



Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Comments due on September 5, 2001

Highway 49 from Bridge Street to Birch Lane South

Description: Ramsey County is the project proposer and RGU for the Highway 49 project in the cities of Shoreview and North Oaks. The total length of the project is 1.6 miles, extending from Bridge Street to South Birch Lane. The Highway 49 project includes reconstruction of the existing two-lane rural section to a two-lane urban section with 3.0-meter (ten-foot) wide shoulders and a center turn lane. The roadway is designed to be wide enough to be restriped, when future increased traffic volume warrants, to a four-lane alignment with center turn lane. The improvements also include a separated pedestrian/bike trail. Construction will begin in 2002 and be completed in 2003.

RGU: Ramsey County Department of Public Works

Contact: James E. Tolaas, Project Manager, 3377 North Rice St., Shoreview, MN 55126; 612-482-5203

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. 25, No. 16

Next issue: August 20, 2001
Submittal deadline: August 13, 2001

Beaver Lake Townhomes Planned Unit Development

Description: The Beaver Lake Townhomes Planned Unit Development Project consists of the construction of 42 single and 120 multiple-dwelling units. These dwelling unit types will be built in clusters separated by a multiple function greenspace. Major access to the project will be via private driveways from Lakewood Drive, Maryland Avenue and Sterling Street.

RGU: City of Maplewood

Contact: Chuck Ahl, Director of Public Works, 1830 E. County Rd. B., Maplewood, MN 55109; 651-770-4552

Cambridge NE Industrial Park

Description: This is a 183-acre industrial park development on the northeast limits of the city of Cambridge. It is anticipated that the majority of the uses of the park will be industrial uses, however, the potential exists for limited general commercial or retail uses as well.

RGU: City of Cambridge

Contact: Gordon Heitke, City Administrator, 626 Main St. N., Cambridge, MN 55008; 763-689-3211

St. James Peak/Standby Diesel Power Generation

Description: The city of St. James is proposing to construct a power generation facility consisting of six 2,000 kilowatt diesel-fired engine/generators and the related equipment necessary to interface with the existing plant electric system. The construction would take place on city-owned land near an existing substation.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the MPCA web site, at the following:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Kevin J. Kain, Project Manager, Metro District, Operations and Planning Section, MPCA, 520 Lafayette Rd. N., St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-296-7432

City of Delavan Sewage Collection and Wastewater Treatment System Improvements

Description: The city of Delavan is proposing a new sanitary sewage collection and stabilization pond wastewater treatment system. The new sewage system would serve the entire community of Delavan. The pond system would treat an average wet weather flow of 54,000 gallons per day and discharge to Judicial Ditch #1 in Faribault County.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the MPCA 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, Operations and Planning Section, Metro District, 520 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-282-5992

Proposed Full-Access Interchange Construction at TH 52 & 117th Street in Inver Grove Heights and Rosemount, Dakota County

Description: The proposed project includes construction of a full-access interchange at Trunk Highway 52 and 117th Street in Inver Grove Heights and Rosemount, Dakota County, Minnesota. The proposed project includes construction of an east frontage road, elimination of three direct access points to TH 52, and the relocation of an existing at-grade rail spur to a grade-separated crossing near 138th Street in Rosemount. The Minnesota Department of Transportation has prepared this EAW pursuant to EQB rule 4410.4300 subpart 22 (highway projects).

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact: Gerald Larson, Environmental Services Coordinator, Mn/DOT, 395 John Ireland Blvd., Mail Stop 620, St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-284-3775

Sugarbush Trail

Description: Sugarbush Trail is a proposed rural residential subdivision consisting of 22 single-family residential lots on 114 acres located in Livonia Township in Sherburne County. All lots would be served with private sewer and water.

RGU: Sherburne County Zoning

Contact: Lynn Waytashek, Assistant Zoning Administrator, 13880 Highway 10, Elk River, MN 55330; 763-241-2900

Hunters Crest

Description: Hunters Crest is a single-family subdivision consisting of 428 lots on approximately 365 acres located south and west of the city of St. Bonifacius in the city of Minnetrista. The subdivision includes approximately 145 acres of wetlands and public and private parks.

RGU: City of Minnetrista

Contact: Paul Heuer, City Engineer, 2335 Highway 36, St. Paul, MN 55113; 651-636-4600

EIS Need Decisions

The responsible governmental units 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*.

- Lino Lakes City Council, Lino Lakes Marketplace, July 23, 2001 (June 11, 2001)
- Department of Natural Resources, Red River State Recreation Area Campground Project, July 23, 2001 (June 11, 2001)
- Department of Transportation, Improvements to Minnesota Trunk Highway 12 in Hennepin County, July 16, 2001 (November 1, 1999)

AUAR Withdrawn

Regional Distribution Center Development, City of North Mankato, Minnesota

Upon further consideration, the city of North Mankato has elected to withdraw the AUAR, therefore the review and comments are not necessary. Please call Del Jackman, Project Engineer, 507-625-4171, with any questions.

