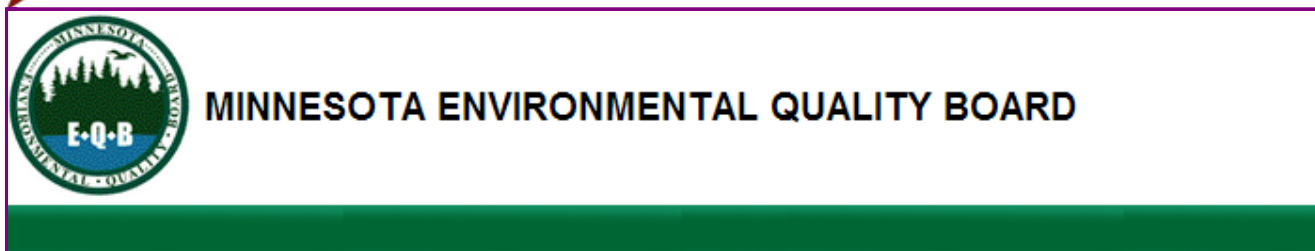


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## September 30, 2013 EQB Monitor

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# EQB MONITOR

**Publication Date September 30, 2013**

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**Next Publication: October 14, 2013**

Submittal Deadline: October 7, 2013

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**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=20130901](http://server.admin.state.mn.us/WebCalendar/month.php?cat_id=3&date=20130901). Meeting minutes, packets and agendas are at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/agendas.html>

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## EIS Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental unit has determined the following 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, Trunk Highway (TH) 610 Extension Project, City of Maple Grove, Wright County, September 12, 2013 (May 13, 2013)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Trunk Highway (TH) 8 from Greenway Avenue North to Karmel Avenue, Cities of Forest Lake, Wyoming and Chisago, Washington County and Chisago County, September 12, 2013 (June 10, 2013)

## AUAR Update Available

*AUAR Comment Deadline: October 7, 2013*

### **Project Title: Growth Area for South and East Moorhead AUAR Update**

**Project Description:** The City of Moorhead has completed an update of the Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) for its south and east growth areas. The City completed the original AUAR in 2005, and this update was prepared as required by State Environmental Quality Board Rules.

The AUAR covers an area of approximately 5,600 acres in the south and east portions of the City of Moorhead, Minnesota, analyzing a number of issues including land use, transportation, housing, provision of public services and infrastructure, management of stormwater and flooding issues, and others.

Copies of the AUAR Update document are available for review at Moorhead City Hall, 500 Center Avenue, Moorhead MN 56561, or online at: [http://www.cityofmoorhead.com/whats\\_new/](http://www.cityofmoorhead.com/whats_new/)

Comments will be taken during a 10-day objection period ending on October 14, 2013. Written comments can be sent to:

Kristie Leshovsky  
Moorhead Planning Office  
Moorhead City Hall  
500 Center Avenue, Moorhead, MN 56561  
218-299-5370  
[planning@cityofmoorhead.com](mailto:planning@cityofmoorhead.com)

## AUAR Update Adopted

### Project Title: Gateway AUAR Update

**Project Description:** The City of Edina updated the Gateway AUAR. The AUAR was sent to review agencies and the comment period ended August 19, 2013. The City of Edina adopted the Gateway AUAR Update on September 3, 2013.

**RGU:** City of Edina

**Contact Person:** Cary Teague  
City of Edina  
4801 West 50th Street  
Edina, MN 55424

## Environmental Assessment Available

### Project Title: Otter Tail Power Bemidji 69kV Upgrade to 115 kV Transmission Line

**Project Description:** Electrical load growth in the Bemidji area is greater than recent projections anticipated and, with several additional loads in the planning stages, is estimated to continue to grow in the future. To reliably serve these loads, four electrical distribution substations need to be modified as well as an existing 69 kilovolt transmission line upgraded to 115 kV.

Otter Tail Power Company will be embarking on a multi-million dollar project to upgrade approximately eight (8) miles of 69 kV lines to 115 kV and modify four distribution substations to more efficiently serve customers in Bemidji. In addition, a distribution express feeder system with automatic source transfer would create a smart grid.

This reliability enhancement plan will transfer the Bemidji load to the 115 kV transmission system, which is shielded from lightning. Building the 12.5kV express feeder ties will allow the utility to protect against the contingency of loss of a distribution substation for an estimated 15 years with 2 percent load growth.

Otter Tail Power Company is proposing to rebuild this 69 kV line with a heavier conductor, which would mitigate the overload concerns, boost the reliability of the transmission line, and better serve the existing and future growth and additional loads that are being planned in the City of Bemidji.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed 115 kV transmission line upgrade is available for review by contacting Mayana Rice, Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board, 317 4th Street NW Bemidji, MN 56601 or on the GBAJPB website at [www.jpbgba.org](http://www.jpbgba.org). On the left hand of the website there is a tab labelled: OTTER TAIL POWER – CUP Upgrade 69kV to 115kV Line and Substation Upgrades. Comments may be submitted to the address below, or to [mayana.rice@jpbgba.org](mailto:mayana.rice@jpbgba.org) or Fax: 218-759-3591.

