



Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Comments due on April 5, 2000

KEEZ FM Radio Transmitter Tower

Description: The project will result in a 1,000 foot radio transmission tower. KEEZ FM is a radio station which serves south-central Minnesota and north-central Iowa. A new antenna is needed because the current transmitter tower location near St. James is no longer available for the station's use.

RGU: Blue Earth County

Contact: Veryl Morrell, Government Center, 410 S. 5th St., P.O. Box 3566, Mankato, MN 56002-3566; 507-389-8381

Badger Ridge Subdivision

Description: The proposed Badger Ridge development includes approximately 233 acres. Approximately 50 acres is proposed to be developed with commercial and industrial types of uses, 40 acres developed with medium-density development and the balance being proposed as low-density residential development. Development will include extending utilities and building new roads, stormwater, pedestrian and park facilities.

RGU: City of Rochester

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 www.mnplan.state.mn.us

Vol. 24, No. 5

Next issue: March 20, 2000
Submittal deadline: March 13, 2000

Contact: Brent Svenby, 2122 Campus Dr. SE., Rochester, MN 55904; 507-285-8232

Westridge Hills

Description: The project is a single-family residential subdivision of 125 lots to be constructed in four phases. It will be constructed on approximately 53 acres of the 86 acre site, with the remaining 33 acres preserved as wetlands and storm management ponds. The parcel is located south of County Road 30 and north of 85th Street on the west edge of Delano. Site density is 1.475 u/a with lots from 10,445 to 25,650 square feet.

RGU: City of Delano

Contact: Kathleen Miller, City Hall, P.O. Box 108, Delano, MN 55328-0108; 612-972-0550

Clover Springs

Description: The proposed project is a 149 unit single-family detached home residential development on a 79.8 acre site in Delano, Minnesota. This subdivision will be served by extension of the municipal sewer and water service. Site construction will be phased over approximately five years beginning in early summer 2000.

RGU: City of Delano

Contact: Kathleen Miller, City Hall, P.O. Box 108, Delano, MN 55328-0108; 612-972-0550

Becker Farms Total Confinement Dairy

Description: Becker Farms proposes to construct a total confinement dairy in Manannah Township, Meeker County. The facility would house a maximum of 994 animal units. The project would be located on 69.5 acres, and involve construction of two freestall barns, a milking parlor, holding area and exception barn. Manure will be stored in a lined earthen storage basin. A copy of the EAW will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency web site, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/index.html>

RGU: MPCA

Contact: Lynne Kolze, Project Manager, Operations & Planning Section, Metro District, 520 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-282-5992

Eckankar Religious Campus Master Plan

Description: A 173 acre site located at the northwest quadrant of the intersection of TH 5 and County Road 17 in Chanhassen is proposed for continued development of a 430,000 square foot religious campus over the next 10 years. The master plan for the religious campus includes facilities for religious worship, religious education, church archives and museum facilities and church administration totaling approximately 380,000 square feet, in addition to the existing 50,000 square foot temple facility. Approximately 70 percent of the site would remain undeveloped, to preserve existing woodland, prairie and wetland natural features and to maintain an essential zone of quietude around the religious campus.

RGU: City of Chanhassen

Contact: Robert Generous, 690 City Center Dr., Chanhassen, MN 55317; 612-937-1900

Minnesota River Station

Description: Minnesota Municipal Power Agency proposes to construct a 49-megawatt electrical power generating station in Chaska, MN. The project includes one natural gas fired, simple cycle combustion turbine and associated facilities, a half-mile of double circuit 115 kV transmission line, and a half-mile of 8" natural gas pipeline. Fuel oil is the secondary fuel.

