



Publication Date: January 21, 2013  
Vol. 37, No. 2

Next Publication: February 4, 2013  
Submittal Deadline: January 28, 2013  
Submit to [EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us](mailto:EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us)

## The *EQB Monitor* Publication Calendar for 2013 is included in this edition.

**Subscribe to receive the EQB Monitor.** If you would like to receive the Monitor regularly, please subscribe at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/monitor.html>.

**EQB Meetings are regularly scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month.** There may be additional special meetings as well. The calendar with scheduled meetings is located at [http://server.admin.state.mn.us/WebCalendar/month.php?cat\\_id=3&date=20120801](http://server.admin.state.mn.us/WebCalendar/month.php?cat_id=3&date=20120801). All meeting packets and agendas can be viewed at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/agendas.html>.

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**EQB MONITOR**

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

*EAW Comment Deadline: February 20, 2013*

**Project Title: Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend – Propylene Storage and Distribution Project, Dakota County**

**Description:** Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend is an existing refinery located at 13775 Clark Road in Rosemount, Minnesota. The refinery is owned and operated by Flint Hills Resources (FHR). FHR proposes to construct two propylene storage spheres and an associated rail loading rack at its refinery. FHR also proposes to expand its existing rail car staging area. These changes would allow FHR to store and distribute the refinery grade propylene that the Refinery already generates. This proposed Propylene Storage and Distribution Project would not result in an increase in the refinery's crude oil processing capacity.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) website, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>. Written comments on the EAW should be submitted to Steve Sommer. A copy of the EAW may also be obtained by contacting Elizabeth Tegdesch at 651-757-2100.

The *EQB Monitor* is a biweekly publication of the Environmental Quality Board that lists descriptions and deadlines for Environmental Assessment Worksheets, Environmental Impact Statements, and other notices. The *EQB Monitor* is posted on the Environmental Quality board home page at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/>.

Upon request, the *EQB Monitor* will be made available in an alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or audio tape. For TTY, contact Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 and ask for Department of Administration. For information on the *EQB Monitor*, contact:

Minnesota Environmental Quality Board  
520 Lafayette Road – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194  
Phone: 651-757-2873  
Fax: 651-297-2343  
<http://www.eqb.state.mn.us>

In addition to the EAW, the MPCA's draft Air Emissions Permit for the project will also be available for public comment at a later date. The contact person for the Air Permit is Tarik Hanafy at 651-757-2404.

**RGU:** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**Contact Person:** Steve Sommer  
Planner Principal  
Environmental Review Unit – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Resource Management and Assistance Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194  
651-757-2746  
[steve.sommer@pca.state.mn.us](mailto:steve.sommer@pca.state.mn.us)

**Project Title:** Rein Quarry Expansion, Highland, Fillmore County, MN

**Description:** Reilly Construction proposes to expand the existing Rein Quarry located near Highland, Minnesota. The expansion will permit an area of 50 acres located in Section 35 of Holt Township, Fillmore County. It is also a conversion industrial silica sand as required under a recent revision to Fillmore County's zoning ordinance.

**RGU:** Fillmore County

**Contact Person:** Chris Graves  
Administrator  
101 Fillmore Street  
Preston, MN 55965  
Phone 507-765-3325  
Fax 507-765-2803  
E-mail: [cgraves@co.fillmore.mn.us](mailto:cgraves@co.fillmore.mn.us)

**Project Title:** Nisbit Mine, Winona County

**Description:** The Nisbit Mine is proposed on 19.1 acres in Saratoga Township, Winona County Minnesota. The primary purpose of the mine is to remove silica sand for export as industrial sand. Other uses include dairy bedding and construction footings. The sand will be hauled by truck on public roads to Winona.

**RGU:** Winona County

**Contact Person:** Jason Gilman, AICP  
Planning and Environmental Services Director  
177 Main Street  
Winona, Minnesota 55987  
507-457-6337  
[JGilman@co.winona.mn.us](mailto:JGilman@co.winona.mn.us)

**Project Title: Jordan Sands Non-metallic Mining Operation, Blue Earth County**

**Description:** Jordan Sands, LLC proposes to develop an industrial sand mining and processing facility in Lime Township, Blue Earth County. The proposed Project will consist of approximately 70 acres of mining, a wet sand processing facility, a dry sand processing facility, and a rail load-out facility on several parcels of land.

