

Publication Date: June 11, 2012 Vol. 36, No. 12 Next Publication: June 25, 2012 Submittal Deadline: June 18, 2012 Submit to EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: July 11, 2012

Project Title: Scott Sanness Farm – Section 26 Feedlot Expansion, Houston County



Description: Scott Sanness operates a total confinement swine feedlot in Houston County with a maximum physical capacity of 790 animal units. He is proposing to construct a below ground, concrete liquid manure storage structure at his existing feedlot. The proposed structure will be 61 feet wide by 164 feet long and 8 feet deep. In addition, he will be expanding his feedlot, within the existing animal holding facilities, by adding 710 animal units in a sensitive area. The facility is located within 1,000 feet of a possible sinkhole. Manure will be stored in reinforced concrete pits located at the facility.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency website, at the following: <u>http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html.</u> Written comments on the EAW should be submitted to Charles Peterson. A copy of the EAW may also be obtained by contacting Mary Osborn at 651-757-2101.

In addition to the EAW, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System (NPDES/SDS) Permit will also be available for public comment beginning June 11, 2012. The contact person for the NPDES/SDS Permit is Steven Schmidt at 507-206-2618.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person: Charles Peterson, Planner Principal Environmental Review Unit – 4th Floor Resource Management and Assistance Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 520 Lafayette Road North St. Paul, MN 55155-4194 651-757-2856 charles.peterson@state.mn.us

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 – 4th Floor St. Paul, MN 55155-4194 Phone: 651-757-2873 Fax: 651-297-2343 http://www.eqb.state.mn.us

Project Title: Lake Superior – Poplar River Water District

Description: This project provides for the creation by the state legislature of a public rural water district (hereinafter the "District") and the construction by the District of a water pipeline and water appropriation from Lake Superior to provide potable and raw water to residential, commercial, and government customers within the district.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

The MDNR will accept written comments on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet during the public review and comment period, which concludes Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.

Written comments should be submitted to Randall Doneen, EAW Project Manager, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155-4025. Electronic or e-mail comments may be sent to <u>Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us</u> with "Poplar River Water District EAW" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, please include your name and mailing address.

Public review copies of the EAW are available at the following locations:

- MDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
- MDNR Northeast Regional Headquarters 1201 East Highway 2 Grand Rapids, MN 55744
- Minneapolis Public Library, Government Documents, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55401
- Duluth Public Library, 520 W Superior St., Duluth, MN 55802
- Grand Marais Library, 104 2nd Avenue West Grand Marais, MN 55604

The EAW is also posted on the MDNR's website at <u>www.dnr.state.mn.us</u>. (Click on "Public Input", then under the "Environmental Review" scroll-down list select "Lake Superior – Poplar River Water District EAW"). Additional copies may be requested by calling (651) 259-5156.

Project Title: Carlos Avery Brooder Shed Project

Description: Four 1930's era brooder sheds located within the National Register of Historic Places – listed Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area Headquarters will be demolished by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). One building will be repaired. Each building consists of a concrete slab, 10 steel-framed pens, and a wood-framed shelter.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

The MDNR will accept written comments on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet during the public review and comment period, which concludes Wednesday, July 11, 2012.

Written comments should be submitted to Jamie Schrenzel, EAW Project Manager, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155-4025. Electronic or e-mail comments may be sent to <u>Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us</u> with "Carlos Avery EAW" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, please include your name and mailing address.

Public review copies of the EAW are available at the following locations:

- MDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
- MDNR Central Regional Headquarters, 1200 Warner Road, St. Paul, MN 55106
- Minneapolis Public Library, Government Documents, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55401
- Hardwood Creek Library, 19955 Forest Road North, Forest Lake, MN 55025

The EAW is also posted on the MDNR's website at <u>www.dnr.state.mn.us</u>. (Click on "Public Input", then under the "Environmental Review" scroll-down list select "Carlos Avery Brooder Shed Project EAW"). Additional copies may be requested by calling (651) 259-5115.

