



December 19, 2005



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

Comments due on January 18, 2006

Riverbats Stadium Development

Description: This 31.4-acre Riverbats Stadium development is proposed immediately south of CSAH 75 and east of 88th Avenue in the City of St. Joseph. The development will include the construction of a 3,400 seat baseball stadium and approximately 260,000 square feet of associated commercial/retail development.

RGU: City of St. Joseph

Contact: Judy Weyrens, City Administrator, 25 North College Avenue, St. Joseph, MN 56374; 320-363-7201; fax: 320-363-0342

Woodbury Northeast Regional Lift Station L-77 and Lake Elmo East Connection

Description: The Metropolitan Council proposes to construct the Woodbury Northeast Regional Lift Station L-77 (Lift Station L-77) and Lake Elmo East Connection along Cottage Grove Drive/Lake Elmo Avenue in Washington County. The project includes a sanitary sewer lift station in Woodbury and 3,000-4,000 feet of gravity flow interceptor pipe to Lake Elmo. The average daily flow pumped by Lift Station L-77 would be 5.1 million gallons per day (mgd). The ultimate peak flow capacity of Lift Station L-77 would be 11.7 mgd. Wastewater would ultimately be treated at the Eagle Point Wastewater Treatment Plant in Cottage Grove.

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: Eric J. Kilberg, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, 520 Lafayette Road N, St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-296-8643

The Rushes

Description: The Rushes project is proposed to include residential and commercial development on approximately 130.6 acres of land in the City of Blaine, Minnesota. The design includes construction of 189 single family lots, 158 courtyard townhomes, 30,000 square feet of commercial development, and open space

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/>

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Next issue: January 2, 2006

Submission deadline: December 23, 2005



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including wetland, woodland, parkland, and a trail system.

RGU: City of Blaine

Contact: Bryan Schafer, Planning and Community Development Director, 10801 Town Square Drive NE, Blaine, MN 55449; (763) 785-6144, fax (763) 717-2634

Echo Residential Development

Description: The Echo residential development is proposed on 187.8 acres in the northwestern portion of Watertown. Construction is proposed for 425 single-family homes with public and private open space, parks and trails, wetland, stormwater ponds, woodland, and grassland. An existing farmstead will be preserved and utilized as a community center.

RGU: City of Watertown

Contact: Mr. Jeremy Barnhart, Community Development Director, 309 Lewis Avenue South, P.O. Box 279, Watertown, MN 55388; (952) 955-2688, (952) 955-2695

Grove at Spring Creek Residential Development

Description: Development of a 45.1-acre site located on the south side of TH 212, City of Carver, Carver County, Minnesota. The project is a residential development, including construction of 124 single-family homes, recreational park area, sidewalks and trail, wetland restoration/mitigation, residential roads and public utilities.

RGU: City of Carver

Contact: Cindy Olness, Collaborative Planning, LLC, City Planner, 17215 33rd Avenue North, Plymouth, MN 55447; 763-473-0569; fax: 763-473-0659

COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED

Spruce Ridge Resource Management Facility North Development Area

Description: The Minnesota Pollution Agency is extending the public comment period for the Spruce Ridge Resource Management Facility North Development Area Environmental Assessment Worksheet through January 11, 2006.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Kevin J. Kain, Project Manager, Environment Review and Operation Section Regional Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN 55155; (651) 296-7432

DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE

Aggregate Industries Rollag Area Sand and Gravel Mine Expansion

Becker County has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for proposed expansion of an existing sand and gravel mining operation. Aggregate Industries proposes to expand its existing "Rollag" mine onto approximately 1,722 acres of land located in Cormorant Township, Becker County; Parke Township, Clay County and Scambler Township, Otter Tail County. The proposed expansion would take place over approximately 30 years.



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Copies of the Draft EIS are available for review during regular business hours at:

Becker County Zoning Office, 835 Lake Ave., Detroit Lakes, MN 56502
Detroit Lakes Public Library, 1000 Washington Ave., Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
Fergus Falls Public Library, 205 E. Hampden, Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Scambler Town Hall, Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
Clay County Planning Office, 807 11th St. N., Moorhead, MN 56560

The Draft EIS is also available online at www.co.becker.mn.us

REVISED FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Empire Township Board of Supervisors has found the “Sand and Gravel Mining and Accessory Uses” Revised Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) to be complete and authorized publication of this Notice of Availability and distribution of the Board Decision and Comments and Responses on the revised FEIS. The comment period on the revised FEIS shall expire on January 4, 2006

Contact: Dean R. Johnson, Empire Township Planner, Resource Strategies Corporation, 14001 Ridgedale Drive, Suite 300, Minnetonka, MN 55305; 952-513-9548; fax: 952-513-9549

PETITION 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 Mahtomedi, Wildwood Village project

EAW NEED DECISION

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

- Douglas County Board of Commissioners, County Road 42 Project, Denied.