**RGU:** Lime Township

**Contact Person:** Robert Fitterer  
Lime Township Clerk  
132 Bittersweet Lane  
Mankato, MN 56001  
rfitterer@hickorytech.net  
507-388-3346

**EA/EAW AVAILABLE**

*EA Comment Deadline: February 20, 2013*

**Project Title: Interstate 35E MnPASS Project in the Cities of Little Canada, Maplewood and St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota (SP 6280-367)**

**Description:** The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is proposing a project in the cities of Little Canada, Maplewood, and St. Paul to rehabilitate the existing highway pavement and construct a new MnPASS lane from Little Canada Road to Maryland Avenue that would be designated as a new High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lane on the inside lane in each direction. The HOT lane is continued through the Cayuga Bridge project by restriping the shoulder to the Cayuga Street exit/entry.

This project includes rerouting a portion of the DNR Gateway Trail that currently crosses I-35E on the former Soo Line Railroad Bridge, located between Arlington Avenue and Maryland Avenue. The portion of this trail, which is located on MnDOT right-of-way, is considered a public recreational facility. This use is subject to the U. S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 U.S.C. 303) and 23 U.S.C. 138. Section 4(f) of the Act defines procedures required for addressing impacts to recreational and other public lands that would result from federally-funded transportation projects. In addition, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Act of 2005, Section 6009, allows for determinations that certain uses of Section 4(f) land will have no adverse effect (*de minimis*) on the protected resource. Section 6009(a) requires that a public notice and opportunity for review and comment be provided for projects that are determined to have *de minimis* impact. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) proposes a finding of *de minimis* impact to this multi-use trail. After an evaluation of the impacts of an action upon Section 4(f) resources, a finding can be made.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) describes the proposed project, impacts, and mitigation. This document also includes information on the Section 4(f) impacts and the preliminary *de minimis* finding, i.e., that adverse impacts to the recreational facility would not result from the proposed project. Any comments received regarding this issue during the public comment period will be taken by the Federal Highway Administration in making its final *de minimis* determination.

Two public hearings (open-house format) will be held for the proposed project. The first public hearing will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2013, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Hiway Federal Credit Union, 840 Westminster Street, St. Paul, Minnesota. The second public hearing will be held on Monday, February 11, 2013, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at St. Jerome Catholic Church, 380 East Roselawn Avenue, Maplewood, Minnesota. Written and oral comments will be accepted during the hearing as part of the public record.

The EA is available for public review during the public comment period, January 21, 2012, through February 20, 2013. The EA can be viewed on the project web-site:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/35estpaul/mnpass.html>. Paper copies of the EA are available at the following locations during regular business hours:

- Ramsey County Library, Roseville Branch, 2180 N. Hamline Avenue, Roseville, MN 55113
- Ramsey County Library, Maplewood Branch, 3025 Southlawn Drive, Maplewood, MN 55109
- St. Paul Public Library, Arlington Hills Branch, 1105 Greenbrier Street, St. Paul, MN 55106
- St. Paul Public Library, Rice Street Branch, 1011 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55117
- Minneapolis Public Library, Technical & Science Division, Government Docs., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401
- Mn/DOT Library, 395 John Ireland Boulevard, St. Paul, MN 55155
- Mn/DOT Metro District Water's Edge Building Lobby, 1500 W. County Road B2, Roseville, MN 55113

The EA can be made available to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Affirmative Action Office at 651-366-4723 or 1-800-657-3774 (Greater Minnesota); 711 or 1-800-627-3529 (Minnesota Relay). You may also send an email to [ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us](mailto:ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us). (Please request at least one week in advance).

Copies of the EA are being distributed to agencies on the current Minnesota EQB list and to other interested parties. The comment period will begin on January 21, 2013. Written comments will be accepted through February 20, 2013, and can be submitted to the contact person listed below.

