



## Environmental Assessment Worksheets

*Comments due on April 17, 2002*

### Clearwater Property

Description: The proposed development will consist of a retail commercial complex and multiple and single family housing. The proposed development will be served with municipal water, sanitary sewer, storm sewer, and utilities of an urban setting and public streets.

RGU: City of Clearwater

Contact: Debby Millner, City Clerk, PO Box 171, Clearwater, MN 55320; 320-558-2428

### Graceview Estates

Description: Pond View Ridge Partnership proposes to construct a residential development complex on approximately 91.07 acres +/- of land located on the south side of the city of St. Joseph, south of East Baker Street. The development will contain a mixture of single-family homes, bayhomes, townhomes, a retirement community and apartment complex. The project will include parks and walkways for the community use.

RGU: City of St. Joseph

Contact: Judy Weyrens, City Administrator, 25

### 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](http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us)

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Next issue: April 2, 2002

Submittal deadline: March 25, 2002

College Ave., PO Box 668, St. Joseph, MN 56374-0668; 320-363-7201

## EAW Need Decisions

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

- Metropolitan Council, Riverview Corridor Busway between I-35E and Smith Avenue, Petition denied
- Steele County, Kevin Deml feedlot project, Project exempt
- Steele County, Allen Deml feedlot project, Project exempt
- Plymouth City Council, Hidden Terrace project by SVK Development, Project exempt
- Cass County Planning Advisory Commission, Development of an Island in McKeown Lake, Petition denied

## EIS Need Decisions

The responsible governmental unit has 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*.

- City of Shakopee, Blue Lake Watershed Drainage Improvements, March 6, 2002 (December 10, 2002)
- Wright County Board of Commissioners, Tiller Corporation, Silver Creek Sand and Gravel Mining Operation, February 26, 2002 (December 24, 2001)
- City of Arden Hills, Gateway Business Center, February 25, 2002 (January 21, 2002)

- U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (Federal EA), Sauk Rapids Bridge Project, January 2, 2002 (February 5, 2001)
- Saint Louis County, Industrial Road Reconstruction, County Road 885, February 22, 2002 (January 21, 2002)
- Department of Natural Resources, Moosewalk/Moosrun ATV Trail Designation Project, March 5, 2002 (December 24, 2001)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, SP 7102 TH 10, February 26, 2002 (December 24, 2001)

The EQB staff has now completed another draft of amendments to chapter 4400, considering the comments that have been registered with the agency.

These latest draft amendments are available on the EQB webpage, and a copy may be obtained by contacting the EQB at (651) 297-1257 or by e-mail at [Alan.Mitchell@state.mn.us](mailto:Alan.Mitchell@state.mn.us)

The EQB staff is presently drafting a Statement of Need and Reasonableness explaining each of the proposed amendments. The entire package will be brought to the EQB Board on April 18, 2002, for authorization to proceed with final rulemaking.

## Site Permit Application

### Upgrade GRE's Saint Bonifacius peaking station

On March 1, 2002, Great River Energy (GRE) submitted to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) a site permit application regarding an upgrade of GRE's Saint Bonifacius peaking station. The upgrade would expand the maximum generating output from 50 megawatts (MW) to approximately 74 MW.

On March 8, 2002 the Chair of the Board accepted the application as complete and notified the applicant in writing per Minn. Stat. Section 116C.57, subd 2a. This application (EQB Docket #02-34-PPS-GRE) will be the first to be reviewed under new procedures of the Power Plant Siting Act (Minn. Stat. Section 116C.575 and Minnesota Rules, part 4400.2000, Interim Guidance).

The Chair designated Mr. Larry Hartman (651-296-5089) as the public advisor in this matter. A public meeting is scheduled for April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2002 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Watertown Township town hall located at 3580 County Road 10 North.

Additional information on this docket can be viewed at <http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/eqb/EnergyFacilities/>

## Power Plant Siting Rules

In October 2001, the EQB Board adopted draft amendments to Minnesota Rules chapter 4400 as interim guidance. Chapter 4400 are the rules for siting of large power plants and routing of high voltage transmission lines. The EQB published notice in the State Register that it was soliciting comments on the draft amendments and that the public could register its comments with the EQB by December 7, 2001. A number of individuals and organizations did file comments on the draft rules.

## EA Availability Notice

### Construction of Compressed Diamond Interchange at Trunk Highway 23 and County State-Aid Highway 9 in Green Lake Township, Kandiyohi County

Description: Mn/DOT proposes to construct a compressed diamond interchange at the intersection of Kandiyohi County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 9 and Trunk Highway (TH) 23. Additional improvements include the construction of a two-cell storm water treatment pond and approximately 0.9 miles of frontage roads to provide access to existing developments. The proposed interchange project is located in Green Lake Township, Kandiyohi County, Minnesota.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT)

Copies of the EA will be available for public review at the Mn/DOT District 8 Office, 2505 Transportation Road, Willmar, MN and Willmar Public Library, 410 Fifth Street SW, Willmar, MN 56201.

Contact: Lowell Flaten, P.E., Project Manager, 2505 Transportation Road, P.O. Box 768, Willmar, MN 56201. Phone: (320) 214-3698. Fax: (320) 231-5168.

