



Publication Date: November 28, 2011
Vol. 35, No. 24

Next Publication: December 12, 2011
Submittal Deadline: December 5, 2011
Submit to EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us

The *EQB Monitor* Publication Calendar for 2012 is included in this edition.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: December 28, 2011

Project Title: Highway 52/65th Street Interchange Project (SP 5508-117)

Description: The proposed project includes construction of on and off ramps connecting the existing 65th Street overpass to Highway 52, creating a new full access interchange with folded access ramps on the north side of 65th Street. Two new stormwater ponds will be constructed within the ramp loops. The project also includes roadway expansion and improvements along 65th Street between Highway 52 and approximately 0.1 miles west of Freedom Drive, realignment of the west frontage road in the interchange's northwest quadrant, construction of northbound and southbound Highway 52 auxiliary lanes between 55th Street and 65th Street, and a pedestrian trail along the south side of 65th Street between Highway 52 and the realigned west frontage road.

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 November 28, 2011 during regular business hours at the following locations:

- Mn/DOT District 6 Offices
2900 48th Street NW, Rochester, MN 55901
- Rochester City Hall
201 4th Street SE, Rochester, MN 55904
- Rochester Public Library
101 Second Street SE, Rochester, MN 55904
- Minneapolis Public Library
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401

The EAW is also available on the project website (along with other project information) at:

<http://www.northernrochesterstudy.com/>.

To request the document in an alternative format, please contact the MnDOT Affirmative Action Office at 651-366-4718 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. (Please request at least one week in advance.)

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: 651-296-6300
Fax: 651-297-2343
<http://www.eqb.state.mn.us>

EQB MONITOR

The EAW comment period will begin on November 28, 2011. Written comments will be accepted through December 28, 2011. Comments should be submitted to the MnDOT Project Manager listed below.

To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies and groups to comment on the EAW, a public information/open house meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, 2011, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the George W. Gibbs, Jr. Elementary School (5525 56th Street NW, Rochester, MN 55901). To request an ASL 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. (Please request at least one week in advance.)

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person: Heather Lukes
MnDOT District 6 Project Manager
2900 48th Street NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507-286-7694
heather.lukes@state.mn.us

Project Title: Old Kasson Elementary School Building Demolition

Description: The City of Kasson is proposing to demolish the Old Elementary School building, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, and turn the property into a park and possible future location for the new library.

RGU: City of Kasson

Contact Person: Mike Martin
City Planner/Econ. Dev. Coordinator
401 5th Street S.E.
Kasson, MN 55944
507-634-6328
planning_ed@cityofkasson.com

EA/EAW AVAILABLE

EA/EAW Comment Deadline: December 28, 2011

Project Title: Trunk Highway 15/Stearns County State Aid Highway 120 Interchange, Cities of Sartell and St. Cloud, Stearns County, Minnesota

Description: The purpose of this EA/EAW is to document impacts for the construction of an interchange. The project includes lowering the grade on Highway 15, the construction of a bridge to carry CSAH 120 traffic over Highway 15, exit and entrance ramps, multi-use trail connections, a storm water pond and a screening berm.

Copies of the EA/EAW which documents the purpose and need of the project, along with the anticipated social, economic and environmental impacts, are available for public review beginning November 28, 2011, at the following locations:

- The Mn/DOT project website at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d3/hwy15ddi/>
- Mn/DOT District 3, 3725 12th Street North, St. Cloud, MN 56303
- Sartell City Hall, 125 Pine Cone Road, Sartell, MN 56377
- St. Cloud City Hall, 400 2nd Street South, St. Cloud, MN 56301
- Stearns County Public Works, 455 28th Avenue South, Waite Park, MN 56387
- Great River Regional Library, 1300 West St. Germain, St. Cloud, MN 56301

To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies and groups to comment on the EA/EAW, a public hearing has been scheduled for December 13, 2011, from 4:30-7:00 PM at the MnDOT Office, 3725 12th Street North, St. Cloud, MN. Maps, drawings, and other pertinent information, including the Draft Environmental Assessment will be available for public inspection and copying. During the open house the public will be able to discuss the project in an informal manner with MnDOT, county and city officials. Comments may be either written or verbal (recorded by a court reporter), and will become part of the official public hearing record. The comments will be considered when making future project related decisions.

The EA/EAW can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling Claudia Dumont, Project Manager, at (320) 223-6530 or to individuals who are hearing or speech impaired by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at (800) 627-3529 or (651) 296-9930 TTY.

Copies of the EA/EAW are being distributed to agencies on the current MEQB list and others. The comment period will begin on **November 28, 2011**. Comments will be accepted through **December 28, 2011**.

Project Proposer: Minnesota Department of Transportation

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person: Claudia Dumont, Project Manager
Minnesota Department of Transportation
3725 12th Street North
St. Cloud, MN 56303
claudia.dumont@state.mn.us

EIS NEED DECISIONS

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

- Department of Natural Resources, Marsh Lake Ecosystem Restoration Project, November 10, 2011 (October 3, 2011)

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.

