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Submit to [EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us](mailto:EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us)

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

*EAW Comment Deadline: April 18, 2012*

### **Project Title: Xcel Red Wing Ash Disposal Facility (SW-307) Expansion Project**

**Description:** Xcel Energy, Inc. (Xcel) operates a refuse derived fuel ash landfill in Red Wing, Minnesota. Xcel is proposing an expansion of the disposal facility for this ash by filling between the east and west cells of the existing landfill. This project would increase the facility's storage capacity from 1,453,300 to 2,443,800 cubic yards. The facility expansion would provide approximately 20 years of additional site life at current fill rates.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 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 Mary Osborn at 651-757-2101.

In addition to the EAW, it is anticipated that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's draft Solid Waste Permit will be available for public comment on March 21, 2012. The contact person for the Solid Waste Permit is Robert Criswell at 651-757-2296.

**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)

EQB MONITOR

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>

**Project Title: US 169/CH 69 Interchange Project (SP 7005-97)**

**Description:** This project, proposed by Scott County, includes construction of a grade-separated full access interchange at the intersection of US Highway (US) 169 and Scott County Highway (CH) 69. The interchange will be a folded diamond design with a loop in the southeast quadrant of the interchange. A new CH 69 overpass bridge (Bridge #70007) will be constructed over US 169, and CH 69 will be reconstructed as a four-lane divided roadway between 425 feet north of Colburn Drive and 425 feet north of 115th Street. The project also includes a stormwater pond and filtration basin in the southeast quadrant of the interchange, a proposed 20-foot tall noise barrier on the north side of US 169 and east of CH 69 along the Stone Meadow Townhome development, and a multi-use trail along both sides of CH 69 between 425 feet north of Colburn Drive and 425 feet north of 115th Street.

Copies of the EAW which documents the purpose and need for the project, along with the anticipated environmental impacts, are available for public viewing beginning March 19, 2012 during regular business hours at the following locations:

- Scott County Government Center  
200 4th Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379
- Shakopee City Hall  
129 South Holmes Street, Shakopee, MN 55379
- MnDOT Metro Office  
1500 West County Road B2, Roseville, MN 55113
- Shakopee Public Library  
235 South Lewis Street, Shakopee, MN 55379

The EAW is also available on the project website (along with other project information) at:  
<http://www.scottcounty69and169.com/>

To request the document in an alternative format, please contact the MnDOT Affirmative Action Office at 651-366-4718 or 1-800-657-3774 (Greater Minnesota); 711 or 1-800-627-3529 (Minnesota Relay). You may also send an e-mail to [ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us](mailto:ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us). (Please request at least one week in advance).

The EAW comment period will begin on March 19, 2012. Written comments will be accepted through April 18, 2012. Comments should be submitted to the RGU contact listed below.

**RGU:** Minnesota Department of Transportation

**Contact Person:** Rick Dalton, Environmental Coordinator  
1500 West County Road B2, Mailstop 050  
Roseville, MN 55113  
651-234-7677  
[richard.dalton@state.mn.us](mailto:richard.dalton@state.mn.us)

## DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE

### Project Title: Zavoral Mine and Reclamation Project

**Description:** The City of Scandia announces that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) completed for the Proposed Zavoral Mine and Reclamation Project is available for public comment. Tiller Corporation, Inc. (Tiller) proposes to operate a gravel mine on a 114-acre site (Zavoral Site) that is located along St. Croix Trail North (State Trunk Highway [TH] 95), a State Scenic Byway, near its intersection with TH 97 in the City of Scandia, Washington County, Minnesota.

Tiller proposes to operate a gravel mine on the site of a dormant, unreclaimed gravel mine. Tiller proposes to mine and reclaim 64 acres of the 114-acre Zavoral Site. Of the 64 acres proposed for mining and reclamation, 55 acres are located on portions of the Site that were previously disturbed by mining. A previously unmined 9-acre area is also included in the proposed mining area. Tiller Corporation, Inc., with offices located in Maple Grove, Minnesota is the proposer of the project.

