



November 7, 2005



## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

*Comments due on December 7, 2005*

### CORRECTION

The extension of the comment period for Red Path Heifer LLP in the previous Monitor was incorrectly identified as a Scoping EAW. This EAW is a feedlot EAW and not for purposes of scoping.

### **Tyler Hill Residential Development**

Description: This proposed single family residential development (Common Interest Community) consists of the development of 62 lots and associated street system within approximately 60 acres in Bemidji Township, Beltrami County, Minnesota. The project site is located approximately .5 miles east of Bemidji with the current land use predominantly comprised of inactive agricultural fields.

Copies of the EAW are available for review from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Freeberg & Grund, Inc., 208 Fourth Street NW, Bemidji, MN and the Bemidji Public Library beginning October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005.

RGU: Bemidji Township

Contact: Mr. Mel Milender, Township Zoning Administrator, 148 Carr Lake Rd SE, Bemidji, MN 56601

### **Plainview – Elgin Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements**

Description: The Plainview-Elgin Sanitary District proposes to increase its wastewater treatment facility's capacity (Project) to an average wet weather flow of 2.67 million gallons per day (MGD) from the currently permitted level of 1.521 MGD. The purpose of the Project is to meet new discharge requirements and future hydraulic and organic loading projections from population and industrial growth. An annual average phosphorus limit of 1 mg/L will be imposed on the expanded discharge.

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

### **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. 29, No. 23

Next issue: November 21, 2005

Submittal deadline: November 14, 2005

**Heartland Corn Products Facility Expansion**

Description: Heartland Corn Products is proposing to expand (Project) their existing dry-mill ethanol production facility located near Winthrop, Minnesota in Sibley County. The proposed Project would increase production of 200-proof ethanol from 36.4 million gallons per year to 99 million gallons per year. In addition to the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's draft Air Emissions Permit will also be available for public comment concurrently. The contact person for the Air Emission Permit is Elisabeth Freymiller at 651-296-9287.

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: Dana Vanderbosch, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, 520 Lafayette Road N, St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-297-1796

**Exetare Partnership, LLP. Wood View Sow Site Project**

Description: Exetare Partnership, LLP, is proposing a gestation and farrowing sow site with a maximum physical capacity of 5,520 breeding swine or a total of 2,208 animal units (AU) (Project). The Project is located in section 26, Woods Township, Chippewa County and will consist of three total confinement, power ventilated barns. Manure will be stored in concrete manure storage pits beneath the barns. The concrete pits are designed for one year of manure storage. Manure will be land applied in the fall of the year and will be injected beneath the soil. A total of 2,835 tillable acres are available for land application purposes.

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: Jim Sullivan, Project Manager, Operations and Environmental Review Section, Regional Environmental Management Division, 520 Lafayette Road N, St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-297-1788

**Elk River Landfill Internal Combustion Engine D**

Description: Elk River Landfill, in conjunction with Elk River Municipal Utilities (ERMU), proposes to expand a Landfill Gas-to-Energy plant by adding a fourth internal combustion engine (ICE) generator set. The plant currently uses landfill gas to fuel three ICE generator sets and produce electricity that is distributed by ERMU. The ICE generator set would be installed within the footprint of the LFG-to-Energy building, located on-site of the Landfill. The draft Air Emission Permit will also be available for public comment concurrently. The contact person for the Air Emission Permit is John Chikkala at 651-296-9711. Comments will be accepted on the EAW and on the Air Emissions Permit until December 9, 2005.

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: Debra Moynihan, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, 520 Lafayette Road N, St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-296-8420

**North Central Business District (NCBD) Redevelopment Project**

Description: The proposed redevelopment of the NCBD in Anoka will enable the City to reclaim a valuable and underutilized area adjacent to Main Street and the Central Business District for a unique and diverse mix of new residential and commercial opportunities as well as providing improved public open space and access along the Rum River.

Copies of the EAW are being distributed to those agencies on the current MnEQB EAW Distribution list and others with interest in the proposed project.

To afford an opportunity for all interested parties, agencies, groups to comment on the proposed project, the City of Anoka will be hosting a public informational meeting on December 6, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall (2015 First Avenue).

RGU: City of Anoka

Contact: Carolyn Braun, AICP, Planning Director, 2015 First Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303; 763-576-2722; fax: 763-576-2713; email: [cbraun@ci.anoka.mn.us](mailto:cbraun@ci.anoka.mn.us)

### **Lake County CSAH 2 Reconstruction**

Description: The Lake County Highway Department is reconstructing County State Aidan Highway (CSAH) 2 between CSAH 14 and Forest Highway 11 on existing alignment to address substandard lane and shoulder widths, substandard road base, substandard drainage, and deficient culverts at four river crossings. The improved roadway will provide for safer and more reliable movement of people, goods and services in both motorized and non-motorized travel modes.

A combination federal Environmental Assessment and state Environmental Assessment Worksheet document has been completed for the project. Copies of the document are available at the following locations:

- Lake County Highway Department – 1513 Highway 2, Two Harbors, MN 55616; 218-834-8380
- Two Harbors Public Library – 320 Waterfront Drive, Two Harbors, MN 55616; 218-834-3148

A public hearing on the Lake County CSAH 2 Reconstructions project will be held at the following date, time, and location:

Tuesday, November 29, 2005  
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
Lake County Courthouse – Law Enforcement Center Meeting Room  
601 Third Avenue  
Two Harbors, MN 55616  
218-834-8300

No formal presentation is planned; County and consultant staff will be available to answer questions about the project. Citizens will be provided the opportunity to make an official statement regarding the project for the public record.

