



DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Q Prime DEIS: Change in Comment Deadline

On December 15, 2003, a district court judge issued an Order which accelerates the date for receipt of comments to the Q Prime Draft EIS. The new date, pursuant to the court order, is **December 24, 2003**. If you have any questions, please contact Al Frechette at 952-496-8354. The Summary Judgment can be viewed at the Scott County website at: www.co.scott.mn.us. The address to submit comments to is: Allen Frechette, Environmental Health Department - Q Prime DEIS, Government Center A 208, 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379-1220 Faxed to: 952-496-8489 or emailed to: <mailto:qprimeeis@co.scott.mn.us>

Please include a complete return address and phone number on all comments.

Trunk Highway 371 North Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Description: The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)/Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation documenting the impacts of

the proposed action for the Trunk Highway 371 North Improvement Project from the intersection

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.eqb.state.mn.us

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Next issue: January 5, 2004
Submittal deadline: December 29, 2003

of Crow Wing County Road 18 in Nisswa to the intersection of Cass County Road 2/42 in Pine River is available for review. The proposed improvements include the construction of a four-lane limited access highway. Four build alternatives along with the No-Build alternative have been assessed in the DEIS.

Copies of the document are being distributed to those agencies on the current MEQB document review list and others. The comment period will begin on **December 22, 2003** and will extend through **February 9, 2004**.

Copies of the DEIS, which documents the purpose and need of the project along with the anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts, are available for public review beginning December 22nd at the following locations and on the project website at: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/projects/bynum.html#371>

- Mn/DOT District 3 Offices, 7694 Industrial Park Road, Baxter, MN.
- Nisswa City Hall
- Pequot Lakes City Hall
- Jenkins City Hall
- Pine River City Hall
- Crow Wing County Highway Department, 202 Laurel Street, Brainerd, MN.
- Cass County Highway Department, 300 Minnesota Avenue, Walker, MN
- Brainerd Public Library, 416 5th St. S., Brainerd, MN
- Kitchigami Regional Library, 212 Park Ave., Pine River, MN

The DEIS can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the Project Manager at (218) 828-2465 or to individuals who are hearing or speech impaired by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at (800) 627-3529 or (651) 296-9930 TTY. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Project Manager or through the Minnesota Relay Service at the telephone numbers listed above, as soon as possible.

To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies and groups to comment on the project a public hearing/open house meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2004 at the Pequot Lakes High School. An informational open house will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with two identical presentations starting at 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. Mn/DOT representatives will be present to answer questions during the open house.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact: Tony Hughes, Mn/DOT – District 3 Project Manager, 7694 Industrial Park Road, Baxter, MN 56425; 218-828-2465 Email: TH371N@dot.state.mn.us

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET

Comments due on January 21, 2004

Sweetwater Bend

Description: The Sweetwater Bend Project, located one and one half miles north of Big Lake on Sherburne County Road 73, is a residential development. Development will include 287 single family homes on 507-acre site. The site includes 323 acres of wetlands and is adjacent to Elk River.

RGU: City of Big Lake

Contact: Bradley DeWolf, P.E., City Engineer, 160 Lake St. N., P.O. Box 250, Big Lake, Minnesota 55309; 763-263-2107 Fax 763-263-0133 Email: Bradley@ci.big.lake.mn.us

Trunk Highway 169 Crossrange Expressway, Coleraine to 0.3 Mile East of CSAH 7, Itasca County

Description: The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) proposes to implement roadway improvements and new alignment along approximately 3.9 miles of roadway from Coleraine to 0.3 mile east of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 7 in Itasca County. A four-lane road will be constructed on new alignment and right-of-way from Coleraine to approximately 0.6 mile west of CSAH 15 in Itasca County. The remaining alignment follows existing Trunk Highway (TH) 169 and includes an upgrade from a two-lane to four-lane divided roadway to 0.3 mile east of CSAH 7. To provide appropriate access to the improved roadway, the project also includes associated improvements to existing local transportation infrastructure in Coleraine and the CSAH 15 area near Taconite.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment (EA), which documents the purpose and need of the project along with 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 1 Office, 1123 Mesaba Avenue, Duluth, MN 55811
- Bovey Public Library, 402 2nd Street, Bovey MN 55709
- Coleraine Public Library, 203 Cole Street, Coleraine MN 55722
- Grand Rapids Area Library, 140 2nd Street NE, Grand Rapids MN 55744
- Duluth Public Library, 520 W. Superior Street, Duluth MN 55802

The official comment period will begin on **December 22, 2003** and will close on **February 9, 2004**. In compliance with Minnesota Rule 4410.1500, Mn/DOT will distribute the EA to all agencies listed on the Mn EQB Distribution list. In addition, Mn/DOT has prepared a press release containing the Notice of Availability of the TH 169 EA and the public hearing for the project. The press release will be submitted to the local papers, including the Grand Rapids Herald Review, which is the major daily newspaper serving the project area.

