



Environmental Quality Board

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November 10, 2011

Dear Interested Minnesotan:

The Minnesota Environmental Quality Board began a conversation last summer to consider how it might best help the state serve the long term interests of Minnesotans and the environment. In September, the board received valuable public comment on the question from many interested parties. Based on that input, a subcommittee of the EQB has begun to develop an agenda and a plan for the future.

At its next meeting on November 18, the subcommittee will report on its discussions, and will invite further public comment on the following ideas for future board action:

- Evaluation of environmental review needs and opportunities, given the changes made last session in HF1 and recommendations of the Legislative Auditor.
- Development of a new model for environmental governance and coordination, including ways to make EQB a sustainable institution.
- An annually updated environmental and energy report card, identifying key metrics by which the state of Minnesota can track its performance and progress.
- Routine development of state priorities and initiatives for environment and energy policy.
- An environmental congress focused on the current state of Minnesota's environment and the steps Minnesotans should take to improve it.

I look forward to hearing your ideas as we consider how EQB might help unify Minnesota's approaches to meeting our most pressing environmental and economic needs.

If you have any questions, please contact me at Dave.Frederickson@state.mn.us, or by phone at 651-201-6219. If you would like to submit written suggestions for the board's consideration, please send them to John Wells, EQB strategic planning director, at John.Wells@state.mn.us.

My best,

David J. Frederickson
Chair