



June 6, 2005

EQB Monitor

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

Comments due on July 6, 2005

Heritage Village

Description: The Heritage Village project is located on approximately 200 acres of land in the eastern portion of the City of Princeton. The project consists of the construction of 519 residential units, of which 409 are single-family unattached units and 110 are attached townhome units. The site contains agricultural uses, wetland and wooded acres.

RGU: City of Princeton

Contact: Mark Karnowski, City Administrator, 705 Second Street No., Princeton, Minnesota 55371; 763-389-2040, Fax: 763-389-0993, Email: mark@princeton.org.

WBAN Subdivision

Description: A 40-acre residential development is proposed for an area southeast of the city of Austin in Austin Township, Mower County, Minnesota. The development will consist of 10 single-family residences on lots averaging 3.2

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 also posted on the Environmental Quality Board home page at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/>

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Submittal deadline: June 13, 2005

acres in size. Residences will be connected to one shared well and individual septic systems.

RGU: Mower County

Contact: Daryl Franklin, Planning and Zoning Director, 201 First Street, No., Austin, Minnesota 55912; 507-437-9527, Fax: 507-437-9471, Email: darylf@co.mower.mn.us.

Rum River Crossing

Description: Rum River Crossing is a proposed residential subdivision and development of 103 lots on approximately 41.7 acres on the west side of the City of Milaca, Minnesota. The project site is located northeasterly of Mille Lacs County Highway 112, one-half mile north of Minnesota Trunk Highway 23. Municipal sanitary sewer and municipal watermain will be extended to serve the proposed development. Stormwater management systems will be constructed with the development.

RGU City of Milaca

Contact: Greg Lerud, City Manager, 255 First Street East, Milaca, Minnesota 56353; 320-983-3141, Fax: 320-983-3142, Email: glerud@milacacity.co.

Snake River Estates

Description: The Snake River project, located in parts of Section 35 and 36 of Becker Township, Sherburne County, is a 59 lot, single-family residential development on approximately 218.91+/- acre site. Individual wells and septic systems will be required on each lot (minimum lot size of 2.5 acres). The development will involve the construction of approximately 12, 300 lineal feet of road.

There is a parcel of property (approximately 19.09 acres) located within the proposed plat that is not being platted at this time. The property is labeled as the "exception property" on the plat. The current owner of the exception property does not wish to sell the property at this time. The current owner has indicated that they



may want to sell the property at a later date. The exception property is being "ghost platted" and will contain 7 additional lots. The total number of lots including the exception area will be 66. The total plat area including the exception property will be 238 acres.

RGU: Sherburne County

Contact: Jon Sevald, County Planner, 13880 Highway 10, Elk River, Minnesota 55330; 763-241-2933, Fax: 763-241-2910.

Pulte Homes Sommerset Station Subdivision

Description: The proposed Pulte Homes Sommerset Station development includes approximately 190 acres north of US Highway 10 on the west side of the City of Ramsey. This development will have 768 units, including single family unattached units and a variety of multiple family attached units, as well as 19 acres of Town Center Phase 2 District, and 8.4 acres of commercial businesses. This project will involve the extension of municipal utilities including sanitary sewer, water, public roads and storm sewer.

RGU: City of Ramsey

Contact: James Norman, City Administrator, 15153 Nowthen Boulevard N.W., Ramsey, Minnesota 55303-1640; 763-427-1410, Fax: 763-427-5543, Email: jnorman@ci.ramsey.mn.us.

Country Hills Estates

Description: A 40-acre residential development is proposed for an area southeast of the city of Racine in Frankford Township, Mower County, Minnesota. The development will consist of 12 single-family residences on lots averaging 3 acres in size. Residences will be connected to one shared well and individual septic systems.

RGU: Mower County

Contact: Daryl Franklin, Planning and Zoning Director, 201 First Street, No., Austin, Minnesota 55912; 507-437-9527, Fax: 507-437-9471, Email: darylfr@co.mower.mn.us.

Rushmore Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements

Description: The City of Rushmore, Nobles County, is proposing to expand their existing wastewater treatment facility from the existing Average Wet Weather Design Flow (AWWF) of 47,270 gallons per day (gpd) to an AWWF of 99,000 gallons gpd. The project involves constructing a new lift station. In addition to the Environmental Assessment

Worksheet (EAW), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) will also be available for public comment concurrently, beginning June 6, 2005. The contact person for the NPDES Permit is Jim Strudell at (651) 296-7238.

Comments will be accepted on the EAW and the NPDES Permit until July 6, 2005.

