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MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

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EQB Monitor, December 24, 2024

Minnesota Environmental Quality Board sent this bulletin at 12/24/2024 12:00 PM CST



Volume 48, Number 52

December 24, 2024

Announcements

EQB Chair approves new EAW form for animal feedlots

At the Environmental Quality Board’s meeting on December 18, 2024 the EQB Chair approved a new Environmental Assessment Worksheet form for animal feedlots as requested by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) who serves as the responsible governmental unit for the majority of animal feedlot projects. The Chair also revoked approval of the 2000 version of the form, but any project actively using the 2000 version may continue to do so. The new form was designed by the MPCA to be more efficient and aligns with the standard EAW form. It can be found on the [EQB’s website](#) and also on the MPCA’s website.

Environmental Review Technical Assistance Survey

If you’ve completed an environmental review process in 2024 and submitted a notice for the Monitor, we want to hear from you! Tell us how we’re doing providing guidance and assistance by taking this [short five-question survey](#). Your responses are for EQB use only and will help us provide better assistance for you in the future.



Environmental review project notices

EQB publishes environmental review notices provided by responsible governmental units. For more information on a project undergoing environmental review, click on the individual project links below. You can also find information about active projects in your community on the [Environmental Review Projects Interactive Map](#).

[Corcoran Industrial Northeast EAW](#)

Location (city/township; county): Corcoran; Hennepin

Process: EAW

Step: EAW available

End of comment period: January 23, 2025

Project description: Hempel Real Estate (Proposer) proposes to develop a light industrial park in the northeastern portion of the City of Corcoran (RGU). The Project would create two industrial buildings, totaling approximately 540,000 square feet. The developer plans to construct the project in two phases and building are intended for a mix of industrial uses, including distribution and manufacturing. The Project would include construction of public improvements, including access roads connecting to County State Aid Highway 101 (CSAH 101), pedestrian improvements, and stormwater management. Construction of the Project is anticipated to begin in summer 2025, with completion of phase 1 in summer 2026.

[Corcoran Industrial Northeast EAW project link provided by RGU](#)

Location of public documents: Corcoran City Hall, 8200 County Road 116, Corcoran, MN 55340

Public meeting date, time, location: February 13, 2025, 7:00 p.m., Corcoran City Hall, 8200 County Road 116, Corcoran, MN 55340

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Corcoran, [Kendra Lindahl](#), 161-263-8022

[North Mankato Industrial AUAR](#)

Location (city/township; county): North Mankato; Nicollet

Process: Large AUAR

Step: Final order for review

Project description: The North Mankato Industrial AUAR study area encompasses an area of approximately 678 acres on 16 parcels within Nicollet County, Minnesota. Project Deacon, LLC is proposing to develop the study area from existing farmland to technology park or office/warehouse use. Two scenarios, Scenarios 1 and 2, are proposed for evaluation in the AUAR. Scenario 1 includes multiple buildings for a total of 4 million square feet of proposed technology park development. Scenario 2 includes multiple buildings for a total of 4 million square feet of proposed office/warehouse development. The proposed development within the AUAR study area is anticipated to begin in 2025.

Location of public documents: City of North Mankato Municipal Building, 1001 Belgrade Ave, North Mankato, MN 56003

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of North Mankato, [Mike Fischer](#), 507-625-4141

[Hampton Industrial AUAR](#)

Location (city/township; county): Hampton; Dakota

Process: Large AUAR

Step: Draft AUAR

End of comment period: January 23, 2025

Project description: The AUAR study area encompasses an area totaling approximately 140 acres on seven parcels in the City of Hampton and Hampton Township, both of which are in Dakota County, Minnesota. Two scenarios are proposed for evaluation in the AUAR. Scenario 1 includes multiple buildings for a total of 400,000 square feet of industrial, 150,000 square feet of highway commercial development, and 3.4 million square feet of agricultural land. Scenario 2 includes multiple buildings for a total of 1.5 million square feet of proposed light industrial. technology park.