Project Title: CSAH 17 and CSAH 78 Reconstruction SP 070-617-022/ CP17-31

Description: Scott County is proposing to reconstruct 1.6 miles along County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 17 and portion of CSAH 78 from a two-lane rural roadway to four-lane divided urban roadway in the City of Shakopee. The project will improve the safety, mobility, and capacity along the corridor. Project limits include CSAH 17 from 300' south of Dominion Avenue to CSAH 16, CSAH 78 from Barrington Drive to Hillside Drive, approximately 550' of Valley View Road (construction of new alignment) from CSAH 17 east and a new street to connection from Valley View Road to St. Francis Avenue.

RGU: Scott County

Contact person: Lisa Freese, AICP, Transportation Program Manager 600 Country Trail East Jordan, MN 55352 Phone: (952) 496-8363 / Fax (952) 496-8365 E-mail: LFreese@co.scott.mn.us

The closing date for comments is July 11, 2012, for consideration. Copies of the Environment Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet documenting the purpose and need for the project, along with anticipated environmental impacts, is available for public viewing at the following locations:

- Scott County Central Shop 600 Country Trail East, Jordan, MN 55352-9339
- Shakopee City Hall 129 South Holmes Street, Shakopee, MN 55379
- Scott County Library System Shakopee Branch 235 South Lewis Street, Shakopee, MN 55379

The EAW is also available on the project website (along with other project information) at: www.co.scott.mn.us/highway17and78

An open house/hearing for the project will be held on Tuesday, June 26, 2012 from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at In the County Board Room at the Scott County Government Center located at 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, Minnesota.

Project Title: Minnehaha Creek Reach 20 Restoration

Description: The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) is proposing a restoration of 4,563 linear feet of straightened channel of Minnehaha Creek within St. Louis Park. The project includes restoration of former channel sinuosity, improving stormwater filtration, updating canoe access, developing recreational trails and maximizing restored stream, wetland and riparian habitats along the creek within St. Louis Park. The creek restoration falls under criteria requiring a mandatory EAW.

The EAW is available for download from the City of St. Louis Park's website at: <u>http://www.stlouispark.org/develoment-planning-study.html</u>. Paper copies of the EAW are available at St. Louis Park City Hall in the Planning Division, 5005 Minnetonka Boulevard, St. Louis Park, Minnesota, or at the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Offices, 18202 Minnetonka Boulevard, Deephaven, Minnesota.

Comments on the EAW may be provided via written correspondence, email, or telephone, to the contacts below:

RGU: City of St. Louis Park

Contact Persons:

Adam Fulton, Planner City of St. Louis Park 5005 Minnetonka Boulevard St. Louis Park, MN 55416 <u>afulton@stlouispark.org</u> 952-928-2841 James Wisker, Director of Planning Minnehaha Creek Watershed District 18202 Minnetonka Boulevard Deephaven, MN 55391 JWisker@minnehahacreek.org 952-641-4509

Project Title: Lilydale Regional Park Master Plan Implementation Project

Description: The approved Master Plan Amendment for Lilydale Regional Park works to protect and enhance natural resources in Lilydale Regional Park. Master plan elements include roadway and trail realignment, picnic shelter, restrooms, dog park, Pickerel Lake access, environmental remediation of dump sites and enhancement of fossil ground trailhead.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) are available for public viewing beginning June 11th during regular business hours at the following locations:

Riverview Central Library	Central Library
1 East George Street	90 West Fourth Street
Saint Paul, MN 55107	Saint Paul, MN 55102

A copy of the EAW may also be obtained by contacting Alice Messer listed below.

A public meeting to receive comment on the EAW is scheduled for Monday, June 18, 2012 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Wellstone Community Center (179 Robie Street East, Saint Paul, MN 55107). The 30-day written comment period will be open from June 11 – July 11, 2012. Comments should be submitted to the contact person listed below. For additional information about Lilydale Regional Park visit <u>www.stpaul.gov/parks</u> and click on Current Projects.