## Power Plant Siting and Transmission Line Routing Mailing List

Pursuant to the 2001 amendments to the Power Plant Siting Act, EQB is initiating a notification list for the purpose of notifying persons of permit applications for large electric generating power plants and high voltage transmission lines. In addition, we are updating our notification lists for the Power Plant Siting and

Transmission Line Routing annual hearing and for any EQB rulemaking.

You may register for any of these lists electronically by accessing our website at:

<http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/eqb/EnergyFacilities/maillinglist.html> or by calling Andrea at 651-297-1257 to be put on the mailing list for any of the following or to remove you from our notification lists and returning this form by U.S. mail:

- Power Plant Siting and Routing Annual Hearing
- Power Plant Siting and Routing Projects
- Rulemaking (all EQB)

## Final AUAR Adopted

### Everton Avenue Neighborhood final AUAR and mitigation plan, City of Hugo, Minnesota

Pursuant to Minnesota Rules 4410.3610, the city of Hugo has adopted the Everton Avenue Neighborhood Development Final AUAR and mitigation plan dated December 31, 2001. The City Council adopted the Final AUAR and mitigation plan on February 4, 2002.

## 2002 Land Use Planning Workshop

Dates are set for the 2002 Land Use Planning Workshops. For Planning Commissioners, Elected Officials and Students. Sponsored by Government Training Service.

The following is a list of the eight courses being offered February-June. A complete brochure with more details and a registration form is available on the GTS website [gts@mngts.org](mailto:gts@mngts.org) by calling the GTS office at 651-222-7409 (from metro area) or 800-569-6880 (from Greater Minnesota), by sending an e-mail to [gts@mngts.org](mailto:gts@mngts.org)

### Core Programs:

- **Annual Planning Institute:** Designed for those new to land use planning or interested in a review of the fundamentals, this workshop provides participants with an understanding of the nuts & bolts of planning, zoning and subdivision regulation. Participants learn where they fit into the planning and zoning process, how to maximize their impact and how to conduct public hearings plus lots of other basics.

- **Beyond the Basics:** Participants learn about preparing and using planning tools to deal with a wide variety of development problems, plus obtain an in-depth review of the planning process—from proper legal notice to development of sophisticated findings of fact. It is intended for those with general knowledge of the planning process or who have attended the “Annual Planning Institute: The Basics”.
- **Advanced Zoning Applications:** This workshop follows the “Annual Planning Institute: The Basics” and “Beyond the Basics” and offers a more in depth exploration of land use issues. Participants learn more about variances, conditional use permits, planned use development ordinances and performance zoning. Emphasis is also given to multi-jurisdictional planning and regulation based upon participant interest.

### Special Focus Programs

- **Boundary Adjustments:** If your community’s future could involve boundary adjustments for any reason, this special workshop is for you. This 4-hour session provides a chance to gain an understanding of potential issues and the impacts of various approaches. Participants will learn the process involved once a decision is made to move forward.
- **Building and Maintaining Community Character:** This workshop focuses on what makes up “community character” and practical ways to enhance it. This is advanced planning which gets to the heart and fabric of the community and provides a framework for you to create outstanding places to live, to play and to work. Elected officials have found this program to be especially valuable.
- **Environmental Planning: Choosing the Best Approach for your Community:** The Minnesota Environmental Planning Act (MEPA) provides a number of options for communities. Which makes the most sense for you – EIS, EAW, AUAR? What are the procedures involved? How do you link the findings back to your zoning ordinances & other community planning efforts?
- **Technology Tools:** Learn how to take advantage of easy-to-use GIS tools and local area resource data to improve local planning efforts to address environmental and sustainable planning issues. “Planning kits” distributed during this 4-hour course will enable you to develop scenarios and prepare plans that address your goals.

## Notifications of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms

File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
02-NO-023	Interstate Payco Seed	Sugarbeet	Herbicide tolerance	Polk, Clay (2), Wilkin (2), Scott
02-NO-024	Monsanto	Alfalfa	Herbicide tolerance	LeSueur
02-NO-025	Syngenta	Corn	Multiple phenotypes and combinations of: disease and insect resistance, herbicide tolerance, and altered seed composition	Faribault, Freeborn, Rice, Goodhue, Meeker, Mower, Redwood (2), Steele (2), Swift
02-NO-026	Monsanto	Corn	Recombinase expression	Freeborn (2)
02-NO-027	Monsanto	Corn	Insect resistance	Murray (2), Lyon, Jackson, Renville, Cottonwood (2), Lac Qui Parle, Yellow Medicine
02-NO-028	Monsanto	Corn	Altered lysine level	Freeborn (2)
02-NO-029	Monsanto	Wheat	Herbicide tolerance	Polk, Ramsey, Dakota, Stevens
02-NO-030	Pioneer	Sunflower	Multiple phenotypes and combinations of: insect and disease resistance	Clay
02-NO-031	Monsanto	Alfalfa	Herbicide tolerance	Dakota

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



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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](mailto:eqbmonitor@mnplan.state.mn.us)

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