



FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AVAILABLE

Trunk Highway 371 Reconstruction

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), for the proposed reconstruction of Trunk Highway (TH) 371 from the junction of TH 371 with TH 10 to 0.5 miles north of County State Aid Highway 48 in Morrison County. The proposed improvements will result in TH 371 becoming a four lane highway between the above referenced project termini.

The Final EIS responds to timely substantive comments on the Draft EIS, provides information and analysis in addition to that contained in the Draft EIS, and corrects errors in the Draft EIS. Together, the Final EIS and the Draft EIS comprise the complete EIS, which documents the analysis of potential impacts associated with the proposed improvements to TH 371.

Mn/DOT will accept comments on the adequacy of the Final EIS during the public review and comment period which concludes Wednesday, **February 4, 2004** at 4:30 PM.

Following the close of the Final EIS comment period, Mn/DOT will determine whether the EIS is adequate and will prepare a record of its

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 <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us>

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Next issue: January 19, 2004
Submittal deadline: January 12, 2004

decision. A notice of the Adequacy Determination will be published in the EQB Monitor.

Copies of the Final EIS may be reviewed at the following locations:

- MN Department of Transportation, 7694 Industrial Park Road, Baxter, MN 56425; 218-828-2460
- MN Department of Transportation, 3725 12th Street N., St. Cloud, MN 56303; 320-255-4181
- Brainerd Public Library, 416 5th Street S., Brainerd, MN 56401; 218-829-5574
- Little Falls Carnegie Library, 180 3rd Street NE, Little Falls, MN 56345; 320-632-9676

Comments on the adequacy of the EIS may be directed to: Tony Hughes, P.E. Project Manager, Mn/DOT District 3, 7694 Industrial Park Road, Baxter, MN 56425; telephone: 218-828-2465 or 1-800-657-3971; Email tony.hughes@dot.state.mn.us

Scoping Document/Draft Scoping Decision Document

Minnesota Trunk Highway 10, City of Wadena, Wadena and Otter Tail Counties

Description: This scoping document and draft scoping decision document have been prepared to address both the federal and state environmental review process and requirements. These documents provide a discussion of the need for the project, the alternatives under consideration, potential social, economic and environmental impacts, and a time frame for completion of the EIS.

This document is being circulated to the EQB EAW Distribution List and others. Copies of the Scoping Document/Draft Scoping Decision Document are available for public viewing during regular business hours at the following locations:

- MnDOT District 4 Headquarters Office, 1000 Highway 10 W., Detroit Lakes
- MnDOT District 3 Headquarters Office, 1991 Industrial Park Rd, Baxter

- Wadena City Administrative Center, 222 2nd St. SE, Wadena
- City of Wadena Library, 304 1st St. SE, Wadena
- Regional Development Commission 5, 611 Iowa Av, Staples

The document will be available online at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d4/news.html>

The official comment period begins on **January 5, 2004** and will run through **February 4, 2004**. The Public Scoping Meeting for this project has been scheduled for Thursday January 22, 2004 at 7:00 PM at the Northwest Technical College, 405 SW Colfax, Wadena, MN. There will be an open house prior to the Scoping Meeting beginning at 6:00 PM.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact: Lori Vanderhider, Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 4, 1000 Highway 10 W., Detroit Lakes, Minnesota 56501,

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

Comments due on February 4, 2004

Cormorant Township Gravel Mine

Description: Development of an approximate 103.2 acre aggregate mining operation in the SE ¼, Section 19, T138N, R43W, Cormorant Township, Becker County. Adjacent property is agriculture land. Access will be on the east side of the mining site to County Road 145 and north to U.S. Highway 10.

RGU: Becker County

Contact: Patricia L. Johnson, Administrator, 835 Lake Avenue, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502; 218-846-7314 Fax 218-846-7266 Email: pljohns@co.becker.mn.us

Removal of the Detached Garage at 123 and 127 Center Street, Mankato

Description: James and Melissa Matthies (123 Center Street) and John Mahoney (127 Center Street) are proposing to remove the shared detached garage at 123 and 127 Center Street located within the Lincoln Park Residential Historic District of Mankato. Once the removal is complete, a new 18' x 20' garage will be constructed on the same building envelope.