RGU: Environmental Quality Board

Contact: John P. Hynes, EQB Staff, 300 Centennial Office Building, St. Paul, MN, 55155; 651-296-2871

EQB Approves Special EAW Form for Animal Feedlots

A customized EAW form to be used only for animal feedlot project is now available for use. Developed jointly by the staffs of the Department of Agriculture, Pollution Control Agency and the EQB, the *Alternative EAW Form for Animal Feedlots*, was approved for use by the Environmental Quality Board at its February meeting. *Guidelines for Alternative EAW Form for Animal Feedlots* have also been jointly developed by the staffs of the three agencies. The alternative form and the guidance are now available for downloading at the EQB/Minnesota Planning website, www.mnplan.state.mn.us, (click on EQB, then either Environmental Review or Animal Agriculture and Feedlots) or by contacting the EQB staff at 651-296-8253. The form

and guidance will also be available from the Pollution Control Agency, the Responsible Governmental Unit for most feedlot EAWs, and from many county feedlot officers.

EAW Withdrawn

Lime Creek Pork, Inc.

Lime Creek Pork, Inc. has decided to withdraw its Environmental Assessment Worksheet and permit application from consideration by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. This action ends the environmental review process for Lime Creek Pork. As a result, the MPCA will not be developing a Response to Comments or Findings of Fact for this project.

Petitions Filed

The following petitions have been filed with the EQB requesting preparation of an EAW. The EQB has assigned the indicated unit of governments to review these petitions and decide on the need for an EAW.

- Proposed athletic field complex on Upper Bluff of Historic Fort Snelling, Department of Natural Resources
- St. Michael sewer extension, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

EAW Need Decision

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

- Ryan Contracting Conditional Use Permit, City of Prior Lake, EAW ordered

EIS Need Decision

The responsible governmental units noted have determined the following projects do not require preparation 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*.

- Park Commons East, City of St. Louis Park, February 7, 2000 (December 27, 1999)
- Credit River Golf Club and Residential Subdivision, Scott County Board of Commissioners, February 24, 2000 (December 13, 1999)

■ Grey Fox Estates Residential Subdivision, Scott County Board of Commissioners, February 24, 2000 (December 27, 2000)

Scoping Document/Draft Scoping Decision Document

The Scoping Document/Draft Scoping Decision Document is available for the proposed construction of 19.1 miles (30.7 km) of Trunk Highway 53 from County Road 307 north of Virginia to the south city limits of Cook in St. Louis County, Minnesota. The proposed improvement will involve construction of a four-lane divided highway, using existing and/or new alignment that meets applicable standards for a rural expressway with 75 mph (120 km/h) engineering design speed and controlled access.

This Scoping Document/Draft Scoping Decision Document has been prepared by the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Copies of the document are being distributed for review to aid in identifying issues and analyses to be contained in the Environmental Impact Statement that Mn/DOT will prepare. The Draft Scoping Decision Document is a preliminary document based on information currently available. It is subject to revision based on the entire record of the scoping process.

Comments on issues raised in the Scoping Document/Draft Scoping Decision Document are being requested from individuals on the MEQB distribution list, as well as from other persons or agencies to whom the proposed project may be of interest. The comment period will begin on March 6, 2000 and will extend through April 5, 2000. All comments should be directed to: Brian Larson, P.E., Project Manager, Mn/DOT-District 1, 1123 Mesaba Ave., Duluth, MN 55811; 218-723-4960 extension 3322. Comments received will be used by Mn/DOT in determining the scope of the ensuing Environmental Impact Statement.

To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies and groups to comment on the proposed action, a public scoping meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 22, 2000 at the Wuori Town Hall, 7449 Werner Rd., Virginia, Minnesota. An informational open house will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with a presentation starting at 7:00 p.m. Mn/DOT representatives will be present to answer questions.

The Scoping Document/Draft Scoping Decision Document can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the Project Manager at 218-723-4960 extension 3322 or to individuals who are hearing or speech impaired by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 or 651-296-9930 TTY. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this event please contact the Project Manager at

the phone number listed above or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529, as soon as possible.