**Project Proposer:** Minnesota Department of Transportation

**RGU:** Minnesota Department of Transportation

**Project Contact:**

Jennie Read  
Project Manager  
MnDOT Metro District  
1500 W. Co. Rd. B2  
Roseville, MN 55113  
Phone: 651-234-7727  
Email: [jennifer.read@state.mn.us](mailto:jennifer.read@state.mn.us)

**Send Comments To:**

Rick Dalton  
Environmental Coordinator  
MnDOT Metro District  
1500 W. Co. Rd. B2  
Roseville, MN 55113  
Phone: 651-234-7677  
Email: [richard.dalton@state.mn.us](mailto:richard.dalton@state.mn.us)

## FINAL EA AND FONSI AVAILABLE

*This public comment period satisfies the state requirement of 30-day period for EAWs included in Minnesota Rules 4410.1600. Comment Deadline: February 20, 2013*

### **Project Title: Crosswind Runway 18/36, Little Falls-Morrison County Airport, Little Falls MN**

**Description:** The proposed action at Little Falls-Morrison County Airport includes the following:

- Counter-clockwise rotation and southward shift of Runway 18/36 for a total length of 2855 feet.
- Paving Runway 18/36 and installing runway edge lighting.
- Off-airport tree clearing.
- Approximately 18.5 acres of land acquisition.
- Enact airport zoning to meet State of Minnesota requirements.

The city of Little Falls prepared a Federal Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the environmental effects of the proposed crosswind runway project. As permitted under Minnesota Rules, the Federal EA is intended as a substitute for a State Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW). The Federal EA addresses each environmental effect identified in the State EAW form, and has been circulated in place of an EAW form. Environmental impact analyses contained in the Federal EA were conducted in accordance with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) National Environmental Policy Act requirements, Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) requirements, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. A public hearing was held regarding the project on October 24, 2012, and the public comment period on the Draft EA closed on October 31, 2012.

The FAA has completed consideration of comments received on the Draft EA and has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed project. The Final EA and FONSI found that the project is consistent with existing environmental policies and objectives as set forth in the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The FAA issued a Section 106 finding of a *No Historic Properties Affected* for the project. The purpose of this Notice is to announce that the Final EA and FONSI are now available for public review and comment through February 20, 2013. Appendix R to the Final EA includes an abbreviated State EAW form which references relevant sections of the Federal EA for each environmental category. An electronic copy of the Final EA and FONSI is available on the project website at <ftp://littlefalls:LXLea1223!@ftp.meadhunt.com>, and hard copies of the Final EA and FONSI are available for public review at the following locations:

- Federal Aviation Administration, Airports District Office, 6020 28<sup>th</sup> Ave S, Rm 102, Minneapolis, MN;
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of Aeronautics, 222 E. Plato Boulevard, St. Paul, MN;
- Carnegie Public Library at 108 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Little Falls, MN; and
- City of Little Falls Public Works Department office at 100 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Little Falls, MN.

**RGU:** City of Little Falls

#### **RGU Contact:**

Dan Vogt  
City Administrator  
City of Little Falls  
100 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Little Falls, MN 56345

#### **Send Comments to:**

Kandice Krull  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
Federal Aviation Administration Airports District Office  
6020 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Room 102  
Minneapolis, MN 55450-2706

## ALTERNATIVE URBAN AREAWIDE REVIEW (AUAR) UPDATE AVAILABLE

*Revised AUAR Comment Deadline: February 4, 2013*

### **Project Title: Oxbow Commons/610 Crossings AUAR**

**Description:** The city of Brooklyn Park assisted by MFRA has updated an Alternative Urban Area-wide Review (AUAR) for development of approximately 230 acres bounded by Zane Avenue on the west, 101<sup>st</sup> Avenue North on the North, Regent Avenue on the east and Highway 610 to the south. This AUAR is the 4th AUAR completed in this area. The original AUAR was completed in 2001, the first update was completed in 2008, and the second update was completed in 2011. This latest update re-examines development of 40 acres for retail, multi-family, office and/or warehouse uses. All external roadways and infrastructure needed for the proposed development have already been constructed as part of development previously authorized by the prior three AUARs. The new development will be served by this existing infrastructure and all new roads and infrastructure will be internal to the development. There are no wetlands present on the undeveloped lands.

