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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: August 7, 2013

Project Title: Forsman Farms Layer Hens Feedlot Expansion

Project Description: Forsman Farms (Project Proposer) is proposing an expansion to their existing egg laying facility in Section 1, Stockholm Township, Wright County that contains 2,625 animal units (AUs) in eight barns. The proposed project includes the construction of two chicken confinement buildings, remodeling of six barns, two water wells and other associated infrastructure. When completed, there will be an additional 661,000 laying hens (less than five pounds) or 1,983 AUs for a total of 4,608 AUs.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet 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 Charles Peterson. A copy of the EAW may also be obtained by contacting Beth Tegdesch at 651-757-2100.

In addition to the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's draft NPDES/SDS Permit will also be available for public comment beginning July 8, 2013. The contact person for the NPDES/SDS Permit is Allison Remer at 651-757-2062.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

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 the Pollution Control Agency. 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>

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

Project Title: Gilmore Creek Stream Restoration, St. Louis County

Project Description: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is seeking public comments on an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) that was prepared for a project serving as compensatory mitigation for loss of an unnamed stream at Northshore Mining Company's Babbitt mine. The project will restore a portion of offsite degraded creek, Gilmore Creek, to its original plan and profile; reestablishing natural stream processes, improving floodplain connectivity and stabilizing hydrology. The DNR will accept written comments on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet during the public review and comment period, which concludes Wednesday, August 7, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

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

- MDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155;
- MDNR Northeast Regional Headquarters, 1201 East Highway 2
Grand Rapids, MN 55744;
- Minneapolis Public Library, Government Documents, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55401;
- Chisholm Public Library, 300 West Lake Street, Chisholm, MN 55719; and
- Cook Public Library, 103 South River Street, Cook, MN 55723

The EAW is also posted on the DNR's website at www.dnr.state.mn.us. (Click on "Public Input", then under the "Environmental Review" scroll-down list select "Gilmore Creek Stream Restoration EAW"). Additional copies may be requested by calling (651) 259-5168.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contact Person: Jill Townley
Environmental Review Planner
Environmental Policy and Review Unit
Division of Ecological and Water Resources
Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155-4025.
E-mail: Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us with "Gilmore Creek EAW" in the subject line.
If submitting comments electronically, please include your name and mailing address.

EAW NEED DECISIONS

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

- 5th Street Mixed Use Project, City of Minneapolis, EAW denied
- Lake Elmo Water Surface Use Ordinance, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, EAW Exempt

EIS NEED DECISIONS

The noted responsible governmental unit has determined the indicated project does 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 Department of Transportation/Anoka Highway Department/City of Ramsay, U.S. Highway 10 Interchange with Anoka County State Aid Highway 83 (Armstrong Boulevard), Ramsey, MN (SP 0202-95), June 14, 2013 (December 24, 2012). Note: A joint federal/state Environmental Assessment was prepared by the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration. The federal Finding of No Significant Impact and Section 4(f) Determination is listed below in the Notices section.
- Minnesota Department of Administration, Southeast Veterans Cemetery, (Fillmore County) June 9, 2013 (May 13, 2013).
- Lake County, LRH Aggregates, June 27, 2013 (March 10, 2008).
- City of Hibbing, Kleffman Road Sand and Gravel Mine EAW for Seppi Bros. Concrete Products Corp. (St. Louis County), June 19, 2013 (April 29, 2013).

FINAL ALTERNATIVE URBAN AREAWIDE REVIEW ORDER

Project Title: East Village Development

Project Description: The public was invited to comment on the proposed development boundary and scenarios to be evaluated in the AUAR prior to issuance of this Final AUAR order. The draft order comment period began on **May 13, 2013** and ran through **June 12, 2013**.

One comment letter was received from Hennepin County. The County is requesting that traffic be studied beyond the boundaries of the AUAR and include cumulative impacts from both the proposed development and the Minnesota Multi-Purpose Stadium as far as Washington Avenue South, 3rd Avenue South, South 8th Street and I-35W. The County is also requesting that further clarity be provided in terms of the proposed plaza/park and what scenarios are being considered for road closures (partial/permanent/temporary). The traffic analysis will study both of these.

As the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU), the city of Minneapolis is ordering an Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) process for the East Village development.

The AUAR review area includes a five-block area in downtown Minneapolis, with three blocks bounded by South 3rd Street, 5th Avenue South, South 4th Street, and Chicago Avenue South. The additional two blocks are bounded by South 4th Street, 5th Avenue South, South 5th Street, and Park Avenue South. Two development scenarios are proposed for study in the AUAR, both of which are consistent with the Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan. Allowed uses within these five blocks include office, retail, hotel, residential, and park.

Minimum Development Scenario: up to 1,400,000 square feet of office; 410 residential units (or 350 residential units and a 150 room/110,000 square foot hotel); 80,000 square feet of retail; and 1,925 parking spaces; all concentrated on the three blocks along South 3rd Street. The two blocks along South 5th Street are proposed for park use.

Maximum Development Scenario: up to 2,580,000 square feet of office; 335 residential units (or 275 residential units and 150 room/110,000 square foot hotel); 105,000 square feet of retail; and 2,725 parking spaces; all concentrated on the three blocks along South 3rd Street and extending along 5th Avenue South for approximately 1/3 of the block ending at South 5th Street. The majority of the two blocks along South 5th Street is proposed for park use.

The park area under both scenarios is consistent with the plaza/park plan proposed by the Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority and being evaluated under the Multi-Purpose Stadium EIS.

RGU: City of Minneapolis

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NOTICES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
MINNESOTA DIVISION

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Minnesota State Project number 0202-95

Trunk Highway 10/County State-Aid Highway 83

In the City of Ramsey

Anoka County, Minnesota

The proposed project consists primarily of constructing a grade-separated interchange at the US 10 and County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 83/Armstrong Boulevard intersection and a railroad grade separation at the Burlington Northern Santa-Fe Railway. Additional work includes reconstruction of CSAH 83 from a two-lane to a four-lane roadway between CSAH 116 and the new interchange.

The Federal Highway Administration has determined 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 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.

 William R. Lohr
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William R. Lohr, P.E.

Technical Services Team Leader

Federal Highway Administration – Minnesota Division