Notice of Preparation and Scope of Supplemental EIS for Best Buy Campus Project

Reason For SEIS Preparation: The *Final Environmental Impact Statement For The Best Buy Campus Project* (FEIS) was published on October 30, 2000, with an Adequacy Determination and Record of Decision adopted on December 11, 2000. The City of Richfield (City) is preparing a *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement For The Best Buy Campus Project* (SEIS) concerning the temporary effects that the closure of State Trunk Highway 62 (TH62) will have on traffic in regards to the Best Buy Campus Project (Best Buy Project or Project). This SEIS is being prepared as required by Hennepin County District Judge Allen Oleisky's Order dated July 3, 2001.

Scope: The scope of the SEIS, as defined by Judge Oleisky, is limited to "... the effects that closure of Highway 62 will have on traffic in regards to the Best Buy project." Order, p. 2 Based on this, the areas to be covered in the SEIS are described below in the section entitled Scope of The Best Buy Campus Project SEIS.

Schedule: SEIS preparation begins with this Notice Of Preparation and will follow the SEIS preparation procedures outlined in the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Environmental Review Rules. The Draft SEIS is expected to be available for review on September 17, 2001, starting a 28-day comment period. A Final SEIS will be completed thereafter, including responses to comments on the Draft SEIS. An Adequacy Decision on the Final SEIS is expected to occur in November 2001.

All documents prepared for this SEIS process will be available for review at City Hall, Augsburg Park Community Library (7100 Nicollet Avenue South), and the Southdale-Hennepin Area Library (7001 York Avenue South). Copies of the completed documents will be provided to the EQB distribution list, as well as all those recorded as previously receiving copies of the Best Buy Campus DEIS, FEIS or Adequacy Decision.

Comments On SEIS Scope: Written comments on this SEIS scope must be received by August 27, 2001, and should be sent to: Ms. Julie Urban, Community Development Specialist, City of Richfield, 6700 Portland Ave., Richfield, Minnesota 55423-2599

Scope of the Best Buy Campus Project

Project Description: The Best Buy Project is located north of Interstate I-494 (I-494) between Penn and Knox Avenues and south of 76th Street in Richfield. The Project is currently

under construction and includes four office buildings (two of six stories and two of 8 stories) connected by a hub building and attached to a central parking ramp. The development includes approximately 1.6 million square feet of space and is designed for a maximum of 7,500 employees. The first building is scheduled to be completed and ready for occupancy in early December 2002.

In January 2001, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) announced its plans for reconstruction of the TH62/Interstate 35W (I-35W) interchange involving I-35W from 46th to 66th and TH62 from Hwy. 121 to Portland Avenue (Crosstown Reconstruction Project). MnDOT's proposed construction staging plan for the Crosstown Reconstruction Project included closure of portions of the TH62 segment of the roadway for periods ranging from 18 to 42 months. No closures were scheduled until March of 2002 (except the Diamond Lake Road bridge over I-35W). A possible detour for traffic normally using this segment of TH62 was identified as Highway 100 to I-494 to Cedar Avenue. MnDOT has since been required by the Minnesota State Legislature to postpone construction for one year and to reevaluate the Crosstown Reconstruction Project relative to capacity, lane closures, detours, transit needs, and coordination with other road construction projects. MnDOT must present its reevaluation report to the State legislature on January 15, 2002. Assuming the State Legislature allows the TH 62 project to move forward, the projected lane closures would occur a minimum of one year later than originally proposed.

Alternatives: The traffic volumes used in the FEIS will be used as the base for evaluating the changes in traffic volumes on I-35W and I-494 resulting from the various TH62 closure alternatives to be studied in this SEIS.

The SEIS will evaluate three alternatives for the Crosstown Reconstruction Project and their related impacts to traffic flows on I-35W and I-494. The alternatives to be considered include:

- Alternative 1: This alternative will consider the lane and ramp closures proposed in MnDOT's current Crosstown Area Reconstruction Project staging plan (March 2001) that could affect traffic volumes on I-35W and I-494 near the Best Buy Project. This plan results in the closure of various ramps and lanes through the Crosstown Reconstruction Project a four year period, with individual movements being affected for periods of 18 to 42 months, starting in March 2003. (The closure of the Diamond Lake Road bridge over I-35W, which would not affect traffic volumes on the relevant roadways, will not be studied.)
- Alternative 2: An alternative scenario will be evaluated for abbreviated closure periods for major movements that

could affect traffic on I-35W and I-494 near the Best Buy Project. The estimated closure periods to be evaluated would be reduced by half of the staging proposal studied in Alternative 1.

- Alternative 3: A No-Build alternative will be included which assumes no closures in either direction for traffic on TH62.

Environmental Impacts: Based on these three alternatives, the issues to be addressed in the SEIS will include:

- Traffic – An analysis of the traffic distribution resulting from each of the three alternatives will be made, volume increases will be identified for I-35W and I-494 near the Best Buy Project along with their corresponding impacts, and mitigation options will be described.
- Air Quality – An analysis of air quality changes that may occur as a result of the identified traffic volume impacts and mitigation measures.
- Traffic-related Noise – An analysis of the noise changes that may occur as a result of the identified traffic volume impacts and mitigation measures.

