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EQB MONITOR

MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

GOOD CAUSE EXEMPT RULEMAKING RELATING TO EAW AND EIS

The EQB will be engaged in “good cause” rulemaking over the next few months in order to make its rules consistent with changes that are already in effect through amendments that were adopted in the 2011 and 2012 legislative sessions. The amendments being considered are found in:

*Minn. Stat. 2012, ch. 272, sections 76 and 77 (House File # 2164),
Minn. Stat. 2012, ch. 150, Article 2, sections 1 to 4 (Senate File #1567),
Minn. Stat. 2011, Chapter 4, sections 5 through 10 (House File #1); and
Minn. Stat. 2011, ch. 107, sections 86 and 87 (Senate File #1115).*

Good cause rulemaking is a streamlined process that, in this case, is limited to only rule amendments that do not require any interpretation of law. This means that the public will be invited to comment only on whether the EQB’s proposed rule amendments accurately incorporate the legislative directives. Interested parties who wish to be notified of their opportunity to comment and the final adoption of these amendments are encouraged to [subscribe now](#) for GovDelivery.

For additional information about this rulemaking, contact Carol Nankivel at carol.nankivel@state.mn.us or 651-757-2597.

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>

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: September 5, 2012

Project Title: Baers Poultry Company (Old Barn) 2013 Retrofit, Clay County

Description: Baers Poultry Company is proposing to retrofit an existing 40-foot by 876-foot total confinement pullet barn (Project) located in Section 24 of Eglon Township in Clay County. The existing pullet barn currently houses 144,000 animals (4,752 animal units), and has a clay-lined manure storage basin for temporary storage of the manure. The Project would be done in two phases. Phase I, expected to be completed in 2013, would consist of retrofitting the north half of the existing 40-foot by 876-foot barn structure by installing new battery cages, as well as a continuous manure air drying and conveyor system, and constructing a 40-foot by 150-foot roofed manure storage building with a concrete floor. The continuous manure air drying system will allow for further drying of manure before removal to the new manure storage building. Phase II, expected to be completed in 2018, would consist of retrofitting the south half of the existing 40-foot by 876-foot barn structure, also by installing a new manure air drying and conveyor system, and constructing an additional 40-foot by 150 foot roofed manure storage building with a concrete floor. After completion of the second phase, the clay-lined liquid manure basin will be eliminated. Total number of animals after the second phase will be 294,912, but the number of animal units will be decreased to 884.74, because of the conversion to the dry manure system.

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 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 MPCA's draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System (NPDES/SDS) Permit will also be available for public comment beginning September 5, 2012. The contact person for the NPDES/SDS Permit is Mike Sharp at 218-846-8139.

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

Project Title: Randy's Sanitation Transfer Facility Proposed Capacity Expansion

Description: Randy's Sanitation is proposing to increase the permitted capacity of their existing solid waste transfer and recycling station located in the city of Delano, Wright County, Minnesota. The Facility is currently permitted to accept a maximum of 78,250 tons per year (tpy), or approximately 244,000 cubic yards (cy) per year of mixed municipal solid waste (MSW) and construction and demolition debris (C&D). The amount is equal to approximately 350 tons per day (tpd). The facility is requesting to increase permitted capacity to accept up to 125,000 tpy (375,000 cy) of MSW and C&D, with a maximum of 550 tpd.

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 Nancy Drach. A copy of the EAW may also be obtained by contacting Mary Osborn at 651-757-2101.

In addition to the EAW, the MPCA's draft Solid Waste Permit (SW-578) will also be available for public comment beginning August 6, 2012. The contact person for the Solid Waste Permit is Lisa Mojsiej at 651-757-2373.

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

Project Title: CSAH 24 Southeast Collector – South Project

Description: The CSAH 24 Southeast Collector – South Project involves construction of a two-lane roadway (1.3 miles) along a new alignment from the future Trunk Highway (TH) 52 interchange to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 25. A 10-foot wide trail is proposed along the west side of the CSAH 24 roadway. The project is scheduled for construction in 2013.

