



MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

Wednesday, September 17, 2014

Meeting Location: State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Room 200
St. Paul, MN 55155
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

>> note location of this meeting <<

AGENDA ADDENDUM

I. Release of Clean Water Roadmap

Presenter: Rebecca Flood, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Chris Elvrum, Minnesota Department of Health

Materials enclosed: None. Copies of the Clean Water Roadmap will be provided at the Board meeting.

Issue before the Board: The executive agencies responsible for implementing Clean Water Legacy-funded work have developed a Clean Water Roadmap to guide their work. This briefing for the EQB Board will also mark the Roadmap's public release.

Background: The Roadmap signatories, several of whom are EQB Board members, want to inform the full Board about the Roadmap, including the goals they have set for the 25-years of Clean Water Fund expenditures and how they will use the Roadmap and other tools to guide implementation and prioritization of this work.

Discussion: The Clean Water Roadmap is a set of goals for protecting and restoring Minnesota's water resources during the 25-year life of the Clean Water Fund. The Roadmap's goals are based on currently available data and are intended to be ambitious, yet achievable. Progress in meeting these goals will require significant investment from the Clean Water Fund, combined with historical water resource funding from other resources.

The seven agencies with Clean Water Fund responsibilities (BWSR, MDA, MDH, DNR, PCA, PFA, and Met Council) will use the Roadmap to:

- Define aspirational, yet achievable goals for outcomes from the 25 years of Clean Water Fund Expenditures.
- Establish interim benchmarks, to assess progress towards the 25-year goals.
- Adjust program or funding priorities based on progress made towards the benchmarks and the 25-year goals.
- Create realistic expectations among interested stakeholders and citizens about the potential for progress with the addition of Clean Water Fund dollars.

This first edition of the Clean Water Roadmap lays out goals for four high-level indicators that describe surface water quality, groundwater quality, and groundwater quantity. These concrete measures mirror Minnesotans' desire for healthy lakes, rivers, streams, drinking water, and groundwater. The agencies have not yet developed the interim benchmarks.

The Clean Water Roadmap also acknowledges that other important factors, such as climate, demographic shifts, and systemic changes in land use are largely beyond the influence of Clean Water Fund activities. These factors affect water quality and quantity and thus will also affect progress.

Finally, it is important to emphasize that the Clean Water Roadmap is designed to work with, rather than replace, the other important tools that exist to assist in managing Minnesota's water resources, including local water plans, the Clean Water Performance Report, and local water plans. The Roadmap seeks to answer questions raised by agency leadership and citizens alike about the pace of progress and water resource outcomes that can be expected after 25 years of investment from the Clean Water Fund.