RGU: City of St. Paul Department of Parks and Recreation

Contact Person: Alice Messer 25 West 4th Street, Suite 400 Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102 Telephone: 651-266-6412 Facsimile: 651-292-7405 <u>Alice.Messer@ci.stpaul.mn.us</u>

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 Roseville, Proposed Walmart Store at County Road C and Cleveland Avenue, EAW denied, Exempt
- City of Andover, Proposed 150,000 Square Foot Retail Development at 1851 Bunker Lake Boulevard, EAW denied

EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparation 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*.

• Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Worthington Industrial Park Sanitary Sewer Extension, Worthington, MN, June 4, 2012 (April 16, 2012)

EIS SCOPING EAW

EIS Scoping EAW Comment Deadline: July 25, 2012

Project Title: Veolia Environmental Services Rolling Hills Mixed Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Project, Wright County

Description: Veolia Environmental Services Rolling Hills Landfill, Inc. proposes to construct a new 72-acre mixed municipal solid waste (MSW) landfill area on existing Veolia property adjacent to the active industrial solid waste disposal area at the Veolia Rolling Hills Landfill Facility located in Wright County, Minnesota. The project includes phased construction of lined cells, leachate recirculation and disposal

structures, active gas collection including a gas burning flare, a landfill surface water management system, and wetland mitigation and conservation areas. The project is designed to accept mixed MSW, which includes residential, commercial, and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency-approved industrial solid waste, and construction and demolition debris.

The preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is mandatory. A copy of the Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and draft Scoping Decision Document (SDD) will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency website, at the following: <u>http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html</u>. Written comments on the Scoping EAW and draft SDD should be submitted to Nancy Drach. A copy of the Scoping EAW may also be obtained by contacting Mary Osborn at 651-757-2101.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will host a public scoping meeting on July 9, 2012, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Rockford Township Hall located at 3039 Dague Avenue SE, Buffalo, Minnesota, 55313.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person: Nancy Drach, Planner Principal Environmental Review Unit – 4th Floor Resource Management and Assistance Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 520 Lafayette Road North St. Paul, MN 55155-4194 651-757-2317 nancy.drach@state.mn.us

SCOPING DECISION AND EIS PREPARATION NOTICE

Project Title: Bottineau Transitway Project

Description: The Bottineau Transitway is a proposed project that will provide for transit improvements in the highly traveled northwest area of the Twin Cities. The Bottineau Transitway is located in Hennepin County, Minnesota, extending approximately 13 miles from downtown Minneapolis to the northwest serving north Minneapolis and the suburbs of Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal, New Hope, Brooklyn Park, Maple Grove and Osseo.

Federal Transit Administration (FTA), HCRRA and the Metropolitan Council have initiated the environmental review process for the Bottineau Transitway Project. Federal funding for this project may be pursued through the FTA New Starts Program. As a result, FTA – designated as the lead federal agency for this project – is choosing to undertake environmental review in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As the local public agencies sponsoring the project, the HCRRA and the Metropolitan Council must also comply with the requirements of the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). HCRRA is the RGU under Minnesota Rules Chapter 4410.0500 for the Draft EIS. FTA and HCRRA have determined that the Bottineau Transitway project may have significant impacts. To satisfy both federal and state requirements, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared for the Bottineau Transitway project.

A Scoping Booklet was prepared, noticed in the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Monitor on December 26, 2011, and distributed to the EQB EIS distribution list, along with numerous other interested parties. The comment period was open from December 26, 2011 to February 17, 2012 and during that time four formal public Scoping meetings were held. A separate Interagency Scoping Meeting for governmental agencies was also held.

Since the close of the comment period on February 17, 2012, HCRRA in consultation with the Metropolitan Council and the FTA, has been reviewing the technical analysis completed and comments received and working through the project advisory committees established for the Bottineau Transitway. Specifically, the Advise, Review and Communicate Committee (ARCC), Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). The ARCC provided input to the PAC on the Scoping Decision in late April 2012. The PAC passed an advisory resolution to the HCRRA regarding the scoping decision on April 23 2012, and the HCRRA, acting as both the project proposer and RGU for the proposed action passed a scoping decision resolution on May 8, 2012. Since the action by the RGU on May 8, HCRRA and Met Council have been in consultation with the FTA, the lead federal agency regarding the local scoping decision.