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 August 6, 2012, during regular business hours at the following locations:

- Cannon Falls Library
918 River Road, Cannon Falls, MN 55009
- Red Wing Public Library
225 East Avenue, Red Wing, MN 55066
- Cannon Falls City Hall
918 River Road, Cannon Falls, MN 55009

- Goodhue County Public Works
2140 Pioneer Road, Red Wing, MN 55066
- MnDOT District 6 Office
2900 48th Street NW, Rochester, MN 55901

The EAW comment period will begin on August 6, 2012. Written comments will be accepted through September 5, 2012. Comments should be submitted to the RGU contact listed below.

RGU: Goodhue County

Contact Person: Greg Isakson
Goodhue County Public Works Director
2140 Pioneer Road, P.O. Box 404
Red Wing, MN 55066-0404
Greg.Isakson@co.goodhue.mn.us

Project Title: Minntac Mine Extension

Description: U.S. Steel – Minntac proposes a 483-acre extension of its existing open pit mining facilities in Mountain Iron. The extension will extend mine life and taconite production to 2031. Taconite produced from the extension will continue to be processed at the existing Minntac facility at the current levels of production.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contact Person: Lisa Fay, Planner Principal
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4032
651-259-5110
651- 297-1500
environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us

Project Title: Rosebud RV Park Second Addition

Description: Rosebud RV Park is proposing an expansion of twenty six (26) additional Recreational Vehicle (RV) camping sites, which will be located adjacent to the existing 48 lots in the shoreland zone of Lake Traverse, a general development lake in Traverse County.

RGU: Traverse County

Contact Person: Sara Gronfeld, Administrator
Traverse County Land Use Management Office
1700 3rd Avenue South, Room 205
Wheaton, MN 56296
320-563-8218 ext. 3
Fax: 320-563-8219
sara.gronfeld@mn.nacdnet.net

EAW NEED DECISIONS

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

- Stevens County, B & H Holdings proposed RV Campground in shorelands area, EAW denied

FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL EIS

Project Title: Trunk Highway 60 – Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties, Minnesota Final Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement

Description: The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is proposing capacity improvements along three segments of Truck Highway 60 in Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties. The three remaining two-lane highway section between St. James and Windom are proposed to be expanded to rural four-lane divided highway sections. Construction on the East Gap (St. James to Butterfield) is planned to begin in 2013, the Middle Gap (Butterfield to Mountain Lake) is scheduled for construction in 2015, and the West Gap (Mountain Lake to Windom) construction is anticipated to begin in 2017.

A Final Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (FSFEIS) has been prepared by MnDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The FSFEIS document describes the proposed project, potential impacts from the Preferred Alternative, and proposed mitigation. This document also includes information on the project purpose and need, alternatives considered, and funding.

Copies of the FSFEIS will be available for public viewing during business hours at the following locations beginning Monday, August 6, 2012:

- Watonwan County Library – Butterfield Branch, 111 North 2nd Street, Butterfield, MN 56102
- St. James Public Library, 125 5th Street, St. James, MN 56081
- Mountain Lake Public Library, 1054 4th Avenue, Mountain Lake, MN 56159
- Windom Public Library, 904 4th Avenue, Windom, MN 56101
- Region 8 – Marshall/Lyon County Library, 301 W Lyon Street, Marshall, MN 56258
- Region 9 – Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main Street, Mankato, MN 56002

The FSFEIS can also be viewed on the project website at:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d7/projects/hwy60stjames>. Written comments can be submitted, prior to the close of the public comment period on September 5, 2012, to Peter Harff, MnDOT Project Manager, 2151 Bassett Drive, Mankato, MN 56001 or via e-mail at peter.harff@state.mn.us.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person: Peter Harff,
MnDOT District 7
2151 Bassett Drive
Mankato, MN 56001
Phone: 507-514-1095 E
E-mail: peter.harff@state.mn.us

PETITIONS FILED

The following petitions have been filed with the EQB requesting preparation of an EAW. The EQB has assigned the indicated unit of government to review the petition and decide on the need for an EAW.

- MPCA, Full Circle Organics/Good Thunder Compost Facility
- Houston County, Erickson Quarry