

# EQB Monitor

**Weekly announcements and environmental review notices**

Volume 48, Number 25

June 18, 2024



## 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](#).

### Milestone Materials

**Location (city/township; county):** Dennison; Rice

**Process:** Petition

**Step:** Environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) need decision

**Responsible governmental unit decision:** EAW not required

**Responsible governmental unit decision date:** June 11, 2024

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** Rice County, [Julie Runkel](#), 507-332-6113

### [Shores of Lake John Residential Development](#)

**Location (city/township; county):** Annandale; Wright

**Process:** EAW

**Step:** EIS need decision

**Responsible governmental unit decision:** Negative (EIS not ordered)

**Responsible governmental unit record of decision date:** June 11, 2024

**Project description:** The Shores of Lake John is a proposed 38 lot single family residential development located approximately 1 mile west of downtown Annandale, Minnesota. There are 5 riparian lots and 33 non-riparian lots proposed on approximately 30 acres of agricultural and wooded land. The proposal includes wetlands, buffers, and trails.

**Location of public documents:** City of Annandale, 30 Cedar St E, Annandale, MN 55302

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Annandale, [Jacob Thunander](#), 320-274-3055 x2

## **Mayo Clinic. Bold. Forward. Unbound. Rochester AUAR**

**Location (city/township; county):** Rochester; Olmsted

**Process:** Large AUAR

**Step:** Draft AUAR

**End of comment period:** July 18, 2024

**Project description:** Mayo Clinic is proposing to redevelop approximately 20 acres located in downtown Rochester. The project is located in all or portions of 14 parcels, located in an area generally bounded by 2nd Street SW on the south, Civic Center Drive on the north, 7th Avenue on the west, and 1st Avenue on the east in Rochester, Olmsted County, Minnesota. The AUAR will evaluate 1 development scenario that involves multiple buildings totaling approximately 1,970,000 square feet of medical institutional and 90,000 sf of electric generating land uses.

[Mayo Clinic. Bold. Forward. Unbound. Rochester AUAR project link provided by RGU](#)

**Location of public documents:** Rochester City Hall, 201 4th Street SE, Rochester, MN 55904

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Rochester, [Elliot Mohler](#), 507-328-2941

## **Rich Valley East Industrial Development**

**Location (city/township; county):** Rosemount; Dakota

**Process:** Large AUAR

**Step:** AUAR adoption

**Responsible governmental unit decision:** Adequate

**Responsible governmental unit record of decision date:** June 11, 2024

**Project description:** The AUAR study area encompasses an area totaling approximately 333 acres on 6 parcels located at County Road 42 and Emery Avenue E in the City of Rosemount, Dakota County, Minnesota. Project Mercury, LLC is proposing to develop the study area from existing farmland to data center or industrial, business park, and commercial uses. Two scenarios are proposed for evaluation in the AUAR. Scenario 1 includes multiple buildings for a total of 2.3 million square feet of proposed data center development. Scenario 2 includes multiple buildings for a total of 1,293,333 square feet of proposed light industrial, 646,667 square feet of business park, and 560,000 square feet of community commercial development. The proposed development within the AUAR study area is anticipated to begin in August 2024.

[Rich Valley East Industrial Development project link provided by RGU](#)

**Location of public documents:** Rosemount City Hall, 2875 145th St W, Rosemount, MN 55068

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Rosemount, [Anthony Nemcek](#), 651-322-2090

## **Blaine Town Center**

**Location (city/township; county):** Blaine; Anoka

**Process:** AUAR

**Step:** Revised AUAR

**End of comment period:** July 3, 2024

**Project description:** EB Blaine Development, LLC (the Development Group) is proposing to redevelop the existing commercial/industrial area to high density multi-family residential, a hotel annex, and Commercial/Restaurant/Office uses along with several multi-level parking areas. The Development Group is also proposing to develop a multi-purpose stadium, a multi-use fieldhouse, a multi-story hotel and adventure park, a food hall, and a community area/open air plaza/park located on a portion of the existing play fields owned by the MN Amateur Sports Commission (MNASC).

**Location of public documents:** City of Blaine, 10801 Town Square Drive NE, Blaine, MN 55449

**Public meeting date, time, location:** July 15, 2024, 7:00 p.m., Blaine City Hall, 10801 Town Square Drive NE, Blaine, MN 55449

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Blaine, [Sheila Sellman](#), 763-785-6198

## **Northtown Mall and Surrounding Area Redevelopment**

**Location (city/township; county):** Blaine; Anoka

**Process:** AUAR

**Step:** Revised AUAR

**End of comment period:** July 3, 2024

**Project description:** As the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU), the City of Blaine has determined that an Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) is required for the proposed redevelopment of the area of an around the Northtown Mall. The AUAR study area encompasses approximately 245 acres located in the southwest corner of Blaine. At the center of the study area is the mall itself, which is generally surrounded by

retail/commercial development. Two development scenarios are being studied. Scenario 1 is consistent with the land uses in the existing comprehensive plan (as amended in 2023 for this area) and Scenario 2 is the land use plan that was produced through the visioning process and that is included in the Northtown District Vision Plan document. Both scenarios have varying amounts of retail/office and residential development.

**Location of public documents:** City of Blaine, 10801 Town Square Drive NE, Blaine, MN 55449

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Blaine, [Sheila Sellman](#), 763-785-6198

## General notices

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

### **MN Dept. of Agriculture: Notification of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms**

**Notice description:** Pioneer Hi-Bred International filed a Notification (MDA no. 24-NO-21) with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for the release of a genetically engineered Corn pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services approval (App. no. AUTH - 0000270734). Target counties for release: Freeborn; 2 sites; 5 acres each. Project categories: Herbicide Tolerance, Insect Resistance, Marker Gene, Other.

**Contact:** Minnesota Department of Agriculture, [Michael Merriman](#), 612-508-8270

### **MN Dept. of Agriculture: Notification of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms**

**Notice description:** The University of Minnesota filed a Notification (MDA no 24-NO-22) with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for the release of a genetically engineered Wheat pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services approval (App. no. AUTH-0000275470). Target counties for release: Dakota (2 acres). Project categories: Fungal Resistance, Marker Gene.

**Contact:** Minnesota Department of Agriculture, [Michael Merriman](#), 612-508-8270

## **MN Dept. of Agriculture: Notification of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms**

**Notice description:** The University of Minnesota filed a Notification (MDA no. 24-NO-23) with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for the release of a genetically engineered Barley pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services approval (App. no. AUTH-0000273661). Target counties for release: Ramsey (0.2 acres). Project categories: Fungal Resistance, Marker Gene.

**Contact:** Minnesota Department of Agriculture, [Michael Merriman](#), 612-508-8270

## **MN Dept. of Agriculture: Notification of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms**

**Notice description:** The University of Minnesota filed a Notification (MDA no. 24-NO-24) with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for the release of a genetically engineered Alfalfa pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services approval (App. no. AUTH - 0000277780). Target counties for release: Dakota 1 acre. Project categories: Agronomic Properties.

**Contact:** Minnesota Department of Agriculture, [Michael Merriman](#), 612-508-8270

## **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.

**No fish kill reports were received since the last publication.**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:env.review@state.mn.us).



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