REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

Proposed Amendments to Rules Governing the Environmental Review Program, *Minnesota Rules*, chapter 4410

Subject of Rules. The Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) is considering four minor amendments to the Environmental Review Program rules which it intends to add to the group of amendments for which a Request for Comments was published in the State Register on August 7, 2006. This group of amendments has been termed the "Phase 2" amendments of the Environmental Review program. These are the rules under which Environmental Assessment Worksheets (EAWs), Environmental Impact Statements (EISs), and other environmental review documents are prepared.

The EQB has recently identified four errors in the chapter 4410 rules that have not yet been addressed. The errors occur in the following four rule provisions: 4410.0400, subpart 4; 4410.1000, subpart 5; 4410.1700, subpart 5; and 4410.4600, subpart 7. The proposed corrections are explained in the document described under "Rule Drafts" below.

Persons Affected. The proposed amendments may specifically affect project developers, local units of government and state agencies, citizens groups, and environmental groups. However, changes to the rules governing the Environmental Review Program may directly or indirectly affect all citizens of the state. The four changes covered by this notice would have very little if any effect, however, other than to reduce uncertainties or confusion about the interpretation of the rules.

Statutory Authority. *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 116D.04 & 116D.045, establish the Environmental Review Program and authorize the EQB to adopt administrative rules governing its operation.

Public Comment. Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on possible rule amendments in writing or orally until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, June 23, 2008.

Rule Drafts. A description of the amendments being considered by EQB is available at the EQB website, www.eqb.state.mn.us, and from the EQB contact person noted below.

Agency Contact Person. Written or oral comments, questions, requests to be appointed to an advisory group, requests to receive the preliminary draft of the proposed amendments, or requests for more information on these possible amendments to rules should be directed to:

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Fax: 651/296-3698
E-mail: gregg.downing@state.mn.us
TTY users may call the Board at 800/627-3529.

Alternative Format. Upon request, this Request for Comments can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, Braille, or cassette tape. To make such a request, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

Note: Comments received in response to this notice will not necessarily be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the administrative law judge when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The agency is required to submit to the judge only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are proposed. If you submitted comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the administrative law judge reviews the comments, you should resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

Dated: May 15, 2008

Jonathan Bloomberg, Vice-Chair
Environmental Quality Board