



Publication Date: January 10, 2011
Vol.35, No.1

Next Publication: January 24, 2011
Submittal Deadline: January 14, 2011

NOTICE: The EQB *Monitor* Publication Calendar for 2011 is included in this edition.

EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: February 9, 2011

Project Title: Johnson's Rolling Acres Dairy

Description: Johnson's Rolling Acres is proposing to expand an existing dairy operation in Section 21 of Norway Township, Fillmore County (Project). The Project will expand the dairy operation from the current registered capacity of 870 mature dairy cows, 110 dairy heifers, and 40 calves (1,303 animal units, or Aus) to 1,400 mature dairy cows, 500 dairy heifers, and 30 calves (2,316 Aus). New construction for the Project will modify the liner in the existing manure storage basin from an all high-density polyethylene (HDPE) liner to half HDPE and half concrete, a concrete stacking area for sand bedding, a new freestall barn, a new HDPE lined manure storage pond, expansion of the existing feed bunker, a new secondary feed bunker, and a concrete transfer tank to collect runoff from feed bunkers. Manure from the Project will be land applied to cropland.

In addition to the Environmental Assessment Worksheet, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's draft National Pollution Discharge Elimination System/State Disposal System (NPDES/SDS) Permit will also be available for public comment concurrently, beginning during the week of January 10, 2011. The contact person for the NPDES/SDS Permit is Steve Schmidt at 507-206-2618.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

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
658 Cedar St., 300 Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1388
Phone: 651-201-2480
Fax: 651-296-3698
<http://www.eqb.state.mn.us>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person:

Charles Peterson
Planner Principal
Environmental Review and Feedlot Section
Regional Division – 4th Floor
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
Phone: 651-757-2856

Project Title: Jordon Aggregates Proposed Mining Operation

Description: Jordon Aggregates, LLC proposes to mine sand and gravel from the property located at 17825 Valley View Drive in Sand Creek Township, Scott County, Minnesota. The mine will encompass 84.7 acres and is anticipated to operate for 25 years. When mining is complete a 36 acre pond will remain. Reclamation will use on-site overburden materials and imported fill.

RGU: Scott County

Contact Person:

Kate Sedlacek
Scott County Community Development Division
Environmental Health Department
Government Center A102
200 Fourth Avenue West
Shakopee, MN 55379-1220
Phone: 952-496-8351

Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document Available and Notification of Public Scoping Meeting

Project Title: Airlake Airport Runway Extension

Description: The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) announces the release of the Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document in advance of the future preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a runway extension project at Airlake Airport.

The MAC's long-term plans at Airlake Airport include extension and widening of the existing 4,098-foot runway to a total length of 5,000 feet, which will require preparation of an EIS. The future runway extension would require realignment of Cedar Avenue along the eastern boundary of the Airport. Although the runway extension and roadway realignment are not imminent, development of property surrounding the Airport is subject to the location of the future Cedar Avenue alignment, and the MAC has determined that consideration of

alternative alignments for Cedar Avenue should also include consideration of the relevant issues related to the proposed project as a whole. The EIS Scoping process has been initiated to identify and evaluate alternatives for both the runway extension and the Cedar Avenue realignment. However, it is expected that the EIS will not be conducted at least for several years; until such time that the project is justified by growth in airport activity.

Electronic versions of the documents are available on the MAC's website at <http://www.metroairports.org/relievers/airlake/default.aspx> or can be downloaded directly by selecting the following links:

[Airlake Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet](#)

[Airlake Draft Scoping Document](#)

The scoping documents identify the issues and alternatives that the MAC has determined are appropriate for inclusion in the EIS, as well as specific issues and alternatives that will not be included in the EIS.

A Public Scoping Meeting to receive written comments on the EIS Scope will be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2011. The meeting will be held at 7:00 pm at the Lakeville City Hall at 20195 Holyoke Avenue, Lakeville, MN 55044. Written comments can be submitted by Wednesday, February 9, 2011 to the address below.

RGU: Metropolitan Airports Commission

Contact Person:

Roy Fuhrmann
Director of Environment
Metropolitan Airports Commission
Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport
6040 – 28th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450-2799
Phone: 612-726-8100
Email: roy.fuhrmann@mspmac.org

EIS Notice of Determination

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) prepared a final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) documenting the analysis of potential impacts associated with a project proposed by United States Steel Corporation (U.S. Steel). The Proposed Project includes expanding an open-pit taconite mine, restarting an idle indurating line and upgrading plant components. The mine pit, and waste rock and overburden stockpile areas would be expanded. The tailings basin would grow vertically and the footprint would increase slightly. Tailings thickeners would be added. Additional haul trucks, shovels and other equipment would be put into service. A woody biomass facility would be added. New air emissions control technologies would be added as well as plant energy efficiency technologies.

The Proposed Project would increase Keetac's annual iron pellet production output by 3.6 million tons to a total output of 9.6 million tons per year. Iron ore pellets would be transported to offsite steel production facilities. The Proposed Project would be located near the City of Keewatin on the border of St. Louis and Itasca counties. The Proposed Project would begin in approximately the year 2013.