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.

- Department of Corrections, Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF) – Stillwater, December 12, 2005 (October 24, 2005)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Citizens’ Board, Northshore Mining Company – Furnace 5 Reactivation Project, November 22, 2005 (May 23, 2005)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Lift Station L-11 Improvements Project, December 2, 2005 (October 10, 2005)
- Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners, The Preserve at Echo Bay, November 29, 2005 (September 12, 2005)
- Prior Lake City Council, Shepherd’s Path, November 21, 2005 (September 26, 2005)



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- Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers, Highway 26 Wetland Restoration, City of Minnetrista, Hennepin County, November 29, 2005 (October 10, 2005)

EIS ADEQUACY DECISION

U.S. Steel – Minntac Water Inventory Reduction Project

On November 22, 2005, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Citizens’ Board voted to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order for the adequacy decision on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed U.S. Steel – Minnetac Water Inventory Reduction Project, St. Louis County. The MPCA has determined that the U.S. Steel – Minntac Water Inventory Reduction Project EIS is adequate.

We appreciate the time and effort of those who submitted comments on the Draft EIS. Your input helped to clarify the final documents and will be helpful in drafting permits for the project’s construction and operation.

NOTICES

Public Meeting Notice – Minnesota Forest Resources Council

The Riparian Science Technical Committee of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet on January 12-13, 2006 at the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth located at 5013 Miller Trunk Highway.

For more information please contact Jenna Fletcher at 651-603-0109 or go to the calendar on the MFRC website at <http://www.frc.state.mn.us>.

Public Meeting Notice – Minnesota Forest Resources Council

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet on Wednesday, January 18, 2006 from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. in St. Paul, MN.

For more information please contact Jenna Fletcher at 651-603-0109 or go to the calendar on the MFRC website at <http://www.frc.state.mn.us>.

Reclamation Project Planned for Lake – DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife is planning one walleye rearing pond reclamation project this winter. The project involves the application of rotenone, a federal and state registered pesticide. Erickson Lake is proposed to be treated for the purpose of removing existing bullhead and other unwanted fish populations. This alteration will allow the pond to be used for raising walleye fingerlings, which will later be stocked into local fishing lakes. Rotenone will be used with a target concentration of 3.5 ppm.

Lake Name	County	Township	Range	Section
Erickson Lake (DOW 47-033)	Meeker	119N	29W	27, 28



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For general information about these projects, contact Mike Halvorson, Fisheries Acquisition and Development Consultant, Box 12, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155.

Notice of Sale of State Metallic Minerals Leases

Notice is hereby given that a sale of leases to explore for, mine and remove metallic minerals in trust fund lands, lands and minerals forfeited for non-payment of taxes, lands and minerals otherwise acquired, and other state-owned land under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Natural Resources, and located in portions of Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods and Saint Louis Counties, is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. The sale will take place in the East-West Conference Room located on the 4th floor of the DNR Central Office Building, 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota.

The Commissioner of Natural Resources will receive sealed bids and applications for leases covering minerals in state lands, in accordance with Minnesota Rules, parts 6125.0100 through 6125.0700, which are the metallic minerals rules issued under the authority of Minnesota Statutes.

Each bid must be submitted on a form obtained from the Commissioner. Each bid form must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or bank money order, payable to the Department of Natural Resources in the sum of the following amounts: a) an application fee of \$100.00 for each mining unit bid upon; and b) rental for one full calendar year for each mining unit bid upon. All bids must be received by the Commissioner at the office of the Division of Lands and Minerals, Fourth Floor, DNR Building, 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-4045, before 4:30 p.m. of Monday, January 23, 2006.

On Tuesday, January 24, 2006, at the time specified, the Commissioner or his representative will publicly open the bids and announce the amount of each bid separately. At a subsequent time leases will be awarded by the Commissioner, with the approval of the State Executive Council, to the highest bidder for the respective mining units, but no bids will be accepted that do not equal or exceed the base royalty rates set forth in the rules or that do not comply with all provisions of the rules. The right is reserved to the State, through the Executive Council, to reject any or all bids.