Based on public and agency input and additional technical analysis, HCRRA has determined that the following alternatives will be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS):

- No-Build Alternative
- Transportation System Management (TSM) Alternative
- Four light rail transit (LRT) alternatives on various alignments (A-C-D1, A-C-D2, B-C-D1, and B-C-D2)

A bus rapid transit (BRT) Alternative will not be studied in the Draft EIS.

In addition to the identification of alternatives advanced for further evaluation in the Draft EIS, the Bottineau Transitway Scoping Decision Document includes information in compliance with Minn. R. 4410.2100, subp. 6.

The Scoping Decision Document and EIS Preparation Notice will be distributed to the EQB Distribution list and will also be posted on the Bottineau Transitway website, <u>www.bottineautransitway.org</u>. A press release will also be provided to at least one newspaper of general circulation within Hennepin County.

RGU: Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA)

Questions or comments may be directed to:

Contact Person: Brent Rusco Bottineau Transitway Project Manager Hennepin County 701 Fourth Avenue South, Suite 400 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415 Phone: 612-543-0579 Email: brent.rusco@co.hennepin.mn.us Fax: 612-348-9710

Written materials, project updates, and materials used at the public Scoping meetings are available on the Bottineau Transitway project website noted above.

DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE

Project Title: Proposed South Mine, Kasota Township, Le Sueur County, Minnesota

Description: The Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners announces that a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been prepared for the Proposed South Mine and is available for public comment. Unimin Corporation proposes the continuation of open pit non-metallic mineral mining of the Jordan Sandstone to produce industrial sand. Blasting, crushing, dewatering, size classification, and reclamation activities will occur on approximately 1,188.06 acres located in parts of sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18; & 12, Kasota Township (T109N, R26W; 27W), Le Sueur County, Minnesota. Current land cover includes row-crop agriculture, pasture, wetlands, natural area, residential, and a Public Water Wetland.

Copies of the DEIS are available for public review at the Le Sueur County Environmental Services office: 515 South Maple Avenue, Le Center; the MN Valley Regional Library Reference Department: 100 E Main St., Mankato; and the Saint Peter Public Library: 601 South Washington Avenue, Saint Peter. A copy of the DEIS will also be posted during the comment period on the Le Sueur County website: <u>http://www.co.le-sueur.mn.us</u>.

A public informational meeting will be held on Monday, July 9th, at 6:30 pm, at the Le Sueur County Planning and Zoning office, 515 South Maple Avenue, Le Center.

All comments must be submitted in writing by 4:30 pm, Monday, July 23rd.

Contact Person:	Kathy Brockway
	Planning & Zoning Administrator
	Le Sueur County
	88 South Park Avenue
	Le Center, MN 56057
	Phone (507) 357-2251
	<u>kbrockway@co.le-sueur.mn.us</u> .

NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Issued: June 4, 2012

Notice of Availability of Draft Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan for Federal Lands Known as Beltrami Island Land Utilization Project, in Beltrami, Roseau, and Lake-of-the-Woods Counties

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is releasing a Draft Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan for over 84,000 acres of leased federal lands known as the Beltrami Island Land Utilization Project (LUP). LUP lands were designated as "a refuge and breeding ground for native birds and other wildlife" by Executive Order 9091 in 1942. The LUP lands are scattered among state lands in the Beltrami Island State Forest, Red Lake Wildlife Management Area, Hayes Lake State Park, and three peatland Scientific and Natural Areas.

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The Department is accepting public comments on the Draft Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan from June 11, 2012 through July 25, 2012.

A Public Open House is scheduled for June 27, 2012 from 4-8 pm at the DNR's Warroad Area Forestry Office, 804 Cherne Dr. NW, Warroad. There will be a short presentation, a question and answer session, and an opportunity to provide oral or written comments.