The public hearing date has been set for January 28, 2004 at the Bovey City Hall (402 2nd Street, Bovey). There will be an open house starting at 6:00 PM, followed by the official project presentation/receipt of comments at 7:00 PM.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact: Daniel J. Erickson, Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Transportation- District 1 Office, 1123 Mesaba Avenue, Duluth, MN 55811; 218-723-4960 ext. 3305 or 218-723-4774.

Glencoe Light and Power Commission

Description: McLeod County is hereby giving notice that an Environmental Assessment has been completed for Glencoe Light and Power Commission 115kV Transmission Line Project. Said report is available for public viewing at the Zoning Office located at the McLeod County Courthouse, Suite 113, 830 11th St E, Glencoe, MN 55336, or said report can be mailed by request. The zoning office hours are 8:00am - 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. The McLeod County Board will be holding a public hearing in the County Board Meeting Room, McLeod County Courthouse on Tuesday, January 6, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. to take official action regarding this report.:

RGU: McLeod County

Contact: Larry Gasow, Zoning Administrator, McLeod County, Suite 113, 830 11th St E, Glencoe, MN 55336; 320-864-1259

Fields of Mission Creek

Description: Project consists of development of a 75 acre agricultural / grassland / wetland parcel into 28 single-family residential lots. Lots to range in size from 1.5 acres to 6.4 acres. Dwellings to be served by individual on-site sewer systems and individual wells. Approximately 4000 feet of township road will be constructed to serve the proposed new lots.

RGU: Pine County

Contact: Robert Pulford, Pine County Land and Zoning Department, 1610 Highway 23 North, Sandstone, MN 55072; 320-245-6707

Union Dairy, LLP

Description: Union Dairy, LLP, is proposing to construct a 530-foot long by 118-foot wide free stall barn and a 90-foot long by 32-foot wide breeze-way which will connect the barn to an existing permitted facility constructed in 1999. When all of the barns are complete, the total capacity will be 2,000 head. Manure from the facility will be stored in two clay-lined earthen manure storage basins. One basin already exists at the site and one new basin will be constructed. After the expansion, the existing clay-lined earthen manure basin will be increased from 14-feet deep to 16-feet deep. The final dimensions of the existing basin will then be 300-foot long, by 350-foot wide by 16-feet deep. The new basin will also be a clay-lined basin and will be 650-foot long by 275-foot wide by 15-feet deep. Total manure and wastewater storage will be 21 million gallons.

A 500-foot long by 300-foot wide bituminous pad and a 130-foot long by 34-foot wide commodity storage shed will be constructed to store feed and forage. This expansion will have a capacity of 2,000 cows (2,800 animal units). The cows will be milked three times daily.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Website at the following:

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

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Randy Hukriede, Project Manager, Operations and Environmental Review Section, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 1800 College Road South, Baxter, Minnesota 55155; 218-828-6076 or 1-800-657-3864

Rolling Meadows

Description: Sunrise Homes, Incorporated proposed to develop 135 acres into 36 single-family home sites. The site is located along S.T.H. 70 in the NW ¼ of Sec. 22, T38N, R21W, Pine County, Minnesota. The lots will be 2.5 acres or larger. Streets will be constructed to serve the development. Wells and septic systems will be required for each lot.

RGU: The City of Rock Creek, Pine County

Contact: Sandy Pangerl, City of Rock Creek, P.O. Box 22, Rock Creek, Minnesota 55067; 320-629-2736 Fax 320-629-8934.

Harvest Meadows

Description: The proposed development will consist of single family residential housing on 598.05 acres in Sections 7, 18 and 19 of Burns Township, Anoka, Minnesota. Density of housing will be less than 1 house per 5 acres. Each lot will be served by individual wells and septic systems and public roadways.

RGU: Township of Burns

Contact: Corrie LaDoucer, Clerk, 19800 Nowthen Blvd. N.W., Anoka, Minnesota 55303; 763-441-1347 Fax 763-441-7013 Email: burnstsp@qwest.com

FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AVAILABLE

An Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed construction of a 2.25 mile segment of Minnesota Trunk Highway (TH) 53/Trinity Road from 0.25 miles north of Skyline Parkway to 0.25 miles south of TH 194 in Duluth, St. Louis County, Minnesota is available. This roadway will be reconstructed as a four-lane section with a two-way left turn lane, concrete walks, retaining walls and a storm water system.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) has prepared this EA pursuant to Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Rule 4410.4300, subpart 22B (Highway Project). The EA is being circulated for a 30-day review and comment period. The comment period will begin upon publication of a Notice of Availability of the EA in the EQB Monitor on December 22, 2003. Comments regarding the EAW and the project will be accepted through January 21, 2004 and may be directed to Mn/DOT.