All other issues have been adequately addressed in the approved FEIS, and those conclusions will not effectively change as a result of the potential Crosstown Reconstruction Project and related detours.

Schedule and Contacts: The preliminary schedule for the completion of the SEIS is outlined in the following table.

Date	Activity
July 30	Send Notice of SEIS Preparation & Scope to EQB staff
August 6	Publication of Notice of SEIS Preparation & Scope in <i>EQB Monitor</i>
August 7	Begin 20-day comment period on scope of SEIS
August 27	End 20-day comment period on scope of SEIS
September 10	Send Notice of Draft SEIS Availability and Draft SEIS to EQB staff
September 17	Publication of Notice of Draft SEIS Availability in <i>EQB Monitor</i> and circulation of Draft SEIS
September 18	Begin 28-day comment period on draft SEIS

October 1	Hold public informational meeting on Draft SEIS
October 15	Close Draft SEIS comment period
October 22	Send Notice of Final SEIS Availability to EQB staff
October 29	Publication of Notice of Final SEIS Availability in <i>EQB Monitor</i> and circulation of Final SEIS
October 30	Begin 10-day period before adequacy decision can be made
November 12	Decision on adequacy by City Council

Written comments on this SEIS scope must be received by August 27, 2001, and should be sent to: Ms. Julie Urban, Community Development Specialist, City of Richfield, 6700 Portland Ave., Richfield, MN 55423-2599

Agency Coordination: This Notice of Preparation And Scope is being sent to all coordinating agencies for review and comment. The Draft SEIS will reflect the comments of these agencies.

The City will directly coordinate with MnDOT to determine the specific details of the Crosstown Reconstruction Project closure plans, current TH62 traffic volumes, and other information necessary to complete the SEIS analysis. Identification of feasible mitigation measures will also be discussed.

The City will coordinate with other local road authorities that may also be affected by the Crosstown Reconstruction Project.

The City will also coordinate with the MPCA regarding potential temporary impacts to air quality and sensitive noise receivers.

Notices of Application for Special Local Need Registrations

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 18B.27 and Parts 1505.0880-1505.0930, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture is certified to issue Special Local Need registrations.

The notices are being published by the MDA. The department is not considering holding public hearings on the proposed SLN registrations.

Comments can be submitted to and additional information obtained from: John C. Sierk, Pesticide Regulatory Consultant, MDA, Agronomy and Plant Protection Division, 90 West Plato Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55107-2094.

Comment deadline for all the SLN registrations is September 5, 2001.

The MDA has received the following SLN applications:

Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc., Greensboro, NC 27419-8300

Project Location: Any area of Minnesota where potatoes are grown.

Project Description: This SLN registration would allow the use of one application of three ounces per acre when applying Actara insecticide to potatoes.

FMC Corporation, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Project Location: Any area of Minnesota where corn is grown.

Project Description: This SLN registration would allow the use of Aim herbicide on field and seed corn up to 48 inches in height using a post directed application.

Sulphuric Acid Desiccant, Border Chemical Co. Ltd., Winnipeg, Manitoba

Project Description: This registration allows the application of Sulphuric Acid Desiccant for the desiccation of potato vines on lands in Minnesota, east of the Mississippi.

Chlorpyrifos 4E, AG, manufactured by Micro Flo Company, Memphis, TN 38117

Project Description: This registration allows the application of Chlorpyrifos 4E, AG in wheat for control of wheat midge.

funds to develop or renovate their facilities, with a focus on addressing public safety, access and environmental concerns such as sound abatement and lead contamination.

Applications are available and questions answered regarding these projects by the Minnesota DNR's Division of Enforcement. Electronic copies of all forms and information may be obtained on-line at www.dnr.mn.state.us. Queries about the LCMR project or this message may be directed to: Chuck Niska, Shooting Range Coordinator, DNR, Division of Enforcement, Safety Training Unit, Camp Ripley, Nelson Hall, 15011 State Highway 115, Little Falls, MN 56345; 320-616-2513(DNR Camp Ripley) or 651-485-6445(Cell phone)

Notifications of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms

File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
01-NO-059	Scotts	Creeping bentgrass	Herbicide tolerance	Carver

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

Environmental Quality Board Agenda

The Environmental Quality Board meeting agenda can be found at <http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/eqb/agenda.html>

Please check this site for the time and place of the next EQB board meeting.

Notice

The Minnesota DNR Division of Enforcement, will be conducting an additional, open-ended sign up period, for the purpose of providing matching grant funding to outdoor shooting ranges open to the public throughout Minnesota. Funding has been provided by the legislature or groups meeting specific criteria, which are then invited to participate in a Legislative Commission on Minnesota's Resources-funded range improvement project. Each participating group will be required to provide an equal amount of matching



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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