**Comment Period Deadline:** 10 Day Comment Period ends October 9, 2013.

**Public Hearing and RGU Decision Date:**

Wednesday, October 9, 2013 Planning Board meeting begins at 6 p.m. City Hall 317 4th Street  
NW Bemidji MN 56601

**RGU:** Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board

**Contact Person:** Mayana Rice

Planning and Zoning Administrator  
Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board  
317 4th ST NW  
Phone: 218-759-3594  
Fax: 218-759-3591  
Email: [mayana.rice@jpbgba.org](mailto:mayana.rice@jpbgba.org)

**Project Title: Winona Bridge Project, Winona County**

**Project Description:** The project would rehabilitate the existing Winona Bridge and construct a new two-lane girder bridge upstream of the existing Winona Bridge. The project also includes improvements to the 4th Street/Winona Street intersection.

The EA, which documents the purpose and need of the project along with the anticipated social, economic, and environmental impacts, including Federal Section 106 and Section 4(f) impacts, is available on the project website at [www.dot.state.mn.us/d6/projects/winonabridge](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d6/projects/winonabridge). Copies of the EA will also be available for review during the open house and public hearing and are also available for public viewing during business hours at the following locations:

MnDOT District 6 Offices, 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester, MN 55901

Winona Public Library, 151 W 5th St, Winona, MN 55987

Winona Department of Public Works, 207 Lafayette Street, Room 200, Winona, MN 55987

To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies and groups to comment on the EA, a public hearing/open house meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2013 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Winona Armory, 1303 Homer Road, Winona, Minnesota 55987. There will be no formal presentation.

The EA describes the proposed project, impacts, and mitigation. The EA includes documentation on the Section 106 findings regarding historic properties, as well as a Draft Programmatic Agreement which outlines the future design review process. The EA 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 (Waterfront Trail) 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. More information about Section 4(f) and the de minimis finding is available on the project website.

To request an ASL or foreign language interpreter or other reasonable accommodation, call Janet Miller at 651-366-4720 or 1-800-657-3774 (Greater Minnesota); 711 or 1-800-627-3529 (Minnesota Relay). You may also send an e-mail to [janet.rae.miller@state.mn.us](mailto:janet.rae.miller@state.mn.us). (Please request at least one week in advance).

To request this document in an alternative format, please contact 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 e-mail 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 other interested parties. The comment period will begin on September 30, 2013. Comments will be accepted through October 30, 2013.

**RGU:** Minnesota Department of Transportation

**Contact Person:** Terry Ward, Design Engineer

Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 6  
2900 48th Street NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
Phone (507) 286-7688  
[Terry.Ward@dot.state.mn.us](mailto:Terry.Ward@dot.state.mn.us)

## Notices

### Transgenic Corn Inbred Parent Maintainer Technology - Commercial Use Exemption

Pioneer Hi-Bred International has requested an exemption from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Genetically Engineered Organism Release Permit for a corn event designated as DP-32138-1, which has been genetically modified to serve as a pollinator to propagate male sterile female inbred parent lines. The modified gene itself does not appear in the resulting inbred seed used for hybrid seed production, nor in the resulting hybrid seed or grain crop. A determination of non-regulated status has been issued by USDA. Under this exemption from state permit, Pioneer will be allowed utilize this technology in inbred parent seed production without further regulation. For additional information contact Dr. Steve Malone, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-66531, [stephen.malone@state.mn.us](mailto:stephen.malone@state.mn.us)

### Transgenic Insect Resistant Corn - Commercial Use Exemption

Pioneer Hi-Bred International has requested an exemption from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Genetically Engineered Organism Release Permit for a corn event designated as DP-004114-3. DP-004114-3 encodes for the Cry1F, Cry34Ab1, Cry35Ab proteins which convey resistance to certain lepidopteran and coleopteran insects. DP-004114-3 also encodes for production of phosphinothricin acetyltransferase (PAT) which confers resistance to glufosinate-ammonium herbicides. A determination of non-regulated status has been issued by USDA. Under this exemption from state permit, Pioneer will be allowed to commercially use this insect resistant and herbicide tolerant corn line without further regulation. For additional information contact Dr. Steve Malone, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 651/201-6531, [stephen.malone@state.mn.us](mailto:stephen.malone@state.mn.us)

## Transgenic Herbicide Tolerance Canola - Commercial Use Exemption

Pioneer Hi-Bred International has requested an exemption from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Genetically Engineered Organism Release Permit for a canola event designated as DP-073496-4. DP-073496-4 also encodes for the glyphosate N-acetyltransferase (GAT4621) protein which confers resistance to the herbicide active ingredient glyphosate. A determination of non-regulated status has been issued by USDA. Under this exemption from state permit, Pioneer will be allowed to commercially use this herbicide tolerant canola line without further regulation. For additional information contact Dr. Steve Malone, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 651/201-6531, [stephen.malone@state.mn.us](mailto:stephen.malone@state.mn.us)

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