Copies of the DEIS are available for public examination locally, at the City of Scandia Community and Senior Center (City Office), 14727 209<sup>th</sup> Street North, Scandia, MN 55073; the Washington County Public Library-Hardwood Creek Branch, 19955 Forest Road North, Forest Lake, MN 55025; and the Washington County Public Library-Marine Library Express (Marine City Hall), 121 Judd Street, Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047. The DEIS will also be available on the City's website: <http://tinyurl.com/zavoralEIS>

A public informational meeting will be held as part of the Scandia Planning Commission Meeting on April 3, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Scandia Community and Senior Center, 14727 209<sup>th</sup> Street North, Scandia, Minnesota. The purpose of the meeting is to receive public testimony on the accuracy and completeness of the material contained in the DEIS. All comments are due to the City of Scandia by 4:00 p.m. on May 18, 2012.

**RGU:** City of Scandia

**All comments must be submitted in writing on or before 4:00 p.m. on May 18, 2012.**

**Contact:** Anne Hurlburt  
City Administrator  
City of Scandia  
14727 209<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Scandia, Minnesota  
Phone 651-433-2274  
Fax 651-433-5112  
[a.hurlburt@ci.scandia.mn.us](mailto:a.hurlburt@ci.scandia.mn.us)

## FEDERAL EA FONSI

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION  
MINNESOTA DIVISION  
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

Minnesota State Project Number 7102-123

Federal Project Number (to be determined)

Trunk Highway 10

From Upland Avenue/County Road 44 to the Highway 101/169 Interchange

In the City of Elk River

Sherburne County, Minnesota

The proposed project consists of reconstructing Highway 10 from an urban arterial roadway to a freeway way design as part of an effort to address regional mobility, traffic operations, and local connectivity/accessibility.

The Federal Highway Administration has determined that the proposed improvements, as described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) will have no significant impacts to the human or natural environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is based upon the attached EA which has been independently evaluated by FHWA and determined to adequately discuss the need, environmental issues, and impacts of the proposed project and appropriate mitigation measures.

The EA provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The FHWA takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope, and content of the EA for the subject project.

## FEDERAL EA FONSI

**Project Title: Reconstruction of Trunk Highway (TH) 101 between CSAH 18 (Lyman Boulevard) and CSAH 14 (Pioneer Trail)**

**Description:** The Federal Highway Administration has determined that the proposed improvements, as described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) will have no significant impacts to the human or natural environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is based upon the previously circulated EA, and comments received on the EA, which have been independently evaluated by FHWA and determined to adequately discuss the need, environmental issues, and impacts of the proposed project and appropriate mitigation measures.

The City of Chanhassen, as the state Responsible Governmental Unit, has determined that the changes in the proposed by the 101 Project (SP 149-010-011) in the City of Chanhassen, Carver County are not substantial, do not have the potential for significant environmental effects, and would not warrant preparation of an EIS. Therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted.

Copies of the FONSI and Negative Declaration are being distributed to agencies on the current Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (MnEQB) list and members of the TH 101 Project Management Team, among others. The FONSI and Negative Declaration can be also accessed electronically via the project website [www.ci.chanhassen.mn.us/serv/cip/highway101.html](http://www.ci.chanhassen.mn.us/serv/cip/highway101.html), and is also available for review in hard copy at Chanhassen City Hall and the city library.

## EAW NEED DECISIONS

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

- City of Savage, Indoor Sports Facility at Savage Community Park, EAW denied

## EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparations of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the *EQB Monitor*.