The purpose of Minnesota's metallic minerals rules is to promote and regulate the prospecting for, mining and removal of metallic minerals on state-owned and state-administered lands. These rules, and the leases issued under the rules, authorize exploration and development of these minerals and impose certain requirements on the lessee. The requirements include: the payment of minimum rentals which increase with the passage of time, the payment of royalty for all ore mined and removed, the submission of data and other reports, and the submission of exploration plans. In addition, the state lessee must comply with all applicable regulatory laws. No land or water areas within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness or Voyageurs National Park are included in this or any state mineral lease sale.

After the conclusion of the sale, the Commissioner shall request each high bidder to provide evidence the bidder is qualified to hold state mineral leases pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 6125.0410. The rules state that a lease will only be issued to an applicant qualified to do business in Minnesota and qualified to conduct exploratory borings in Minnesota. In addition, the Commissioner may request evidence that the lease applicant is technically and financially capable of performing under the terms of a state mineral lease. The requested evidence must be provided within 45 days of the request from the Commissioner or the bids from that high bidder will be rejected.

Upon the award of a lease, the application fee submitted with the bid will be deposited as a fee for the lease. All bids not accepted will become void, and the application fee and rental payment accompanying such bids will be returned to the respective bidders; provided, however, the application fee and rental payment accompanying a bid shall not be returned if the bidder was the high bidder and subsequently withdrew the bid prior to the awarding of a lease.

Bid forms, instructions on how bids are to be submitted, copies of the rules (Minnesota Rules, parts 6125.0100 through 6125.0700) and copies of the Mining Unit Book, listing the land areas designated by the Commissioner as mining units, may be obtained from the



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Transactions Section, Division of Lands and Minerals, DNR Building, 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-4045. E-mail inquiries may be sent to kathy.lewis@dnr.state.mn.us.

The Mining Unit Book will be available at least thirty days prior to January 24, 2006. Application for each copy of the Mining Unit Book must be accompanied by a check or money order payable to the Department of Natural Resources in the sum of \$28.00 as a fee for such Mining Unit Book plus shipping and applicable State of Minnesota Sales Tax. Unit books will also be available for inspection at the Hibbing and Saint Paul offices of the Division of Lands and Minerals, and on the internet through the DNR website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/lands_minerals.

MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decisions on Great River Energy's Cambridge Station Project: Environmental Assessment Adequacy; Site Designation and Site Permit.

At a meeting on November 10, 2005, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) determined that the Environmental Assessment for the GRE Cambridge Station Project was adequate. The Commission also designated a site and issued a Site Permit for the proposed large electric power generating plant (LEPGP). The site is located in Township 36 north, Range 23 west, Section 21 in Isanti County, Minnesota.

On November 28, 2005, the Commission issued an Order adopting the ALJ's report, as amended and granting GRE a Site Permit to construct a large electric power generating plant.

GRE proposes to construct a 170 MW, natural-gas fired, simple cycle combustion turbine generator at its existing peaking plant site near Cambridge in Isanti County, Minnesota. The proposed facility will be located on a current generating site, approximately 13 acres in size, owned by GRE. The site currently has a 25 MW, fuel-oil fired, combustion turbine generator and associated substation.

If you have any questions about this project or would like more information, please contact the Department of Commerce project manager: Bill Storm, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-296-9535; e-mail: bill.storm@state.mn.us

**** Publication Calendar for 2006 Monitor on following page.**



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EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2006

Deadline for Submission	Publication Date	EAW Comment Deadline
December 23, 2005	January 2	February 1
January 9	January 16	February 15
January 23	January 30	March 1
February 6	February 13	March 15
February 17 (Friday)	February 27	March 29
March 6	March 13	April 12
March 20	March 27	April 26
April 3	April 10	May 10
April 17	April 24	May 24
May 1	May 8	June 7
May 15	May 22	June 21
May 26 (Friday)	June 5	July 5
June 12	June 19	July 19
June 26	July 3	August 2
July 10	July 17	August 16
July 24	July 31	August 30
August 7	August 14	September 13
August 21	August 28	September 27
September 1 (Friday)	September 11	October 11
September 18	September 25	October 25
October 2	October 9	November 8
October 16	October 23	November 22
October 30	November 6	December 6
November 13	November 20	December 20
November 27	December 4	January 3, 2007
December 11	December 18	January 17, 2007
December 22 (Friday)	January 1, 2007	January 31, 2007



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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>