Mn/DOT will use the comments received in deciding whether there is potential for this project to result in significant

impacts to the environment, and whether an environmental impact statement is needed.

RGU: The Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact: Roberta P. Dwyer, P.E., PTOE, Consultant
Program/Project Manager Mn/DOT, 1123 Mesaba Ave.,
Duluth, Minnesota 55811; 218-723-4960, ext. 3504 Fax 218-
723-4774 Email: roberta.dwyer@DOT.state.mn.us

AUAR AMENDMENT AVAILABLE

The Cove Development

The Cove, LLC, proposes a development of 340 units of housing, 260,000 square feet of commercial/light industrial/office development and a restaurant located on 363 acres in Sections 22, 27 and 34, Watab Township, Benton County. The available report amends an AUAR for the development that was originally adopted by Benton County on November 20th, 2001.

RGU: Benton County

Contact Person: Chelle Benson, Director of Development,
Benton County, 531 Dewey St., P.O. Box 129, Foley,
Minnesota 56329; 320 968-5065.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET NEED DECISION

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

- Grant County Board of Commissioners, Prairie Winds Estates, EAW ordered.

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 of the EAW notice was published in the EQB Monitor.

- Sleepy Eye Lake Dredging Project, City of Sleepy Eye, November 13, 2003 (August 18, 2003)
- Harriet Island Lower Harbor Marina Expansion, City of St. Paul, December 8, 2003 (August 4, 2003)

- City of Prinsburg Wastewater Treatment Facility, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, December 9, 2003 (October 13, 2003)
- Blaine Environmental Campus Transfer Station Expansion, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, December 10, 2003 (October 27, 2003)
- Eagle Bend Wastewater Treatment Facility, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, December 10, 2003 (October 27, 2003)
- Red Wing RDF Ash Disposal Facility, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, November 21, 2003 (September 29, 2003)
- Kings Run Sanitary Sewer Replacement, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, December 1, 2003 (July 21, 2003)
- Shamrock Enterprises of Rochester, LLC, Oronoco Township Board of Supervisors, November 20, 2003 (September 15, 2003)
- Windcliff Subdivision, Wabasha County-Lake City Joint Zoning Board, August 28, 2003 (July 21, 2003)
- Blue Hill Farms, Sherburne County Board of Commissioners, December 2, 2003 (October 13, 2003)

SCOPING DOCUMENT

Trunk Highway 14 Rochester through Eyota

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has completed the scoping process for TH 14 between the eastern Rochester city limits and the city of Eyota. The scoping process identified the need for and purpose of improvements along this section of highway, and evaluated improvement alternatives to determine which alternatives would be carried forward into the next stage of environmental review – an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). However, funding constraints have resulted in a delay in proceeding with the environmental review process for this project. At such time when funding is available to proceed with environmental review, the results of the scoping process will be reviewed. The purpose of such review will be to determine if a scoping update is required to accurately assess future project area conditions. Upon completion of such review and any necessary scoping updates, the EIS process will proceed.

NOTICE

Restoration Project Planned For Big Slough, North and South Badger Lakes-DNR Section of Wildlife

Description: The DNR Section of Wildlife is planning a rotenone treatment of the in-lake channels and the upstream tributaries entering Big Slough and North and South Badger

Lakes in Murray County. These flowages are located in parts of sections 21, 23-28, 34 and 35 in T 106 R41, and in parts of sections 1-4, 11, 12, and 15 in T 015 R41. This project involves the application of 2.5% synergized liquid rotenone, a federally and state registered pesticide, to eliminate less desirable fish species from in-lake channels and from tributaries flowing into Big Slough and the Badger Lakes. The Treatment will be conducted in February 2004.

Endangered or threatened species are not present in the proposed treatment areas. Project goals include removing undesirable fish species, primarily carp and bullheads, to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in North and South Badger Lakes and Big Slough. Lake volumes are currently reduced through dewatering, so chemical application will only be necessary in the deeper channels and tributaries flowing into the lake.

Rotenone distribution will be done through the ice by licensed pesticide applicators and by drip stations if necessary. Target treatment concentration is 5 ppm. The current fish community is dominated by the exotic species carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) and black bullheads (*Ictalurus melas*). Benefits of the project will be improved water quality, re-establishment of desirable aquatic vegetation, reduction of plankton algae and improved habitat for wildlife and waterfowl.

RGU: Mn/DOT

Contact: Mark Gulick, Area Wildlife Manager, Mn/DOT, Transportation Building, 395 John Ireland Boulevard, St. Paul, MN 55155: 651-296-6157, 1-888-646-6367, Email: mark.gulick@state.mn.us.



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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

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