RGU: City of Mankato

Contact: Brad Potter, Associate Planner, 10 Civic Center Plaza, Mankato, Minnesota 56001; 507-387-8611 Fax 507-387-6845.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Trunk Highway 10/59, City of Detroit Lakes, Becker County

Description: The Proposed Project would realign Trunk Highway (TH) 10 and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) tracks in the City of Detroit Lakes. The project includes depressing Roosevelt Avenue under the BNSF and TH 10. The project includes the following roadway improvements; adding curbs, gutters, concrete medians and reducing access points to TH 10. Additionally, roadway improvements will be made on TH 59 at and between the intersections with TH 10 and TH 34.

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:

- Detroit Lakes Planning and Zoning Office - 1025 Roosevelt Ave., Detroit Lakes, MN 56501 (218) 847-5658
- Mn/DOT - District 4 - Highway 10 West, Box 1000 MN 56501
- Detroit Lakes Public Library - 1000 Washington Ave., Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

The official comment period will begin on **January 5, 2004** and will close on **February 4, 2004**. Mn/DOT will distribute the EA to all agencies listed on the EQB Distribution list and others.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact: Thomas Lundberg, Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Transportation- District 4 Office, 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501; 218-847-1537, Email: thomas.lunberg@dot.state.mn.us

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT/ EAW

Trunk Highway (TH) 169 Cross Range Expressway, Phase II

Description: The proposed project includes realignment and expansion of TH 169 as a four-lane divided roadway, from Elizabeth Avenue in Coleraine to approximately 0.30 mile east of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 7 in Itasca County, Minnesota.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact: Daniel J. Erickson, Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Transportation, 1123 Mesaba Ave., Duluth, Minnesota 55811; 218-723-4960 Ext. 3305 Fax 218-723-4774 Email: Daniel.Erickson@dot.state.mn.us

The comment period will begin upon publication of a Notice of Availability of the EA/EAW in the EQB Monitor on December 22, 2003. Comments regarding the EA/EAW and the project will be accepted through February 9, 2004.

A public hearing for the proposed project will be held during the EA/EAW comment period to provide an opportunity for the public to comment on the proposed project. The public hearing will be held at the Bovey City Hall, 402 Second St., on Wednesday, January 28, 2004. There will be an open house from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., followed by a formal presentation, with time to provide official comments starting at 7:00 p.m.

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.

FINAL AUAR ADOPTED

Chanhassen 2005 Metropolitan Urban Service Area AUAR

Description: The City of Chanhassen has adopted the Final Alternative Urban Areawide Review and Mitigation Plan for its 2005 Metropolitan Urban Service Area (MUSA). The project area includes approximately 624 acres of farmland and open space in the southern portion of the community guided to develop with low to medium density residential, office, office/industrial, park and open spaces uses as guided by the City's Comprehensive Plan. A Chaska School District middle/high school facility is also identified as a possible alternative use for a portion of the site currently guided for office/industrial uses. Bisecting the project area is Bluff Creek, a valuable local and regional natural resource corridor and the future TH 212/312 corridor which crosses through the southeast corner of the project area. The Final AUAR studies

impacts and identifies mitigation initiatives to protect or minimize potential negative impacts of development.

Copies of the Final AUAR and Mitigation Plan are available for review at Chanhassen City Hall, 7700 Market Boulevard, Chanhassen MN, 55317

RGU: City of Chanhassen

Contact Person: Kate Aanenson, Community Development Director, 7700 Market Boulevard, P.O. Box 147, Chanhassen, MN 55317; phone (952) 227-1139; email: kaanenson@ci.chanhassen.mn.us

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.

- Hazeltine Bay Plat, Crow Wing County

EIS ADEQUACY DECISION

On December 16, 2003, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Citizens' Board votes to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order that determined that the Environmental Impact Statement for the **Hancock Pro Pork Hog Feedlot Project**, Stevens and Pope Counties, is adequate. This decision completes the state environmental review process under the revised Minnesota Environmental Quality Board Rules, Minn. R. ch. 4410.

