



Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Comments due on March 17, 2004

Overland Drive

Description: EA/EAW for the new construction of a 1.1 mile, three lane arterial urban roadway connecting Bandel Road NW to County Road 112 in Rochester, MN in 2004. Project also includes reconstruction of 1100' on 65th St. NW and realignment of 1200' of Bandel Road NW in 2005.

The 30-day comment period will begin on Feb. 16th and end on March 17th. Copies of the EA/EAW have been sent to agencies listed on the current MEQB distribution list. The EA/EAW will be available for viewing at the following locations:

- City of Rochester, 201 4th St. SE, Room 108, Rochester, Minnesota 55904
- Rochester Public Library, Reference Dept., 101 2nd St. SE, Rochester, Minnesota 55904

RGU: City of Rochester, Minnesota.

Contact: Barbara Huberty, City of Rochester, 201 4th St. SE, Room 108, Rochester, Minnesota 55904; 507-529-4907 Fax: 507-281-6216 Email: bhuberty@ci.rochester.mn.us

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/>

Vol. 28, No. 4

Next issue: March 1, 2004
Submittal deadline: February 23, 2004

Elko/New Market Wastewater Treatment Facility

Description: The cities of Elko and New Market are proposing to expand the existing Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) from a design average wet weather flow of 95,000 gallons per day (gpd) to a design average wet weather flow 980,000 gpd. The proposed WWTF will be capable of treating an annual average design flow of 900,000 gpd and an average dry weather flow of 859,000 gpd. The Elko/New Market Joint Sewer Board is proposing this expansion because additional wastewater treatment capacity is needed for current and future development in the area.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following:
<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Kelly Garvey, Project Manager, Operations and Environmental Review Section, Regional Environmental Management Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155; 651-296-7796.

Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuels

Description: Flint Hills Resources, LP proposes to produce ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD) fuels at its Pine Bend Refinery in Rosemount, Minnesota. Production of ULSD fuels will require the construction of a hydrogen plant, a hydrocracker, three 12,600,000-gallon (300,000-barrel) storage tanks, and expanded cooling tower capacity.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following:
<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Kelly Garvey, Project Manager, Operations and Environmental Review Section, Regional Environmental Management Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155; 651-296-7796.

Granite Falls Community Ethanol Plant LLC

Description: The Granite Falls Community Ethanol Plant proposes to construct a dry mill 200-proof ethanol plant in Chippewa County, with a maximum capacity of 45 million gallons per year. The Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for this project was previously published in the Environmental Quality Board Monitor on August 18, 2003. Since then, changes in the project have been proposed. This EAW includes a description of those changes.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 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 Environmental Review Section, Regional Environmental Management Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155; 651-282-5992.

Shady Lawn R.V. Estates/Park Resorts, LLC, 5th Crow Wing Lake

Description: The project will convert "Shady Lawn" resort to a seasonal R.V. park with 49 R.V. sites. The cabins and the home will be removed. The game room will remain. The lot encompasses 21.91 acres of forested lakeshore property with 1,075 frontage feet on 5th Crow Wing Lake, Nevis Township.

RGU: Hubbard County

Contact: Garry Johanson, Zoning Administrator, 301 Court Avenue, Park Rapids, Minnesota 56470; 218-732-3890 Fax 218-732-7993 Email gjohanson@co.hubbard.mn.us

Lennes Mining Project

Description: The proposed project would consist of excavating approximately 685,000 cubic yards of sand on approximately 20 acres of land east of Lexington Avenue and south of 138th Avenue in Ham Lake, MN. The material would be temporarily stockpiled on-site before being sold and removed from the site by trucks. Upon completion of the project, the excavated area would become a 38-foot deep water pond of approximately 15 acres.

RGU: Ham Lake

Contact: Tom Collins, City Engineer, 13635 Johnson Street, Ham Lake, Minnesota 55304; 763-862-8000 Fax 763-862-8042 Email: TCollins@RCFEngineering.com

Mueller Gravel Pit Expansion

Description: An Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) has been prepared for a proposed expansion of the Wm. Mueller and Sons, Incorporated sand/gravel mining operation located in Dahlgren Township. The site is west of County Road 147 and the City of Carver, in the NE ¼ of Section 24 of Dahlgren Township (T115N, R24W). The proposed expansion would add Mueller's remaining property into the operation, encompassing approximately 60 acres.