A copy of the plan may be obtained by 1) contacting Project Consultant Michael R. North (see contact information below); 2) downloading it from the project website: <u>www.beltramiisland.info</u>; 3) stopping by the Red Lake WMA Office at Norris Camp, the Warroad Area Forestry Office, the Baudette Area Wildlife Office, or Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge. Printed copies have also been distributed to public libraries in Baudette, Warroad, Roseau, Bemidji, Crookston, and East Grand Forks.

Project Contact:Michael R. North, Project Consultant
Minnesota DNR
1601 Minnesota Drive
Brainerd, MN 56401
Phone: 218-833-8623
Fax: 218-828-6022
E-mail: Michael.north@state.mn.us

To comment, send letter, email, or completed comment card to Michael North by July 26, 2012.

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Notice of Availability of Environmental Report

In the Matter of the Certificate of Need Application for the Ellerth Windpark Project

PUC Docket Number: IP6855/CN-11-112

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff has completed an environmental report (ER) for the proposed project. The ER analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives to the project.

The ER, and all material constituting the official record for the certificate of need, can be found on the eDockets system at: <u>https://www.eDockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp</u>; search on the year "**11**" and number "**112**."

Electronic versions of the ER and selected other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing on the Department's energy facility permitting website: http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=32308.

The ER will also be available at the locations noted below:

Godel Memorial Library	Newfolden Community Center	
314 East Johnson	145 East First Street	
Warren, MN 56762	Newfolden, MN 56738	
Marshall County Auditor's Office	Clerks in Wright, West Valley,	
208 East Colvin	Foldahl, Marsh Grove,	
Warren, MN 56762	Comstock, and Viking Townships	
Thief River Falls Public Library 102 Main Avenue South Thief River Falls 56701		

Project Description. Anywhere from 61 to 43 turbines would be used for the Ellerth Windpark Project, this number depends on the size and model of turbine selected. The three turbines under consideration (General Electric 1.6 MW, Vestas 1.8 MW V90, and Siemens 2.3 MW SWT – 101) vary in size and capacity. However, the total nameplate capacity would be limited to 98.9 MW.

Tower heights would range from 262 to 328 feet (80 to 100 meters), with rotor diameters of 295 to 331 feet (90 to 101 meters), for a total height of 426.5 to 493.8 feet (125 to 150 meters). Associated project facilities would include tower foundations, turbine access roads, step up transformers, electric feeder and collection lines, a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system, an operations and maintenance (O&M) building, permanent meteorological towers, and a project substation.

The project is located approximately two miles west of the community of Newfolden and four miles north of Viking in portions of the townships of Wright (Sections E¹/₂ SE¹/₄ 36), West Valley (S1/2 30, 31-35), Foldahl (1, 2, 11-13, 24, 25, 36), Marsh Grove (1-13, 19-23, 26-35), Comstock (1), and Viking (2-6) in Marshall County. The project area encompasses approximately 33,709 acres of mostly agricultural land. Ellerth Wind currently has agreements with landowners over approximately 18,870 acres of private land within the project area.

Project Contacts. If you have questions or would like further information about this project, please contact:

Department of Commerce – Environmental Review

Larry B. Hartman, State Permit Manager Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East, Suite 500 St. Paul, MN 55101-2198 (651) 296-5089, <u>larry.hartman@state.mn.us</u>

Jamie MacAlister, Public Advisor Minnesota Department of Commerce 85 7th Place East, Suite 500 St. Paul, MN 55101-2198 (651) 297-1335, jamie.macalister@state.mn.us

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Public Utilities Commission – Certificate of Need Process

Bret Eknes Minnesota Public Utilities Commission 121 7th Place East St. Paul, MN 55101 (651) 201-2236, <u>bret.eknes@state.mn.us</u>,

Applicant

Brett O'Connor, Ellerth Wind 381 Rue Notre-Dame West, Suite 102 Montreal, QC, H2Y 1V2 Tel: 514-842-1923 <u>brett.oconnor@tcir.net</u>

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0391 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may reach the Department through Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529 or by dialing 711.