion, August 28, 2006 (June 5, 2006)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Briard's Hog Farm, August 21, 2006 (May 22, 2006)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Citizens' Board, Buffalo Lake Ethanol, LLC, August 22, 2006 (March 27, 2006)
- Farmington City Council, New Farmington High School, August 21, 2006 (July 3, 2006)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Reconstruction of Trunk Hwy. 10, City of Staples, Todd County, August 24, 2006 (February 27, 2006)
- Benton County, DSAH 29/8 Connector Project, August 1, 2006 (June 19, 2006)
- Dilworth City Council, Dilworth Wal-Mart Super Center, August 28, 2006 (July 17, 2006)

## FINAL AUAR ADOPTED

- Otsego City Council meeting, Gateway North Industrial Park (August 7, 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.

- Douglas County, Van Zee Elk Lake Plat

## FEDERAL EA

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the City of Mankato has completed a draft copy of the Mankato Regional Airport Environmental Assessment For Runway 16-33 Expansion. The EA is developed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the guidelines of the FAA.

The Purpose of the proposed project is: to make improvements to the airport runway 15-33 to meet existing and future transportation demands and to meet FAA guidelines and policies. There are deficiencies with Runway 15-33; it needs to be re-strengthened for mid-sized business jet class Raytheon Hawker 700 & 800's and the runway needs to be lengthened so these critical aircraft can land safely.

Runway 15-33 will be expanded an additional 1200 feet to the northwest, to make the runway a total length of 6,600 feet.

Public comment period for the Mankato Regional Airport EA is from September 9, 2006 to October 19, 2006. A public hearing will be held at the regular city council meeting, in Mankato Intergovernmental Center, October 9, 2006. Copies of the EA may be found at the Mankato Regional Airport, Mankato Intergovernmental Center, Region 9 Development Commission Offices, Blue Earth County Library System-Mankato, and on the City of Mankato's Website.

Please direct inquires and comments to:

Thomas Jensen, Federal Aviation Administration, Environmental Specialist, 612-713-4362,

[Tom.jensen@faa.gov](mailto:Tom.jensen@faa.gov) or

Dale E. Maul, Bolton & Menk, Inc., Environmental Specialist, 952-890-0509, [dalema@bolton-menk.com](mailto:dalema@bolton-menk.com)

## 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 52-34. Additional wetlands connected to the lake may also be treated. Protected Water's Inventory numbers for these wetlands are 52-35, 52-37 and 52-40. No rare species are known to be present in these wetlands. This project will involve the application of rotenone, a federally and state registered pesticide to eliminate less desirable fish species. This project is being done to control carp in Swan Lake, which is connected at times by water to these additional basins. Project goals include treating the undesirable fish species, carp, to prevent this fish from re-infesting Swan Lake and degrading wildlife habitat. Other fish present that will be impacted by the treatment are bullheads, green sunfish and fathead minnows.

Swan Lake will be drawn down prior to the chemical treatment to reduce the amount of chemical required. These wetlands will not be treated if they contain no water at the time of treatment. A winterkill of carp through a drawdown failed last winter due to mild weather in which carp survived therefore additional control measures are needed. 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.

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.

### **Public Meeting Notice Minnesota Forest Resources Council Biomass Guideline Committee**

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) biomass Guideline Committee will meet on Thursday, September 21, 1006, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the University of

Minnesota's Cloquet Forestry Center, located at 175 University Road in Cloquet. To get additional details about the meeting, contact Dick Rossman at (218) 755-4062.

**Public Meeting Notice**  
**Minnesota Forest Resources Council**  
**Northern Regional Landscape Committee**

The Northern Regional Landscape Committee of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet on Wednesday, September 13, 2006, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in International Falls at the Holiday Inn. For more information, please contact Lindberg Ekola at (320) 256-8300 or go to the calendar on the MRFC Web site at <http://www.frc.state.mn.us>.

## **CORRECTION**

The following is a correction to the October 13, 2005, Final Scoping Document issued for the proposed Minnesota Steel Industries, LLC taconite mine, concentrator, pellet plant, Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) plant, and steel mill project. The Patrick "B" Tailings Basin diversion is identified as a discussion topic on page seven of the final scoping document. This is an error, as there is no Patrick "B" Tailings diversion associated with this project and therefore will not be discussed in the Environmental Impact Statement.

If you have any questions, contact Scott Ek, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources at 651-259-5156 or [scott.ed@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ed@dnr.state.mn.us).



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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>