EIS Preparation Notice

In February 2000, the city of Bloomington distributed a Scoping Decision Document to all agencies listed on the EQB distribution list and all interested parties. This document describes the scope of investigation and proposed schedule for the Mall of America Expansion-Met Center site Environmental Impact Statement that will be prepared by the city of Bloomington. The Scoping Decision Document reflects consideration of information included in the Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document (distributed for a 30-day public and agency comment period from December 27, 1999 through January 26, 2000) as well as input from the public scoping meeting and from written comments received during the comment period. Traffic, air quality, traffic noise and water quality/surface water runoff are subjects to be investigated in detail in the EIS.

The EIS will evaluate the following development assumption alternatives (described in greater detail in the Scoping Decision Document):

No Build Alternative: Met Center site would remain an approximately 7,500 space surface parking facility utilized by airport related auto rental facilities, MAC contract parking and other parking uses (including Mall of America overflow parking).

Alternative 1: Construction of a 5.6 million square foot mixed-use development on the Met Center site by the Mall of America Company. Uses will include an approximately 3,425,000 square foot retail/entertainment component similar to the existing Mall of America; 600,000 gross square feet of general office space; 300 units of residential apartments and condominiums, and 1,650 hotel rooms.

Alternative 2: Construction of a 4.5 million square foot mixed-use development on the Met Center site by the Mall of America Company. The mix of uses described in Alternative 1 will remain the same, although the overall amount of development for each use will be reduced by approximately 20 percent.

Alternative 3: Construction of a 10 million square foot development of hotel and office space on the Met Center site. The assumed development for this alternative would include a 700 room hotel and 750,000 square feet of office. The type and density of development in this alternative is consistent with other developments in the Airport South area, but is less intense than Mall of America type development. This alternative is included to address the possible scenario that the Mall of America Company would have to pursue its original development plans for the Adjoining Lands property.

Two sub-alternatives are included in Alternative 3 to analyze the impacts of two possible development scenarios for the Adjoining Lands property (as changes in "background condition" for the 1.0 million square foot development assumed on the Met center site). Sub-alternative 3A assumes 4.3 million square feet of mixed use development on the Adjoining Lands property with the same mix of uses as proposed for the Met Center site in Alternative 1 (but with an approximately 25 percent reduction in area for each use) and 1.0 million square feet of hotel use on the existing Mall of America site, as defined in the 1986 EIS for the Mall of America. Sub-alternative 3B assumes 4.3 million square feet of development on the Adjoining Lands parcel and 1.0 million square feet of hotel use on the existing Mall of America site, as defined in the 1986 EIS.

Background Assumptions: A number of properties in the vicinity of the Met Center site either have approved development plans and are moving forward with construction, or the owners/developers have indicated that they plan to redevelop the parcels within the planned implementation period for Mall of America expansion. Known developments planned for implementation prior to 2006 in the vicinity of the Met Center site will be included in the background assumptions for the No Build and Build alternatives for the EIS. The city of Bloomington has indicated its intent to address the cumulative impacts of these developments in an Alternative Urban Area Review document, to be prepared by the city in 2000.

The Responsible Governmental Unit for preparation of the EIS is the city of Bloomington. The contact person is Clark Arneson, Planning Manager, 2215 West Old Shakopee Rd., Bloomington, MN 55431; 612-948-8921.

Scoping Document as Notice of EIS preparation by the Mn/DOT Alternative Review Process

The Scoping Decision Document is available for the proposed project construction of 9.52 m (5.9 mi.) of Trunk Highway 371 from County State Aid Highway 46 north of Little Falls to 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) north of CSAH 48 in Morrison County, Minnesota.

This Scoping Decision Document has been prepared by the Minnesota Department of Transportation. This document describes the selected three build alternatives (with varied design options), the No Build alternative, and the social, economical and environmental issues to be analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement that Mn/DOT will prepare.