The EAW will be available for public review at <http://www.co.carver.mn.us/PZ/index.asp> at the Planning and Zoning Office in the Administration Building of the Carver County Government Center located at 600 East 4th Street, Chaska. A copy of the EAW will also be available at the Chaska Public Library. There is a 30-day review period for anyone who would like to provide comments regarding the project. The Carver County Planning and Zoning Department must receive all comments no later than **March 17, 2004**.

RGU: Carver County

Contact: Steve Just, Deputy Planning Director, Carver County, Planning and Zoning Department, Carver County Government Center-Administration Bldg., 600 E. 4th St., Chaska, Minnesota 55318

Sandy Beach Estates

Description: The proposed Lake Melissa project involves the development of a 71.4-acre agricultural/wetland/forested parcel into 34 residential lots. A total of 5 lots located on Lake Melissa of which 1 lot will be used for access for 29 backlots. Two common docking facilities are proposed on the common access point for backlots.

RGU: Becker County Planning and Zoning

Contact: Patricia L. Johnson, Planning and Zoning Administrator, 835 Lake Ave., Post Office Box 787, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota 56502; 218-846-7314 Fax 218-846-7266, Email: pljohns@co.becker.mn.us

Hawk Ridge Estates

Description: The Duluth Housing and Redevelopment Authority is proposing a 55.34 acre housing development to be known as Hawk Ridge Estates. The project is bounded on the west by 52nd Avenue East, on the east by Amity Park, on the north by Skyline Parkway and on the south by residential development north of Kingston Street. The proposal is a rearrangement of 127 platted lots proposed for development of 112 residential units. One hundred three single-family and 9 duplex (18 units) residential home sites with 40% BBN

(Building Better Neighborhood Programs) and the remaining 60% at market rates. The proposal calls for city water, sewer and streets with open/green spaces accommodating existing seasonal drainages and wetlands.

The review of and comment on this document will close on **March 17, 2004**. Anyone interested, may view this EAW document at the Duluth Public Library for in-library review. Comments concerning the scope and accuracy of the EAW should be addressed to:

- Duluth City Planning Commission, Room 402 City Hall, Duluth, Minnesota 55802; Email: jmohn@ci.duluth.mn.us

The Duluth City Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on this EAW on Wednesday, March 24, 2004 beginning at 5 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, Third Floor, City Hall, Duluth, Minnesota.

Brockway Residential Development

Description: The City of Rosemount has prepared an EAW for the Brockway Residential Development. This development includes construction of 86 single-family homes, three 60-unit apartment buildings of which 1% will be senior housing, and 346 town home units, as well as a 15,000 SF of a Neighborhood Commercial area on approximately 106 acres located south of County Road 38, and east of State Highway 3 (South Robert Trail).

RGU: City of Rosemount

Contact: Rick Pearson, City Planner, City Hall, 2875 – 145th St. W, Rosemount, Minnesota 55068; 651-423-4411 Fax 651-423-5203.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EAW/EA)

Proposed Improvements Of CSAH 60/21

Description: Dakota County and Scott County have prepared an Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EA/EAW) for proposed improvements of CSAH 60/21. The improvements include widening the CSAH 60/21 roadway from two lanes to four lanes from CSAH 27 in Scott County to the west ramps of I-35W/CSAH 60 interchange in Lakeville (in Dakota County). The EA/EAW includes information on impacts to wetlands, floodplains, water quality and right of way acquisition, access changes, air quality, noise and other issues.

The EA/EAW can be viewed at the following locations:

- Scott County Government Center, 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee;
- Lakeville City Hall, 20195 Holyoke Avenue, Lakeville;
- Prior Lake Library, 16210 Eagle Creek Avenue SE, Prior Lake;
- Dakota County Heritage Library, 20085 Heritage Drive, Lakeville;
- Transportation Department, 14955 Galaxie Ave., Third Floor, Apple Valley.

Written comments regarding the project will be accepted during the 30-day comment period. Scott County and Dakota County will use the comments in deciding whether there are potential significant impacts to the environment, and whether and environmental impact statement is needed.

Written comments on the EA/EAW should be submitted by **March 17, 2004** to Greg Ilkka, Scott County, Assistant County Highway Engineer, Scott County Public Works Department, 600 Country Trail East, Jordan, MN 55343-9339; 952-496-8356 or John Sass, Dakota County, Transportation Project Manager, Dakota County Transportation Department, 14955 Galaxie Avenue, 3rd Floor, Apple Valley, MN 55124-8579; 952-891-7130.

