

This document contains preliminary rule language related to silica sand environmental review rules. The purpose of this document is to generate discussion and feedback on the rule concepts at the Silica Sand Rulemaking Advisory Panel (SSRAP) meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014.

**EAW**

**4410.4300, Subp. 12a. Silica Sand Projects.** Items A to F designate the RGU for the type of project listed.

- A. For development of a facility for the extraction or mining of silica sand which will result in the disturbance of twenty (20) or more acres of the mine area during the life of the mine, the local government unit shall be the RGU.
- B. For development of a silica sand processing plant designed for processing 200,000 tons or more of silica sand annually or; the expansion, by 50% or more, of an existing silica sand processing plant designed for processing 200,000 tons or more of silica sand:
  - a. If the silica sand processing plant processes silica sand from the same mine site it is located on, the LGU shall be the RGU.
  - b. If the silica sand processing plant is located as a standalone facility or processes more than 50% of silica sand from other sources, the PCA shall be the RGU.
- C. For development of a silica sand project, designed for transloading silica sand, or the expansion, by 50% or more, of an existing facility designed for transloading silica sand:
  - a. If the transloading site handles silica sand from the same mine site as it is located, the LGU is the RGU.
  - b. If the silica sand transloading facility is located as a standalone site or handles 50% or more silica sand from other sources, the PCA shall be the RGU.
- D. For development of a standalone silica sand storage facility designed for storing more than 7,500 tons of silica sand, the PCA shall be the RGU.
- E. For development of a silica sand mine that requires a DNR trout stream setback permit and results in the disturbance of five (5) or more acres of mine area, the DNR shall be the RGU.
- F. For development of a silica sand project for the extraction or mining of silica sand which will disturb 10 or more acres of forested or other naturally vegetated land in a sensitive shoreland area or 15 or more acres of forested or other naturally vegetated land in a nonsensitive shoreland area, the local government unit shall be the RGU.

**EIS:**

**4410.4400, Subp. 9a. Silica Sand Projects.** Items A to B designate the RGU for the type of project listed.

- A. For development of a facility for the extraction or mining of silica sand which will result in the disturbance of eighty (80) or more acres of mine area during the life of the mine, the local government unit shall be the RGU.
- B. For development of an underground silica sand project, the local government unit shall be the RGU.