A scoping Document/Draft Scoping Decision Document was circulated on November 19, 1999. Comments were requested

from agencies on the MEQB list, as well as from other interested people, agencies and local units of government. A public scoping meeting was held on December 1, 1999 in Little Falls, Minnesota. Written comments were received on this project during the scoping period and are included in Exhibit C of the document.

For information regarding this proposed project, contact Roger Risser, P.E., Project Manager, Mn/DOT-District 3, 1991 Industrial Park, Baxter, MN 56425; 218-828-2492.

Public Notice of Request for Proposals-Performance of Wetland Services

The Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission wishes to establish a list of qualified firms to: 1) perform wetland delineations and prepare necessary reports; 2) conduct annual monitoring and prepare annual monitoring reports; and 3) prepare as-built plans. All services will be performed under the direction of the Commission's Technical Advisor.

To establish this list, the Commission seeks proposals from qualified and experienced firms. The Commission's Technical Advisor will evaluate the proposals and the Commission reserves the right to select or reject any or all proposals when deemed to be in the best interest of the Commission. The Commission reserves the right to request additional information in support of the proposal. The Commission is not obligated to respond to any proposals submitted nor is it legally bound in any manner whatsoever by the submission of a proposal.

Copies of the Request for Proposals and the Commission's Wetland Monitoring Requirements may be obtained from the Commission's Technical Advisor at the following address: Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Management Commission, c/o Hennepin Conservation District, 10801 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 240, Minneapolis, MN 55305; 612-544-8572.

All proposals and supporting documentation are due at the above address by 4:00 p.m., Central Standard Time, on March 24, 2000. One original copy of the proposal is required.

Questions relative to the RFP must be in writing and sent to the Commission's Technical Advisor at the above address. All responses will be in writing.

Public Notice of Request for Proposals-Performance of Wetland Services

The Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission wishes to establish a list of qualified firms to: 1) perform wetland delineations and prepare necessary reports; 2) conduct annual monitoring and prepare annual monitoring reports; and 3) prepare as-built plans. All services will be performed under the direction of the Commission's Technical Advisor.

To establish this list, the Commission seeks proposals from qualified and experienced firms. The Commission's Technical Advisor will evaluate the proposals and the Commission reserves the right to select or reject any or all proposals when deemed to be in the best interest of the Commission. The Commission reserves the right to request additional information in support of the proposal. The Commission is not obligated to respond to any proposals submitted nor is it legally bound in any manner whatsoever by the submission of a proposal.

Copies of the Request for Proposals and the Commission's Wetland Monitoring Requirements may be obtained from the Commission's Technical Advisor at the following address:
Elm Creek Watershed Management Commission, c/o

Hennepin Conservation District, 10801 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 240, Minneapolis, MN 55305; 612-544-8572.

All proposals and supporting documentation are due at the above address by 4:00 p.m., Central Standard Time, on March 24, 2000. One original copy of the proposal is required.

Questions relative to the RFP must be in writing and sent to the Commission's Technical Advisor at the above address. All responses will be in writing.

Public Meeting Notice-Minnesota Forest Resources Council

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council will meet on Tuesday, March 28, 2000 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Minnesota State Horticultural Society in Falcon Heights, Minnesota. Agenda items include: discussion of the peer reviews for riparian and seasonal pond guidelines, update on the MFRC's project to study the financial effects associated with implementing Minnesota's timber harvesting and forest management guidelines. For more information contact Sara Eliason at 651-603-0109 or go to the calendar on the MFRC website at <http://www.frc.state.mn.us>

Notifications

File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
00-NO-003	Monsanto	Potato	Reduced bruising	Hubbard
00-NO-004	Monsanto	Potato	Disease resistance	Dakota
00-NO-005	Monsanto	Wheat	Herbicide tolerance	Ramsey, Polk

For more information contact Mary Hanks, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 90 W. Plato Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55107, 651-296-1277.



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

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St. Paul, MN 55155

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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: eqbmonitor@mnplan.state.mn.us