EIS NEED DECISION

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following project does 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.

- CDIC Industrial Park Development, Cloquet City, December 16, 2003 (August 4, 2003)

NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS BY THE METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION ON THE MAC CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, 2004-2010

On December 15, 2003, the Metropolitan Airports Commission concluded that, based upon the Assessment of Environmental Effects (AOEE) prepared for the Seven-Year Capital Improvement Program for Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, potential for adverse effects as a result of the projects has been adequately identified. Assessments of Environmental Effects for St. Paul Downtown, Flying Cloud, Crystal, Anoka County-Blaine, Lake Elmo and Airlake Airports were not prepared since the Capital Improvement Program and Plan has not changed from the previous year or the changes have only trivial environmental effects.

The Metropolitan Airports Commission held a public hearing on November 5, 2003, regarding the MSP AOEE. The public record remained open until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 24, 2003.

The Commission recommendation was that no further environmental review is warranted at this time in regards to the MSP AOEE.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW OF REVISIONS TO THE MN FOREST RESOURCES COUNCIL'S TIMBER HARVESTING AND FOREST MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (Council) is requesting public review and comment on the proposed revisions to the timber harvesting and forest management (TH/FM) guidelines. The TH/FM guidelines were published in April 1999 as part of the process to promote sustainable forest management in Minnesota through implementation of the Sustainable Forest Resources Act of 1995. The Act requires the Council to complete a review of the guidelines and approve any changes by June 30, 2005.

The Council has identified TH/FM guideline issue areas that are being considered for review. These include:

- Modifications to erosion control practice recommendations for roads and skid trails.
- Modifications of seasonal pond recommendations.
- Clarification of the use of leave tree clumps for wildlife habitat.
- Desirability of linking site level guideline recommendations to the broader landscape/cumulative perspectives.
- Establishing a minimum size of open water wetland for requirement of a riparian management zone.

Members of the public wanting to review and provide comment on the proposed changes to the TH/FM guidelines can view the current guidelines on the Council web site (www.frc.state.mn.us) and can receive a copy of the proposed changes to the TH/FM guidebook by contacting:

Contact: Mike Phillips, MN Forest Resources Council , 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4044; 651-297-4924
Fax: 651-296-5954 Email: mike.phillips@dnr.state.mn.us

Written comments must be received by Mike Phillips by Friday, April 16, 2004.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet on Tuesday, January 27, 2003 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Shoreview Community Center in Shoreview, Minnesota.

For more information please contact Jenna Fletcher at 651-603-0109 or go to the calendar on the MFRC website at: www.frc.state.mn.us

- Improvement of some guideline definitions.
- Clarification of the filter strip recommendations.
- Providing examples of silvicultural prescriptions and guideline application flexibility.
- Development of site infrastructure.
- Additional emphasis on minimizing soil compaction, considerations for soil operability, and minimizing site rutting.

EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2004

Deadline for Submission	Publication Date	EAW Comment Deadline
December 15, 2003	December 22, 2003	January 21, 2004
December 29, 2003	January 5, 2004	February 4
January 12	January 19	February 18
January 26	February 2	March 3
February 9	February 16	March 17
February 23	March 1	March 31
March 8	March 15	April 14
March 22	March 29	April 28
April 5	April 12	May 12
April 19	April 26	May 26
May 3	May 10	June 9
May 17	May 24	June 23
May 28 (Friday)	June 7	July 7
June 14	June 21	July 21
June 28	July 5	August 4
July 12	July 19	August 18
July 26	August 2	September 1
August 9	August 16	September 15
August 23	August 30	September 29
September 3 (Friday)	September 13	October 13
September 20	September 27	October 27
October 4	October 11	November 10
October 18	October 25	November 24
November 1	November 8	December 8
November 15	November 22	December 22
November 29	December 6	January 5, 2005
December 13	December 20	January 19, 2005



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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: eqb.monitor@state.mn.us
