

EQB Monitor

Weekly announcements and environmental review notices

Volume 48, Number 39

September 24, 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](#).

[MDVA Hastings Campus Upgrade](#)

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

Process: EAW

Step: EAW available

End of comment period: October 24, 2024

Project description: The Minnesota Department of Veteran Affairs (MDVA) Hastings campus upgrade involves the construction of a new facility that will house 145 resident rooms and related support spaces followed by the demolition of five buildings (23, 24, 25 and cottages 1 & 2). Feasibility for the demolition of building 34 is also being considered. The upgrade is planned to involve the decommissioning of the water tower to be replaced with City hookup and the renovation of building 30 (power plant). Geothermal and solar energy systems may be integrated into the design, contingent on funding. Replacement landscaping will include a native prairie.

[MDVA Hastings Campus Upgrade project link provided by RGU](#)

Location of public documents: MN Department of Administration Real Estate and Construction, 50 Sherburne Avenue, Suite 309, Saint Paul, MN 55155

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Minnesota Department of Administration, [Emily Bolles](#), 651-201-2488

[Whisky Creek and South Tributary Channel Restoration Project](#)

Location (city/township; county): Barnsville Township; Clay

Process: EAW

Step: EIS need decision

Responsible governmental unit decision: Negative (EIS not ordered)

Responsible governmental unit record of decision date: September 17, 2024

Project description: The Buffalo-Red River Watershed District is proposing a channel restoration project on segments of Whisky Creek and the South Tributary. The restoration project will provide flood damage reductions, sediment buildup reduction,

and channel erosion reduction that would lead to improved water quality and natural habitats. The restoration project will be implemented in two phases, phase 1 is restoration of Whisky Creek and phase 2 is restoration of the South Tributary. Phase 1 of restoration includes approximately 5.26 miles of Whisky Creek and portions of Clay County Ditch 34 (S18-23, T137N, R46W (Barnesville Township)) beginning at 120th Street South and ending at County Road 2. Phase 2 of restoration includes approximately 9.27 miles of the South Tributary of Whisky Creek (S10, 14, 15, 23, 24, 25 and 36, T137N, R47W (Alliance Township); S30-33, T137N, R46W (Barnesville Township)).

[Whisky Creek and South Tributary Channel Restoration Project project link provided by RGU](#)

Location of public documents: Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, 1303 4th Ave. NE, Barnesville, MN 56514

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, [Kristine Goeden](#), 218-789-3100

[Hampton Industrial AUAR](#)

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

Process: Large AUAR

Step: Draft order for review

End of comment period: October 24, 2024

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: October 1, 2024, 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

General notices

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

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Northern Crescent Solar LLC for a Site Permit

Notice description: PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) and the Minnesota Department of Commerce will hold public information and environmental assessment scoping meetings on the joint application of Northern Crescent Solar LLC for site permits for the proposed Northern Crescent Project, including an up to 150 megawatt alternating current (MWac) solar energy generating system and a 50 MWac battery energy storage system (BESS). An In-Person meeting will be held on October 8th, 2024 from 6-9 PM at Riverside Town and Country Club (36259 150th St., Blue Earth, MN 56013). A virtual meeting will be held the following night from 6-9 PM - details of that meeting can be found on the Public Utilities Commission website on the calendar.

Public meeting date, time, location: October 8, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Riverside Town and Country Club, 36259 150th Street, Blue Earth, MN 56013

Public meeting virtual link: [Join online meeting](#)

Public meeting additional details: The meeting notice can be found on the [eDockets state submission system](#) under the docket numbers for this project, 22-57 and 24-238. Instructions on how to attend meetings, comment, and participate can be found on the meeting notice.

Link to additional information: [Northern Crescent Solar LLC additional information](#)

Contact: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, [Sam Lobby](#), 651-201-2205

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
9/11/2024	Orr	St. Louis	Crane Lake	Unknown	Not Quantified
9/17/2024	Fairmont	Martin	George Lake	Crappie, Sunfish	1000

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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