The DNR prepared a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and a Draft Scoping Decision Document (DSDD) to identify those project alternatives and issues that would be addressed in the EIS. A Notice of Availability of the Scoping EAW and DSDD was published in the *EQB Monitor* (Vol. 32, No. 18) on September 8, 2008. The DNR held a public scoping meeting in Nashwauk, Minnesota on October 1, 2008, and issued the Final Scoping Decision Document on November 5, 2008.

The draft EIS Preparation Notice was published in the *EQB Monitor* (Vol. 32, No. 23) on November 17, 2008. The DNR prepared a draft EIS that addressed all issues and alternatives raised during the scoping period, including identification of reasonable mitigation measures for identified adverse effects. The draft EIS Notice of Availability was published in the *EQB Monitor* (Vol. 33, No. 25) on December 14, 2009. The DNR held a public information meeting on January 11, 2010, and accepted comments on the draft EIS through January 26, 2010.

The DNR prepared a final EIS which included responses to all comments received during the draft EIS review period. The notice of final EIS availability was published in the *EQB Monitor* (Vol. 34, No. 23) on November 15, 2010. The DNR accepted comments on the adequacy of the final EIS through December 20, 2010. The DNR received four comment letters during the final EIS review period.

On December 30, pursuant to the criteria prescribed in Minnesota Rules, part 4410.2800, subpart 4, the DNR determined the final EIS adequate. The DNR prepared a record of decision/findings of fact and distributed it to all parties in accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 4410.2800, subpart 6. The finding of EIS adequacy concludes state environmental review for the Proposed Project.

Copies of the adequacy determination and response to comments received during the final EIS comment period are available at this web address: www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/keetac/index.html and at the following locations until January 28, 2011:

- MNDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul
- Duluth Public Library, 520 W. Superior St., Duluth
- Minneapolis Public Library, Government Documents, 2nd Floor, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis
- Hibbing Public Library, 2020 E 5th Avenue, Hibbing
- Keewatin Public Library, 125 3rd Avenue West, Keewatin
- Legislative Reference Library, 645 State Office Building, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155

Contact Person:

Erik Carlson, Principal Planner
Division of Ecological and Water Resources
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025
Ph: (651) 259-5162
erik.carlson@state.mn.us

EAW NEED DECISIONS

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

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Shamrock Environmental, LLC – Industrial Waste Landfill in Cloquet, Carlton County. Denied.

PETITION 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.

- Beltrami County, residential development in Grant Valley Township.

NOTICES

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Notification of Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms

File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
11-NO-002	Monsanto	Soybean	Herbicide Tolerance Altered Oil Composition	Blue Earth, Kandiyohi, Redwood (4), Sibley, Steele

For more information contact Mary Hanks, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651/201-6277, mary.hanks@state.mn.us.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Department of Natural Resources

Issued: December 13, 2010

Notice of Intent to Prepare a 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 beginning the process of preparing a Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan for over 82,000 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.

The Department is accepting public comments on the current uses and future management directions of these federal lands. Formal Scoping commences January 11, 2011, and closes March 2, 2011.

Public Open Houses are scheduled for:

- January 26, 2011, Commissioners Board Room, Lake-of-the-Woods County Courthouse, Baudette, 6-8 pm
- January 27, 2011, Warroad Community Center, Warroad, 6-8 pm
- February 2, 2011, REI Store, 750 W. American Boulevard, Bloomington, 4-8 pm

Further information about the project can be found at: www.beltramiisland.info

Or contact:

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

To comment, send letter or email or Alternative Public Comment Form/Questionnaire to Michael North by March 2, 2011. Alternative Public Comment Form/Questionnaires are available at the project website, at the Public Open Houses, at the Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Headquarters, or by contacting Michael North.

EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2011

Volume Number	Deadline for Submission	Publication Date	EAW Comment Deadline
35-1	January 3	January 10	February 9
35-2	January 14 (Friday)	January 24	February 23
35-3	January 31	February 7	March 9
35-4	February 14	February 21	March 23
35-5	February 28	March 7	April 6
35-6	March 14	March 21	April 20
35-7	March 28	April 4	May 4
35-8	April 11	April 18	May 18
35-9	April 25	May 2	June 1
35-10	May 9	May 16	June 15
35-11	May 23	May 30	June 29
35-12	June 6	June 13	July 13
35-13	June 20	June 29	July 27
35-14	July 1 (Friday)	July 11	August 10
35-15	July 18	July 25	August 24
35-16	August 1	August 8	September 7
35-17	August 15	August 22	September 21
35-18	August 29	September 5	October 5
35-19	September 12	September 19	October 19
35-20	September 26	October 3	November 2
35-21	October 10	October 17	November 16
35-22	October 24	October 31	November 30
35-23	November 7	November 14	December 14
35-24	November 21	November 28	December 28
35-25	December 5	December 12	January 11, 2012
35-26	December 19	December 26	January 25, 2012