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: Lynne Kolze, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155; 651-282-5992

Credit River Sand and Gravel Mining Operation

Description: The project involves an interim use of extraction and processing of aggregate resources from the subject property. The project will involve stripping of topsoil, excavation, screening, processing, stockpiling and transport of mineral aggregate from the site. Mining is proposed to occur into the ground water table. Restoration activities will leave the site ready for future development.

RGU: Scott County

Contact: Kate Sedlacek, Environmental Health, Government Center A102, 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, Minnesota 55379-1220; 952-496-8177, Fax: 952-496-8489.

Nicollet Hotel Block Project

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Nicollet Hotel Block Project is now available. This EA is being distributed to the public. It is also available for review on the City of Minneapolis web site:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/planning>. Paper copies of this EA can be provided to individuals or on a compact disk by request to Michael Orange, Principal Planner: michael.orange@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

The Nicollet Hotel Block Project (Project) includes two major components: The North Terminal (Terminal) and a private, mixed-use development that will be above it (Private Development). The Project will include a below-grade bus layover facility with capacity for the layover of 26 buses (including to articulated buses). It will have an interior, at-grade, passenger waiting area that will have access to the

street and to the second-story skyway system via a new skyway that will be built between the Private Development and the new Central Library. When the Project opens, it is expected to accommodate approximately 1,000 daily bus trips to and from the facility. It will be operated by the region's public transit authority, Metro Transit, which is an agency of the regional government, the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities. The Private Development portion will be a mixed-use project that will include approximately 300 dwelling units, parking for the residents, and retail on the first and second floors. The City will select a private developer that will purchase the site and construct the Project. Federal funds will be used for the transit eligible portions of the Project.

A 30-day public comment period will commence beginning on the above distribution date. Responses and comments on the EA can be submitted within the comment period to Mr. Orange. For further information and to submit comments on the EA, contact J. Michael Orange, Principal Planner, at the above postal and email addresses and by telephone at: 612-673-2347. Electronic submissions (email, emailed attachments in Word, and discs containing Word documents) are preferred.

Contact: Community Planning & Economic Development, Planning Division, 350 South 5th Street, Room 210, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415-1385; 612-673-2597 Fax: 612-673-2728.

Granite Falls Municipal Airport Runway Expansion

Description: The proposed project is an extension of Runway 15-33 at the Granite Falls Municipal Airport. The runway extension will be 75 feet wide on the northwest end, extend 650 feet toward the southeast, and also have an 80 foot taxi turnaround for the planes.

RGU: City of Granite Falls

Contact: William Lavin, City Manager, 885 Prentice Street, Granite Falls, Minnesota 56241-1520; 320-564-3011, Fax: 320-564-3013, Email: Cgf@Kilowatt.net.

DRAFT EIS

Trunk Highway 23 Improvements, City of Paynesville, Kandiyohi and Stearns Counties, Minnesota

Description: The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) is proposing improvements along Trunk Highway (TH) 23 in and around the City of Paynesville. The project will begin approximately 0.25 miles south of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 6 in Kandiyohi County and extend to

approximately 0.3 miles southwest of CSAH 123 in Stearns County.

Public Review: Copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), which documents the purpose and need of the project, proposed build and no build alternatives and the anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts, are available for public viewing during regular business hours at the following locations:

- Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 8 Office, 2505 Transportation Road, P.O. Box 768, Willmar, Minnesota 56201-0768
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 3 Office, 3725 12th Street North, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56303
- City of Paynesville, 221 Washburne Avenue, Paynesville, Minnesota 56362
- Paynesville Library, 119 Washburne Avenue Paynesville, Minnesota 56362

The DEIS is available for review on-line at <http://projects.dot.state.mn.us/edkel/023/>

A public hearing to explain the details of and take comments on this project will be held:

Date: Tuesday, June 28, 2005
Time: 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM - Open House
 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM - Public Hearing
Place: Paynesville High School
 795 State Highway 23 West
 Paynesville, MN 56362

Copies of the DIES are being distributed to agencies on the current MEQB list and others. The comment period will begin on June 6, 2005. Comments will be accepted through July 21, 2005 and can be directed to the contact listed below.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact: Lowell Flaten, Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 8 Office, 2505 Transportation Road, P.O. Box 768, Willmar, Minnesota 56201-0768, 320-231-5195, Email: lowell.flaten@dot.state.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.

- Ellsworth Township Housing Development, Lake Willie Project, Meeker 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.

- Scenic Oak Lakeview Development, Rochester Common Council, Denied
- Quarry Project, Cottonwood County Commissioners, 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.