RGU: Lake County

Contact: Mr. Alan Goodman, P.E., Lake County Engineer, 1513 Highway 2, Two Harbors, MN 55616; 218-834-8380; email: [al.goodman@co.lake.mn.us](mailto:al.goodman@co.lake.mn.us)

## **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.

Two Harbors Wilderness Acres, Saint Louis County

## **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.

Brush Lake Estates Residential Development, Becker County Board of Commissioners, October 25, 2005 (May 9, 2005)

City of Lakes Condominium Project, City of Minneapolis City Council, September 23, 2005 (August 1, 2005)

Three Lakes Development, Madison Lake City Council, October 17, 2005 (September 12, 2005)

Woodland Meadows, Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners, October 25, 2005 (August 15, 2005)

New Fashion Pork, Engelkes Site, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, October 26, 2005 (August 29, 2005)

Elford-Fullerton Sanitary Relief Sewer Installation, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, October 13, 2005 (August 1, 2005)

New Fashion Pork, Fransen Site, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, October 21, 2005 (August 29, 2005)

East Dublin Dairy, LLP, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, October 25, 2005 (August 15, 2005)

Stone Gate of St. Cloud Residential and Commercial Development, St. Cloud City Council, October 24, 2005 (August 29, 2005)

## FINAL AUAR ADOPTED

The City of Lino Lakes adopted the I-35E Corridor Final AUAR and Mitigation Plan on October 24, 2005. The AUAR process proactively involved an AUAR Advisory Panel consisting of representatives from the City's citizen advisory boards, landowners and other stakeholders as well as involving the commenting agencies early and often during the process. The Final AUAR and Mitigation Plan furthers the city's goal of balancing development with natural resource conservation. A core element of the Mitigation Plan is a Conservation Design Framework that will be applied to all development within the AUAR area. The Final AUAR and Mitigation Plan is posted on the city's website: <http://www.ci.lino-lakes.mn.us>.

Contact: Jeff Smyser, Lino Lakes City Planner; 651-982-2425; email: [jmyser@ci.lino-lakes.mn.us](mailto:jmyser@ci.lino-lakes.mn.us)

## EIS PREPARATION NOTICE

Ispat Inland Mining, East Reserve Project

St. Louis County, Minnesota

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the East River Reserve project; a new open-pit mine area proposed by Ispat Inland Mining, located between the towns of Biwabik and McKinley in St. Louis County, Minnesota

The DNR distributed a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document on June 27, 2005, to all agencies listed on the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) distribution list and all interested parties. Availability of the Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document were noticed in the July 4, 2005 (Vol. 29, No. 14) *EQB Monitor*. The DNR held a public scoping meeting in Biwabik, Minnesota, and accepted comments during a 30-day public comment period concluding on August 3, 2005.

The DNR considered comments on the proposed scope, made revisions to the Draft Scoping Decision Document, and issued a Final Scoping Decision Document on August 24, 2005. The Scoping Decision identifies those project alternatives and issues that will be addressed in the EIS and presents a tentative schedule for EIS completion.

**Summary of Scoping Decision.** The EIS will address the following issues: geologic hazards and soil conditions; erosion and sedimentation; solid wastes and hazardous wastes; noise and dust; impacts on infrastructure and public services; stockpile design and in-pit stockpiling; fish, wildlife, ecologically sensitive resources; physical impacts on water resources; water use; water quality: surface water runoff and wastewaters; socioeconomic effects; and cumulative impacts: wildlife habitat loss/fragmentation and travel corridor obstruction, and increased flow/volume and water quality in unnamed streams and the Embarrass River. A more detailed description of each of these major areas can be found in the Final Scoping Decision Document. A copy of the Final Scoping Decision Document is posted on the DNR website, at the following: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/eastreserve/index.html>

The EIS will evaluate the following alternatives:

**Proposed Alternative.** As proposed, the project will include a new open-pit mine known as the East Reserve. The East Reserve is located between the towns of McKinley and Biwabik and is approximately six miles southeast of the existing Minorca taconite processing facility. The proposed project includes the East Reserve mining area that will be developed using two separate pits; an overburden, waste rock, and lean taconite stockpile area located north of the mine pits; and a new haul road extension from the existing Laurentian Mine haul Road. Developing the East Reserve would extend the life of Ispat Inland Mining's existing Minorca ore processing facility through the year 2024.

**No Action Alternative.** The EIS will describe the expected condition if the proposed project is not developed.

**Modified Designs or Layouts.** The EIS will evaluate the following modified design or layout alternatives to the proposed East Reserve project:

In-Pit Stockpiling – Evaluate the feasibility of stockpiling lean ore, waste rock, and surface overburden in the mined-out pits.

Dewatering Routes – Evaluation of three alternative mine pit dewatering routes.

**Incorporation of Mitigation Measures.** The EIS will consider the mitigations suggested through public comment.

**EIS Schedule.** The tentative EIS schedule includes Draft EIS publication in March 2006, Final EIS publication in June 2006, and determination of EIS adequacy in July 2006.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contact: Scott Ek, Principal Planner, Environmental Policy and Review, 500 Lafayette Road, Box 25, St. Paul, MN 55155-4025; 651-296-8396; email: [scott.ek@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:scott.ek@dnr.state.mn.us)

## NOTICE

### Notifications of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms

File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
06-NO-003	Syngenta	Wheat	Disease Resistance	Goodhue

For more information contact Mary Hanks, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 90 W Plato Blvd, St. Paul, MN 55107; 651-296-1277; email: [mary.hanks@state.mn.us](mailto:mary.hanks@state.mn.us)





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Vol. 29 No. 4

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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>

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