- Carver County, County State Aid Highway 11 Reconstruction and Realignment Project, City of Chaska, Dahlgren Township, and Laketown Township, February 21, 2012 (December 26, 2011)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Trunk Highway 10 Project within Elk River, March 1, 2012 (November 1, 2010)
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Split Rock Lighthouse State Park Campground Expansion, Beaver Bay Township, Lake County, March 7, 2012 (December 26, 2011)
- City of Crosby, Crosby Water Tower Dismantling, Crow Wing County, February 27, 2012 (December 12, 2011)

**NOTICES****Notification of Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms**

File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
12-NO-033	Monsanto	Soybean	Agronomic Properties: Yield increased Herbicide tolerance: Dicamba tolerant and Glyphosate tolerant, Dicamba tolerant	Blue Earth, Grant, Redwood (3), Sibley
12-NO-034	Monsanto	Corn	Herbicide tolerance: Glyphosate tolerant	Clay, Renville
12-NO-035	Monsanto	Corn	Agronomic Properties: Yield Increase, Drought tolerant	Blue Earth, Brown, McLeod, Mower, Rice, Steele, Waseca
12-NO-036	Forster & Associates Consulting, LLC	Sugarbeet	Agronomic Properties: Increased Nitrogen Utilization Efficiency	Clay(2)
12-NO-037	Monsanto	Corn	Herbicide Tolerant; Insect Resistant	Blue Earth, Brown, Clay, McLeod, Mower, Renville, Rice, Steele, Waseca
12-NO-038	Betaseed, Inc.	Sugarbeet	Herbicide Tolerant; Virus Resistant	Carver(2), LeSeuer, Scott (11)
12-NO-039	Syngenta	Maize	Insect Resistant; Agronomic Properties: Improved Stress Tolerance	Fillmore, Freeborn (3)
12-NO-040	Syngenta	Maize	Herbicide Tolerant	Fillmore, Freeborn (3)
12-NO-041	Forster & Associates Consulting, LLC	Sugarbeet	Agronomic Properties: Increased Nitrogen Utilization Efficiency	Clay(2)
12-NO-042	Syngenta	Maize	Herbicide Tolerant	Blue Earth, Dakota, Faribault (2)
12-NO-043	Betaseed	Sugarbeet	Herbicide Tolerant: Glyphosate tolerant; Virus resistant: Beet Necrotic Yellow Vein Virus	Chippewa (2), Dakota, Kandiyohi, Polk, Renville (4)
12-NO-044	Dow AgroSciences	Corn	Herbicide Tolerant	Benton, Dakota, Fillmore, Freeborn, Sherburne, Steele, Wabasha, Waseca
12-NO-045	Betaseed	Sugarbeet	Herbicide Tolerant: Glyphosate tolerant	Carver (2), Scott (6)
12-NO-046	Dow AgroSciences	Soybean	Herbicide Tolerant	Freeborn (2), Rock (2), Steele (2)

For more information contact Tina Seeland, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6404, [tina.seeland@state.mn.us](mailto:tina.seeland@state.mn.us).

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
ENERGY FACILITY PERMITTING****NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND  
AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**In the Matter of the Route Permit Application for the North Rochester to Chester 161 kV Transmission Line Project in Goodhue, Olmsted, and Wabasha counties, Minnesota**

**PUC Docket Number: E002/TL-11-800**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) will hold a public hearing on behalf of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on the route permit application by Xcel Energy for a new, approximately 30-mile long, 161 kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line in Goodhue, Olmsted and Wabasha counties, Minnesota. The public hearing will be held at the time and location listed below. The hearing will run no later than 8:00 p.m. and may conclude earlier if all attendees have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been completed.

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

Thursday, March 29, 2012

6:00 p.m.

Oronoco Community Center  
115 2nd Street NW  
Oronoco, MN 55960

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**Project Description.** On September 19, 2011, Xcel Energy (applicant) filed a route permit application under the alternative permitting process for the construction of 29 to 30 miles of 161 kV transmission line between the proposed North Rochester Substation, located between Pine Island and Zumbrota, Minn., in Goodhue County, and the existing Chester Substation, east of Rochester, Minn., in Olmsted County. The project would also include modifications to the Chester Substation. Xcel Energy has submitted this application on behalf of itself and other anticipated co-owners of the project, including Dairyland Power Cooperative, Rochester Public Utilities, Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, and WPPI Energy.