A 30-day notice of Opportunity for a Public Hearing will be published in the following papers: Rosemount Two Pages, Prior Lake American, and Belle Plaine Herald. Written requests for a public hearing to discuss the proposed project must be received by **March 17, 2004** and should be addressed to the contacts listed above.

EAW NEED DECISION

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

- Edward Schubitzke Borrow Pit/Resolutions denying EAW and SUP, Hermantown City Council

EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible government 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.

- North Metro Harness Initiative, Town of Columbus January 28, 2004, (December 8, 2003).

- Prairie Hills 2nd Addition, Sherburne County January 15, 2004, (December 8, 2003).
- Deerfield Industrial Park, Prior Lake City Council January 19, 2004 (November 24, 2003).
- Livingood Family Farms, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Citizens' Board, January 27, 2004 (October 27, 2003).
- Island Station Development, the City of St. Paul, February 6, 2004 (July 7, 2003).
- Harvestview Development, City of Rochester, February 2, 2004 (December 8, 2003).

FINAL AUAR ADOPTED

Final AUAR for the Highway 10 Corridor

The Ramsey City Council, at their January 27, 2004 meeting, adopted the Highway 10 AUAR and mitigation plan by resolution.

FINAL AUAR ADOPTED

The Cove

The amendment and plan for mitigation for the "The Cove" residential development AUAR is adopted. On February 3, 2004 the Benton County Board of Commissioners adopted the revised environmental analysis document and plan for mitigation. No objections were filed during the 20 day comment period that ended January 22, 2004.

EIS SCOPING NOTICE

Burnsville Sanitary Landfill Expansion Project 2005

Description: The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is Public Noticing a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (SEAW), as the basis for the scoping process for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project.

An EIS is being prepared by the MPCA on a proposal by Burnsville Sanitary Landfill, Inc. (BSLI) to continue operations at its existing municipal solid waste (MSW) disposal facility by developing 37.8 acres of its property immediately adjacent to the existing Burnsville Sanitary Landfill (Landfill) to the west. BSLA is also planning a vertical lift of 6.5 feet above the planned elevation of its currently permitted 80.6 acres MSW disposal area. The expansion project would provide an additional 6.2 million cubic yards of airspace for the disposal of MSW in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. This capacity is expected to provide

for continued landfill operations for 17 to 20 years depending upon incoming waste volumes. The preparation of the EIS is mandatory under provisions of Minn. R. 4410.4400, subp. 13(E). The MPCA is the Responsible Governmental Unit for this EIS.

The public comment period on the draft Scoping EAW will end March 19, 2004. There will be a public meeting held at the Burnsville City Council Chamber, 100 Civic Center parkway, Burnsville, Minnesota, on Thursday, March 4, 2004, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This public meeting will be open to the public for interested parties to comment and ask questions regarding the Draft Scoping Document for the preparation of the EIS.

A copy of the environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following:

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

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person: Kevin J. Kain, Project Manager, Operations and Environmental Review Section, Regional Environmental Management Division, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road No., St. Paul, MN 55155; 651-296-7432

EIS PREPARATION NOTICE

Sand & Gravel Mining and Accessory Uses, Empire Township, Dakota County

Description: A Consortium of mine operators and landowners is proposing to open new aggregate mines and / or expand existing mines and ancillary operations in the northern portion of Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota. Mining would be conducted in a similar manner to the current practices at existing mines within and adjacent to the study area. The proposed mining includes the following sections, or parts thereof, in T 114N, R 19W: Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 16.

The "ancillary operation" reference is to those production operations, which are a natural extension of either the mining or reclamation processes, or to the production of some other product using the aggregate produced as an essential component.

PROCESS: A Scoping Environmental Worksheet (EAW) was distributed on November 10, 2003. Notice of availability of the EAW was published in the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Monitor on November 24, 2003. Public and agency scoping meetings were held on December 11, 2003 at the Dakota County Transportation Offices, on County Road 46, Rosemount, MN.

In accordance with EQB rules, comments were received on the content of the Scoping Document until December 24, 2003 and written responses were adopted and authorized for distribution February 10, 2004.

The Board of Supervisors of Empire Township, Dakota, County, Minnesota as the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) for the proposed sand and gravel mining project have made a positive declaration for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate potential impacts both within the mining and neighboring areas.

