

EQB Monitor

Weekly announcements and environmental review notices

Volume 46, Number 31

August 2, 2022

Announcements

Share your ideas to help pollinators!



The Interagency Pollinator Protection Team (IPPT) is developing an action framework to help pollinators in Minnesota. The framework is a set of recommended actions to help pollinators over the long term. These recommendations will include state-led actions and actions members of the public can do.

Visit our [engagement platform](#) where you can share your ideas for action with the IPPT, and vote for the ideas you think should be prioritized.

The IPPT will consider the ideas submitted by August 31 and release a draft of the framework by December 1.

For more information on the pollinator action framework or the public engagement platform, please contact Rebeca Gutierrez-Moreno (rebeca.gutierrez-moreno@state.mn.us, 651-757-2268)

We are hiring!

Minnesota Environmental Quality Board is hiring an Environmental Review Program Administrator responsible for developing and implementing improvement projects such as rulemaking, policy and program changes, and public engagement.

Apply by Aug 8 to Job ID 57589.

More info: <https://bit.ly/3PD7g2p>



Required public notices



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](#).

Upper Riley Creek Ecological Enhancement Project

Location: Chanhassen, Carver County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet (EAW)

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet available

End of comment period: September 1, 2022

Project description: The Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District (RPBCWD), and the City of Chanhassen (City) are proposing ecological enhancements along approximately 1.6 miles (approximately 28 total acres) of Upper Riley Creek, located between Highway 5 and Lake Susan (referred to as Upper Riley Creek; proposed Project). The proposed Project would improve the ecological functions along the reach of Upper Riley Creek and downstream Lake Susan by reducing stream bank erosion, reconnecting the creek to its floodplain, restoring habitat, and promoting diverse vegetation.

Link to public documents: [Upper Riley Creek Ecological Enhancement Project EAW](#)

Location of public documents: Chanhassen City Hall - Engineering Department, 7700 Market Blvd, Chanhassen, MN 55317

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Chanhassen, [Joe Seidl](#), 952-227-1168

The Harbors Resort

Location: Two Harbors, Lake County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet (EAW)

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet available

End of comment period: September 1, 2022

Project description: Development of 23.31 acres into a 45-cabin commercial resort at 1022 E Stanley Rd, Two Harbors, MN, 55616. Lake County approved Phase 1 & 2 April 19, 2021, consisting of 24 cabins, shoreland remediation associated septic, well, gravel drives, parking, paths, stormwater areas and amenities. Remediation work began in 2021 with 24 cabin construction beginning in 2022. Phase 3 consists of an additional 21 cabins.

Link to public documents: [The Harbors Resort EAW](#), select "Special Notices" to download the EAW.

Location of public documents: Lake County Courthouse- Planning and Zoning, 601 3rd Ave, Two Harbors, MN 55616

First public meeting date, time, location: September 19, 2022, 6 p.m., Two Harbors Highway Dept. Building, 1513 Hwy 2, Two Harbors, MN 55616

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Lake County, [Tanya Feldkamp](#), 218-834-8441

Polar Industrial

Location: White Bear Township, Ramsey County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet (EAW)

Step: Environmental impact statement (EIS) need decision

Responsible governmental unit decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of decision date: July 18, 2022

Link to public documents: No link to documents provided. See responsible governmental unit contact information below.

Location of public documents: White Bear Township Administration Office, 1281 Hammond Rd, White Bear Township, MN 55110

Responsible governmental unit and contact: White Bear Township, [Evan Monson](#), 651-726-7979

Gorman Creek Channel Restoration

Location: Kellogg, Wabasha County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet (EAW)

Step: Environmental impact statement (EIS) need decision

Responsible governmental unit decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of decision date: July 22, 2022

Link to public documents: [Gorman Creek Channel Restoration EIS need decision](#)

Location of public documents: DNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Department of Natural Resources, [Kathy Metzker](#), 651-259-5694

Pleasant Valley Wind Project

Location: Dodge and Mower County

Process: Alternative review

Notice title: Notice of Public Information Meetings

Notice description: In the Matter of the Application for a Site Permit Amendment to Repower the 200 MW Pleasant Valley Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Dodge and Mower Counties, Minnesota. PUC Docket Number: E-002/WS-09-1197

Project description: Xcel Energy is proposing to repower the Pleasant Valley Wind facility to improve turbine technology, maximize energy yield, and extend the service life. The repower includes all 100 existing turbines and entails installing larger rotors, upgraded gear boxes, and associated nacelle components or replacing the entire nacelle. The locations of turbines, access roads, collection lines, point of interconnection, and other supporting

infrastructure will remain the same. The upgrades will result in an increase in in the overall facility production capacity from 200 megawatts to 220 megawatts. However, the overall capacity at the point of interconnection will remain at 200 megawatts in accordance with the existing generator interconnection agreement.

Link to public documents: [Pleasant Valley Wind Project documents](#)

First public meeting date, time, location: August 16, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Holiday Inn Austin Conference Center, 1701 4th St NW, Austin, Minnesota, 55912.

First public meeting additional details: Written comments will be accepted through August 31, 2022, by 4:30 p.m. Please include the docket number in all communications. Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

Please focus your comments on information that will help answer the following questions:

- What potential human and environmental impacts, if any, should the Commission consider when deciding on the proposed facility upgrades and requested site permit amendments?
- Should the Commission approve the requested site permit amendments?

Comments may be submitted:

Online: <https://mn.gov/puc/consumers/public-comments>

Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: Consumer Affairs Office, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101

Second public meeting date, time, location: August 17, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Remote-Access
Second public meeting virtual

link: <https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=mc0c1a64596199ceecf5fe395fec9849>

Second public meeting additional details: WebEx Link:

<https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=mc0c1a64596199ceecf5fe395fec9849>

Number: 2494 218 3199

WebEx Password: CtRfnPjP573 (28736757 from phones)

Join by Phone: 1-855-282-6330 Toll Free Access Code: 249 421 83199

If you are joining the hearing by WebEx and would like to ask a question or make a comment during the designated portion of the hearing, use the chat function to send a message to the hearing moderator. If you are joining the hearing by phone, press *3 on your phone. When it is your turn to speak, your line will be unmuted, and you will be able to ask questions and provide comments.

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Public Utilities Commission, [Scott Ek](#),
651-201-2255

Submit an environmental review notice to the *EQB Monitor*

The *EQB Monitor* is published every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. 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:

[Use the EQB Monitor submission form](#)

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

The *EQB Monitor* is a weekly publication announcing environmental review documents, public comment periods and other actions of the Environmental Quality Board. For more information on environmental review, please visit the [EQB website](#) or contact us at env.review@state.mn.us.



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