- Establishment of Clay County Ditch No. 68, Buffalo-Red River Watershed District Board of Managers, May 23, 2005 (March 28, 2005)
- Monticello Southeast Interceptor/Bondus Segment Trunk Sewer Extension, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, May 13, 2005 (March 14, 2005)
- Haavisto Residential Subdivision, Pine County Planning, Zoning and Solid Water Department, May 18, 2005 (January 31, 2005)
- Dry Creek Gulch, Chisago County Board of Commissioners, May 18, 2005 (March 14, 2005)
- Spring Creek Farm, Chisago County Board of Commissioners, May 18, 2005 (March 14, 2005)
- Goodhue County State Aid Highway 1, Goodhue County Department of Public Works, May 17, 2005 (March 28, 2005)
- Hidden Forest and Sunset Ridge Residential Development, Monticello City Council, May 23, 2005 (March 28, 2005)
- Long Lake Shores Residential Subdivision, Pine County Planning, Zoning and Solid Water Department, May 16, 2005 (March 29, 2004)
- Pomme de Terre Golf Course Expansion and Development, Hodges Township Board, May 19, 2005 (March 28, 2005)

- Minnesota Department of Transportation; Improvements to Minnesota Trunk Highway 7, Silver Lake East, McLeod and Carver Counties; May 19, 2005 (July 5, 2004).

Positive EIS Declaration

The responsible governmental unit, Crow Wing County Board, has determined Canyon Creek Meadows does require preparation of an EIS. The date of the determination is May 10, 2005

SCOPING EAW/DRAFT SCOPING DECISION DOCUMENT

NorthMet Mine and Ore Processing Facilities

PolyMet Mining Inc. proposes an open pit mine to extract a low-grade mineral deposit near Babbitt MN. An existing railroad will be used to haul ore to the existing Cliffs Erie processing facility (currently idled) where it will be crushed and concentrated to extract copper, nickel, cobalt and precious metals by dissolution and precipitation.

The DNR and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are going to prepare of a joint EIS that would satisfy both state and federal environmental review requirements for the project. The DNR and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invite comments on the proposed EIS scope during the 30-day scoping period that concludes Wednesday, July 6, 2005 at 4:30 PM. Comments should address the accuracy and completeness of information presented, and suggest issues for investigation in the EIS. The DNR will hold a public scoping meeting on Wednesday, June 29, beginning at 6:30 PM, at the Hoyt Lakes Arena in Hoyt Lakes, Minnesota.

The Scoping EAW/Draft Scoping Decision Document can be viewed on DNR's website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/polymet/index.html

Please address any comments to the contact below, or send an email to Environmental.Review@dnr.state.mn.us with "PolyMet" in the subject line. If using the email address, please include your name and mailing address. Any questions or inquiries need to be made directly to the contact listed below.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contact: Randall Doneen, Principal Planner, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, 500 Lafayette Road, Box 25, St.

Paul, Minnesota 55155-4025; 651-297-3355, Fax: 651-297-1500.

EIS ADEQUACY DECISION

The Crow Wing County Board unanimously declares the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Peace Haven at Inglewood to be adequate on May 24, 2005.

NOTICE:

Aerial Application of Herbicides

MN Department 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 843 acres and involve 26 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 spraying will begin on approximately July 15 and end on September 12, 2005.

Aerial application of herbicides will also occur on Division of Wildlife administered lands in Aitkin County. Approximately 287 acres will be sprayed 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, 2005.

For further information regarding this project, contact:

Forestry, Bill Schnell, Regional Silviculturist, Minnesota DNR Forestry, 1201 E. Hwy 2, Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744, 218-999-7842.

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

Minnesota Forest Resources Council

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council will meet on Wednesday, July 27, 2005 from 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Itasca State Park.

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>.

Administrative Area	# Sites	Acres	Herbicides
Aitkin (Wildlife)	1	287	2,4-D
Baudette	1	12	Oust
Cloquet	2	90	Accord
Hibbing	4	44	Accord, Garlon
Littlefork	3	64	Accord, Garlon, Oust
Orr	5	128	Accord, Garlon, Oust
Tower	3	106	Accord, Garlon, Oust
Two Harbors	4	71	Accord, Oust
Warroad	3	41	Accord
TOTALS	26	843	



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Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
300 Centennial, 658 Cedar St.
St. Paul, MN 55155-1388

Phone: 800-657-3794 or 651-296-2603

Fax: 651-296-3698

E-mail: <mailto:eqb.monitor@state.mn.us>