



Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Comments due on February 6, 2002

East Central School District 2580 Pre-Kindergarten through Grade Twelve Facility

Description: The East Central School District proposes to construct a 230,000 square foot PK-12 school facility on a 75 acre site located one-half mile east of the junction of Interstate 35 and State Highway 23, Finlayson Township, Pine County. The proposed new facility replaces three existing school buildings and will consist of a school building, parking areas, internal roads, athletic fields and structures related to school functions.

RGU: Pine County

Contact: Robert Pulford, Pine County Land and Zoning Department, Public Works Building, 11610 Highway 23 North, Sandstone, MN 55072; 320-245-6701

Hill Farm

Description: The proposed project is a mixed residential development on 56.4 acres of previously cultivated lands and limited wooded areas. Forty-six single family residential lots and two-hundred townhome units are proposed. City sewer and water will serve the entire subdivision.

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. 26, No. 1

Next issue: January 21, 2002
Submittal deadline: January 14, 2002

RGU: City of Isanti

Contact: Curtis Jacobsen, City Administrator, PO Box 126, Isanti, MN 55040; 763-444-5512

S.P. 6915-123 (TH53)

Description: Proposed construction of a 1.15 mile segment of Minnesota Trunk Highway (TH) 53/Piedmont Avenue from south of 4th Street to 0.25 miles north of Skyline Parkway in Duluth, St. Louis County, Minnesota. The segment will be constructed as a straighter four-lane roadway with intersection improvements. A primary improvement will be the elimination of an existing six-leg intersection located at 24th Avenue, Piedmont Avenue/Trinity Road (TH 53), and Skyline Parkway.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

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

Petition Filed

The following petition has 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.

- Marshall Oaks Development, Becker County Environmental Services

EAW Need Decisions

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, Turtle Lake Estates, EAW denied
- Douglas County Board of Commissioners, Ida Bay Ridge Estates, EAW denied

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*.

- Wine Lake Road improvement project, Detroit Township, December 12, 2001 (October 29, 2001)
- Centre Pointe Business Park, Roseville City Council, December 17, 2001 (November 12, 2001)
- Northfield Middle School, City of Northfield, December 17, 2001 (October 29, 2001)

EQB Issues Pipeline Routing Permit to Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership

For the Terrace Expansion Project-Phase III for Approximately 97 Miles of 36-inch Steel Pipe to Transport Crude Petroleum in the Minnesota Counties of Clearwater, Beltrami, Cass, Itasca, St. Louis and Carlton (MEQB Docket No. 01-24-PRP-LAKEHEAD)

The Environmental Quality Board on December 20 unanimously voted to issue a pipeline routing permit to Enbridge Energy (formerly Lakehead Pipeline) for approximately 97 miles of a 36-inch outside diameter steel pipe by adding five separate segments or loops to its existing pipeline system. These loops will connect existing 48-inch diameter pipeline segments, resulting in one continuous pipeline from Clearbrook, Minnesota to Superior, Wisconsin.

The proposed 36-inch pipeline segments will be buried primarily within or adjacent to the Company's existing right-of-way, (which is approximately 125 feet in width) and parallel to three existing pipelines on the Company's multiple lines right easements. Those areas not within the Company's existing right-of-way will be obtained through negotiations with landowners by permanent easement.

Most of the construction will be finished by the fall of 2002. The remaining work will finish early in 2003 in order to have the pipeline in service by June 2003.

The Pipeline Routing Permit specifies the location of the proposed pipeline and includes specific conditions for right-of-way preparation, construction, cleanup and restoration.

The Pipeline Routing Permit will be available on the Internet at: www.mnplan.state.mn.us/eqb

If you have any questions about these projects or would like more information, please contact: Larry B. Hartman, Room 300 Centennial Bldg, 658 Cedar St., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155; tel 651-296-5089 or 1-800-657-3794; fax 612-296-3698; e-mail: larry.hartman@state.mn.us

Environmental Quality Board- Negative EIS declaration for 44 MW Solway Power Plant

On December 20, 2001, the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board adopted Findings of Fact, Conclusions, and Order determining that the Solway Power Plant proposed by Otter Tail Power Company does not require an environmental impact statement.

Otter Tail Power Company proposes to construct a 44-megawatt electrical power generating station in Lammers Township, near Solway MN. The four-acre project includes one dual fuel fired simple cycle combustion turbine generator package and associated facilities. Natural gas will be used as the primary fuel and No. 2 fuel oil as the backup fuel.

Natural gas will be provided through the Great Lakes Gas Transmission Company's natural gas pipeline. A new 6-inch gas pipeline will be approximately 800 feet long and will operate at a maximum pressure of 970 psig. The Number 2 fuel oil will be delivered to the site by a tanker truck and stored in two 65,000-gallon welded-steel above-ground storage tanks.

A new electric transmission line will connect the generator with an existing Otter Tail 115 kV electric transmission line. The new transmission line will go either directly south or southwest from the plant's substation approximately 500 to 650 feet to the existing 115 kV line or it will go west approximately 2600 feet to the same existing 115 kV line. The line will require additional review either by a local authority or by the MEQB.

Notice of Hearing for a Needs Determination for an EAW

On November 14, 2001, the Otter Tail County Planning Commission tabled the preliminary plat and conditional use permit application of "Sportsman Landing" requested by Brian Clouse for the following property: part of government

lot 5 Lying WLY on W LN Lot 1 and its Sly extension
Jewett Lake Southside Shores Being, Section 23 of Elizabeth
Township, Jewett Lake (56-239), GD

This action was taken so that a needs determination for the possible preparation of an EAW can be made. On Wednesday, January 9, 2002 at 6:30 p.m., Otter Tail County Planning Commission will meet in the Commissioner's Room of the Courthouse in Fergus Falls in order to make this determination.

County Holds off on EIS until Appeal is Heard

Bauerly Brothers Gravel Mining Operation

A meeting to determine the scope of an EIS for a proposed Bauerly Brothers gravel mining operation in Maine Prairie Township is temporarily on hold.

Bauerly Brothers filed an appeal last week in District Court questioning the Stearns County Board of Commissioners decision in November to require an EIS be done on the proposed site near Kimball. Bauerly's says that County's decision is unreasonable and that the Board's concerns were addressed in a previous EAW. Some members of the Board, and Kimball residents, expressed concern that the mining would destroy a wooded area known for its wildlife and would create noise and traffic problems.

Due to the pending litigation, the scoping method meeting scheduled for January 8, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. has been cancelled. The Environmental Services Department has put the issue on hold until a judge hears the case. The Department wants to see if the judge rules on whether or not there is a need for an EIS before they proceed.



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Vol. 26 No. 1

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