PREPARERS: The EIS will be prepared by a team of consultants under the supervision of Empire Township staff. The consultants will be responsible for reviewing the adequacy of available data and reports, including those received from the proposer, and preparing technical information on the possible environmental impacts of the project.

SCHEDULE: A tentative schedule for development and review of a draft and final EIS for the project is provided below.

- Scoping Decision, February 10, 2004
- EIS Preparation Notice, February 16, 2004
- Release of Draft EIS, October, 2004
- Final EIS Adequacy Determination, December 2004

EIS CONTENT: The content of the EIS will follow the requirements in Minn. R.4410.2300. The issues to be addressed in the EIS shall be as identified in the Summary of Issues (# 31) in the Draft Document:

- 11. Fish, Wildlife, and Ecologically Sensitive Resources - The Vermillion River, which is downstream from most of the proposed Mining Area, is a designated trout stream. The potential impacts on this resource are a topic for further investigation in the EIS.
- 12. Physical Impacts on Water Resources - Given the downstream wetland area and the potential that stormwater runoff may be reduced during the mining period, the potential impacts should be examined in the EIS.
- 13. Water Use - The particular sites, volumes, depths, identification of wells to be sealed and the effects on neighboring wells shall be included in the EIS scope of study.
- 17. Water Quality - Surface Water Runoff – The volume of runoff toward the wetland area by overland flow may be reduced by the volume captured onsite with the

creation of lakes and ponds. The impact this could have receiving waters and on the ground water table in surrounding communities should be examined in the EIS.

- 21. Traffic - traffic analysis and recommendations for roadway improvements will be included in the EIS.
- 22. Vehicle-related Air Emissions - The air quality modeling in the EIS will include vehicular air emissions.
- 23. Stationary Source Air Emissions - The air quality modeling in the EIS will include stationary air emissions.
- 24. Dust, Odors, Or Noise - The air quality modeling in the EIS will include dust emissions. A noise study will be included in the EIS.
- 28. Impact on Infrastructure and Public Services - Recommended roadway improvements to accommodate the truck traffic generated will be included in the EIS and Mitigation Plan.
- 29. Related Developments; Cumulative Impacts - Is other development anticipated on adjacent lands or outlots? - The contribution to traffic from the 1,006 acre proposed Seed/Genstar development on the west side of MTH 3 (See Exhibit 5B.) should be evaluated in the EIS traffic analysis.
- 30. Other Potential Environmental Impacts - Mitigation Plan – To be included with the final EIS.

No further investigation will be required on those topics itemized in EAW Question 31 – Summary of Issues as "adequately described in the EAW" or as "no further investigation is necessary in the EIS", as listed below.

During the EIS preparation information for various permits may be gathered concurrently by the various mine operators.

Identification of the permits for which a record of decision will be required:

Alternatives that will be addressed in the EIS include proximity impacts of concurrent neighboring mining operations.

Potential impacted areas are not limited to the Mining Area but will be identified beyond those limits in the examination of the EIS. In particular this relates to downstream wetlands and the Vermillion River on water issues. On traffic issues, it will include major arterial routes as they radiate from the Mining Area.

NOTICE OF EIS NEEDS DECISION

Sand & Gravel Mining and Accessory Uses, Empire Township, Dakota County

Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota as RGU has approved for distribution the Comments and Responses received on the Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for proposed sand and gravel mining, and various accessory uses in the northwestern portion of the township which includes the following sections, or parts thereof, in T 114N, R 19W: Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 16. The Board, as TGU, made a positive declaration for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. The specific EAW topics to be addressed are divided into two areas of study:

- Water Related
- Fish and Wildlife
- Physical Impacts on Water Resources
- Water Use
- Water Quality
- Traffic and Air Related
- Traffic
- Vehicular Air Emissions
- Stationary Air Emissions
- Dust, Odors and Noise

Copies of the Comments and Responses have been distributed to public officials, commentators and are also available for public examination at Empire Township Town Hall, 3385 197th St. W, Farmington, MN 55024 and on the Empire Township's web site at:

<http://www.empiretownship.govoffice.com/>

Notifications of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms

File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
04-NO-001	Interstate	Beet	Herbicide Tolerance	Polk, Clay
04-NO-002	Monsanto	Wheat	Herbicide Tolerance	Polk

For more information contact Mary Hanks, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 90 W. Plato Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55107, 651/296-1277, mary.hanks@state.mn.us.

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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Fax: 651-296-3698
E-mail: <mailto:egb.monitor@state.mn.us>