[Hampton Industrial AUAR project link provided by RGU](#)

Location of public documents: Hampton City Hall, 5265 238th St E, Hampton, MN 55031

Public meeting date, time, location: January 7, 2025, 5:30 p.m., Hampton City Hall, 5265 238th St E, Hampton, MN 55031

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Hampton, [John Knetter](#), 651-437-8846

[Mankato - Mississippi River 345kV Transmission Project](#)

Location: Mankato, Blue Earth, Dodge, Goodhue, Le Sueur, Olmsted, Rice, Wabasha, Waseca, Winona

Process: Alternative review

Notice title: Notice of Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Decision

Notice description: Notice of the issuance and availability of the Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Decision for the Mankato - Mississippi River 345kV Transmission Project.

Project description: The proposed project consists of three major components: (1) approximately 130 miles of new 345 kilovolt (kV) high voltage transmission line (HVTL), (2) approximately 20 miles of new 161 kV HVTL, and (3) upgrades to existing substations. The project consists of four segments: Segment 1: a new 48-54 mile 345 kV transmission line, Wilmarth substation to a point near the West Faribault Substation. Segment 2: a new 34-42 mile 345 kV transmission line from a point near the West Faribault Substation to the North Rochester Substation. Segment 3: conversion of 27 miles of existing, double-circuit 161/345 kV transmission line to 345/345 kV and installation of a new 16-mile long 345 kV circuit on the existing 345/345 kV structures between the North Rochester Substation and the Mississippi River. Segment 4: a new 20-24 mile 161 kV transmission line, North Rochester Substation and the existing 161 kV Chester Line northeast of Rochester.

[Mankato - Mississippi River 345kV Transmission Project project link provided by RGU](#)

Location of public documents: Blue Earth County Library, 100 E Main Street Mankato, MN 56001

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Minnesota Department of Commerce - EERA, [Richard Davis](#), 507-380-6859

General notices

Notices published in this section may be required under Minnesota Statute or Rule.

Wright & Sherburne Counties Highway 25 Area PEL Study Alternatives Analysis Public Comment

Notice description: Wright and Sherburne Counties initiated a Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) study for the Highway 25 area from Interstate 94 to US Highway 10 and from Becker to County Road 43. In accordance with Title 23 U.S. Code (USC) Sec. 168, the counties and FHWA are planning to adopt the PEL Study results into any future National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processes undertaken for this study area, therefore the agencies are adhering to the legal requirements of transportation planning required by Title 23 USC Sec. 134-135, 23 USC 168, and title 49 USC Sec. 5303-5306 and Title 42 USC Sec. 4332, Title 40 CFR Part 1500-1508, and Title 23 CFR Part 771. The Alternatives Analysis details the evaluation and findings for alternatives and is available for comment until January 23, 2025: www.surveymonkey.com/r/G2QVHMJ. Copies are available at Sherburne and Wright County Government Centers and Becker, Big Lake, and Monticello City Halls.

Link to additional information: [Wright & Sherburne Counties Highway 25 Area additional information](#)

Contact: Wright County, [Chad Hausmann](#), 763-682-7388

Fish kill reports

Minnesota Duty Officer reports pertaining to fish kills are summarized in the following

table, in accordance with 103G.216, REPORTING FISH KILLS IN PUBLIC WATERS, Subd. 2 Reporting Requirement. These reports were received via the Minnesota Duty Officer prior to the submission deadline for this edition of the EQB Monitor. They represent the raw data/information provided by callers. For more information regarding fish kills in Minnesota see the [Department of Natural Resources](#). Call the Minnesota Duty Officer at 651-649-5451 or 800-422-0798 to report fish kills.

Date	Location	County	Waterbody	Species	Count
12/16/2024	Atwater	Kandiyohi	Diamond Lake	Bluegill, Large mouth bass	100

Submit a notice to the EQB Monitor

The EQB Monitor is a weekly publication announcing environmental review documents, public comment periods and other actions of the Environmental Quality Board. The EQB Monitor is published every Tuesday at noon. Submissions to the EQB Monitor are due by 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday one week prior to the intended publication date. Please see the [EQB Monitor schedule](#) for more details.

To submit a notice for publication:

[Access the EQB monitor submission service](#)

Questions? Contact EQB by phone at 651-757-2873 or email us at EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us.

For more information on environmental review, please visit the EQB website or contact us at env.review@state.mn.us.



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