The project consists of two segments: 1) An East-West segment, in which the applicant proposes to place the Chester 161kV line on the same poles as the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345kV line for a distance of 13 to 19 miles; and 2) A North-South segment that leaves the 345kV transmission right-of-way east of the Zumbro River and travels south for 11 to 16 miles to the Chester Substation. The North-South segment would consist of portions of single-circuit 161 kV line and portions of double-circuited 161/69 kV transmission line.

The applicants are requesting a 600-foot route width for the North-South segment. The typical right-of-way for a 161 kV line is 80 feet, the typical span between poles is 400 to 700 feet, and poles range in height from 70 to 120 feet. For the East-West segment, the applicants are requesting the same route width (1000 feet) described

in the route permit application for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345kV project. The 345kV poles range from 130 to 175 feet in height, with spans of 600 to 1000 feet between the poles. The typical right-of-way for 345kV lines is 150 feet.

Modifications to the Chester Substation will consist of addition of a 161 kV circuit-breaker, switches, line termination and expanded box structure, electrical bus and associated equipment. The substation yard would be expanded by approximately one acre to accommodate the added equipment.

EFP held an open public scoping process from November 8, 2011 to December 8, 2011, and held a Public Information and Environmental Assessment Scoping meeting on November 29, 2011. The purpose of the meeting and comment period was to solicit public comment on the issues and route alternatives that should be evaluated in the environmental assessment. The Department of Commerce issued its scoping decision on December 21, 2011, which included one route segment alternative (see attached figure.)

**Environmental Assessment.** EFP staff has completed an environmental assessment (EA) on the proposed project. The EA addresses the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project. Electronic versions of the EA, maps of the proposed project, and other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing and download on the Commission's Energy Facility Permitting website or the eDockets website at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=32260>

or

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (Search "11" Year and "800" Number)

The Environmental Assessment can also be viewed at the following public libraries in the project area:

**Zumbrota Public Library**  
100 West Ave.  
Zumbrota, MN 55992

**Van Horn Public Library**  
115 3rd Street SE  
Pine Island, MN 55963

**Rochester Public Library**  
101 2nd Street SE  
Rochester, MN 55904

**Conduct of Hearing.** The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statute 216E.04, subdivision 6, and Minnesota Rule 7850.3800. Members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions of EFP staff and Xcel Energy representatives and to offer oral and written comments and submit material into the record. The Honorable Richard Luis, Administrative Law Judge, will preside over the hearing.

**Comment period.** The record will remain open until **4:30 p.m., Thursday, April 12, 2012**, for interested persons to submit written comments to the Administrative Law Judge. Comments must be submitted directly to Judge Luis at:

The Honorable Richard Luis  
Office of Administrative Hearings  
P.O. Box 64620  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620  
Fax: 651-361-7900  
[routecomments@state.mn.us](mailto:routecomments@state.mn.us)



The Administrative Law Judge will provide EFP staff a written summary of testimony given at the hearing along with comments received during the prescribed comment period. The Commission will make a final decision on the route permit application after receipt of the complete record.

**Additional Information.** For more information about the process, the project, or to place your name on the project mailing list, please contact:

Matthew Langan, State Permit Manager  
Energy Facility Permitting  
Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
651-296-2096 or 1-800-657-3794  
[matthew.langan@state.mn.us](mailto:matthew.langan@state.mn.us)

Raymond Kirsch, Public Advisor  
Energy Facility Permitting  
Department of Commerce  
85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
651-296-7588  
[raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us](mailto:raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us)

**Mailing List.** Any person may add his or her name to the mailing list maintained by EFP staff for future mailings pertaining to this project. If you would like to receive notice of the Commission's final decision in this matter please add your name to the mailing list. Names can be added to the list by contacting the project manager or by registering on the Commission's Energy Facility Permitting website at:  
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/#mailing>