The AUAR update document will be available for review in the Planning & Development Division offices at Brooklyn Park City Hall, 5200 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. It will also be available for review on the City's website: [www.brooklynpark.org/610crossings](http://www.brooklynpark.org/610crossings)

Deadline for comments is February 4, 2013

**RGU:** City of Brooklyn Park

**Contact Person:** Todd Larson, Senior Planner  
5200 85<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443  
763-493-8069  
Fax: 763-493-8391  
[Todd.larson@brooklynpark.org](mailto:Todd.larson@brooklynpark.org)

## EAW NEED DECISIONS

The noted responsible governmental unit has made a decision regarding the need for an EAW in response to a citizen petition.

- j Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Tiller Corporation Industrial Sand Processing Facility, North Branch, EAW Denied (Chisago County)



## EIS NEED DECISIONS

### **South Washington Watershed District**

The South Washington Watershed District (SWWD) Board of Managers will postpone their decision, up to 30-days, on the Central Draw Overflow EAW at their regular meeting on Tuesday January 15, 2013. The SWWD, in response to comments, is gathering additional information regarding stormwater flow, duration and volume. The SWWD Board will consider the EAW at the next regular Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday February 12, 2013.

## DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE

### **Project Title: Jordan Aggregates Proposed Mining Operation**

**Description:** Jordan Aggregates, LLC proposes to mine sand and gravel from the property located at 17825 Valley View Drive in Sand Creek Township, Scott County, Minnesota. The mine will encompass 84.7 acres excavated up to 120 feet below the ground water into alluvial sand and gravel deposits, which serve as a local aquifer and is anticipated to operate for 25 years. When mining is complete a 36 acre ground water pond will remain. Reclamation will use on-site overburden materials and imported fill. The Draft EIS evaluates the impacts the mining operation will have on groundwater, traffic, and noise.

The public comment period on the Draft EIS will end February 20, 2013. Scott County will host a public information meeting from 5-7 p.m. on Wednesday February 6th, 2013, to discuss the Draft EIS. The meeting will be held in the SCALE Regional Public Safety Training Facility at 17706 Valley View Dr, in Jordan MN. Timely comments on the Draft EIS will be responded to in a written response document that will, along with any needed revision, be incorporated into the Final EIS. The Final EIS will be publicly distributed, and then brought to the Scott County Board of Commissioners for a decision on the adequacy of the EIS. All persons on the project mailing list will be notified in advance of the Board adequacy decision meeting.

Scott County, as stated in the notification, will publish the Draft EIS on January 21, 2013, on the County's Website and mail it to interested parties as prescribed. Consistent with the requirements of the Rule, Scott County will prepare and publish a press release for publication in a newspaper of general circulation in Scott County.

**RGU:** Scott County Environmental Health

**Contact Person:** Kate Sedlacek  
Scott County Environmental Health  
200 Fourth Ave W  
Shakopee, MN 55379  
952-496-8351  
[ksedlacek@co.scott.mn.us](mailto:ksedlacek@co.scott.mn.us)

## NOTICES

### **ROTENONE APPLICATION PROJECTS PLANNED BY DNR SECTION OF FISHERIES MANAGEMENT**

The DNR Section of Wildlife Management is planning a rotenone treatment on the small wetland in the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 10, Township 110N, Range 22W, Rice County in the Boyd Sartell Wildlife Management Area.

This project involves the application of 2.5% synergized liquid rotenone, a federally and state registered pesticide, to eliminate less desirable fish species in the tributaries (including ditches) flowing into the above water bodies. The treatment will be conducted in the winter/spring of 2013. Endangered or threatened species are not present in the proposed treatment area. Project goals include removing undesirable fish species to improve water quality and wildlife habitat in these basins.

Rotenone application will be done by licensed pesticide applicators and by drip station. Target treatment concentration is 5 ppm. Benefits of the project will be improved water quality, re-establishment of desirable aquatic vegetation, reduction of plankton algae, and improved habitat for wildlife and waterfowl.

For general information about this project, contact Jeanine Vorland, Area Wildlife Manager, [Jeanine.Vorland@state.mn.us](mailto:Jeanine.Vorland@state.mn.us).



**EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2013**

<b>Volume Number</b>	<b>Deadline for Submission</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>	<b>EAW Comment Deadline</b>
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37-5	February 25	March 4	April 3
37-6	March 11	March 18	April 17
37-7	March 25	April 1	May 1
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37-9	April 22	April 29	May 29
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