- City of Thief River Falls, Sanford Medical Center

EIS SCOPING EAW PREPARATION NOTICE

EIS Scoping EAW Comment Deadline: January 5, 2012

Project Title: Perham Resource Recovery Facility Expansion Project

Description: The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is public noticing a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet as the basis for the scoping process for the voluntary Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project.

An EIS is being prepared by the MPCA on a proposal by the Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority to modify the Perham Resource Recovery Facility by adding a second heat boiler, as well as a material recovery facility at the site. The expansion would increase the municipal solid waste processing capacity of the facility from 116 to 200 tons per day.

The public comment period on the Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document will end January 5, 2012. There will be a public meeting held at the Perham City Council Chambers, 125 2nd Avenue NE, Perham, Minnesota, on Thursday, December 14, 2011, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event will begin with informal discussions from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. This public meeting will be open to the public for interested parties to comment and ask questions regarding the Draft Scoping Document for the preparation of the EIS.

A copy of the Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet/Draft Scoping Decision Document will be posted on the MPCA website, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person: Kevin Kain
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
kevin.kain@state.mn.us
651-757-2482

NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA Department of Commerce

NOTICE OF APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE AND COMMENT PERIOD

In the Matter of the Site Permit Application of Community Wind South, LLC for a Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Nobles County

PUC Docket Number: IP-687/WS-11-863

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Community Wind South, LLC (CWS) has applied to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) for a site permit to build and operate the Community Wind South, LLC Wind Farm, a 30.75 megawatt large wind energy conversion system (LWECS) in Nobles County. The Commission issued an order accepting the site permit application on November 14, 2011.

Site Permit Review Process. Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff, on behalf of the Commission, is initiating the permit review process for the Community Wind South, LLC Wind Farm under the Wind Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes chapter 216F) and Wind Permitting Rules (Minnesota Rules chapter 7854). Upon completion of this process, the EFP staff will present the record of this matter to the Commission for a final permit decision.

Comment Period. EFP staff is soliciting comments on issues that should be considered in developing a draft site permit for this project. Such issues include unique characteristics of the proposed site or project that should be considered and items that may be missing or mischaracterized in the site permit application. **EFP staff will accept written comments on issues to consider in developing a draft site permit until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, December 30, 2011.** Please include the PUC Docket No. IP-687/WS-11-863 on all comments. Comments should be mailed, emailed, or faxed to:

Larry B. Hartman
State Permit Manager
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101-2198
Fax: 651-296-7588
larry.hartman@state.mn.us

Comments can also be entered on the Commission's energy facility permitting website,
<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us>.

Based on comments received, EFP staff will prepare and submit a draft site permit to the Commission for consideration. If the Commission issues a draft site permit for public review and comment, a public meeting will be held in the project area and members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide additional comments. Persons on the EFP mailing list for the project will receive notice of all public and Commission meetings (see below).

Project Description. The proposed Community Wind South Wind, LLC project site encompasses 3,080 acres and is located in Nobles County in the townships of Summit Lake (Sections 17-20, 30) and Larkin (Sections 13, 23-24), located approximately two miles south of Wilmont (see accompanying map). CWS proposes to install 15 REPower 2.05MW turbines (model MM92) for a rated nameplate capacity of 30.75 MW's. The wind turbines will be placed on top of free standing tubular steel towers up to 100 meters (328 feet) tall. The three bladed rotor assemblies will be 92.5 meters (303.5 feet) in diameter.

The turbines will be connected by underground electrical cables and supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) fiber optic lines for communication purposes. Other associated facilities include gravel access roads to the turbines, pad mounted transformers, a fenced-in project collection yard, two sets of underground electrical cable (34.5 kV) extending approximately 19,908 feet from the CWS project collector yard to the Nobles substation owned by NSP, and a permanent free standing meteorological tower.

The applicant's goal is to achieve commercial operation by October 1, 2012.

Eminent Domain. CWS does not have the power of eminent domain to acquire the land or wind rights for the project. Wind and land rights necessary to build the project must be in the form of voluntary easements or lease agreements between individual landowners and CWS.

Project Documents. Electronic versions of the site permit application and other documents relevant to the proposed Project are available on the Commission's energy facility permitting website: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=32306> and on the Commission's eDocket website at: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the year "11" and the number "863").

The site permit application is also available for review at the locations noted below:

Nobles County Library 407 12th St Worthington, MN 56187	City Office in Wilmont 316 4 th Avenue Wilmont, MN 56185
Nobles County Auditor's Office 315 Tenth Street Worthington, MN 56187	Clerks in Summit Lake and Larkin Townships

Mailing List. Persons interested in adding their names to the EFP mailing list for this project should contact the state permit manager or the public advisor, or register online at: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us>.

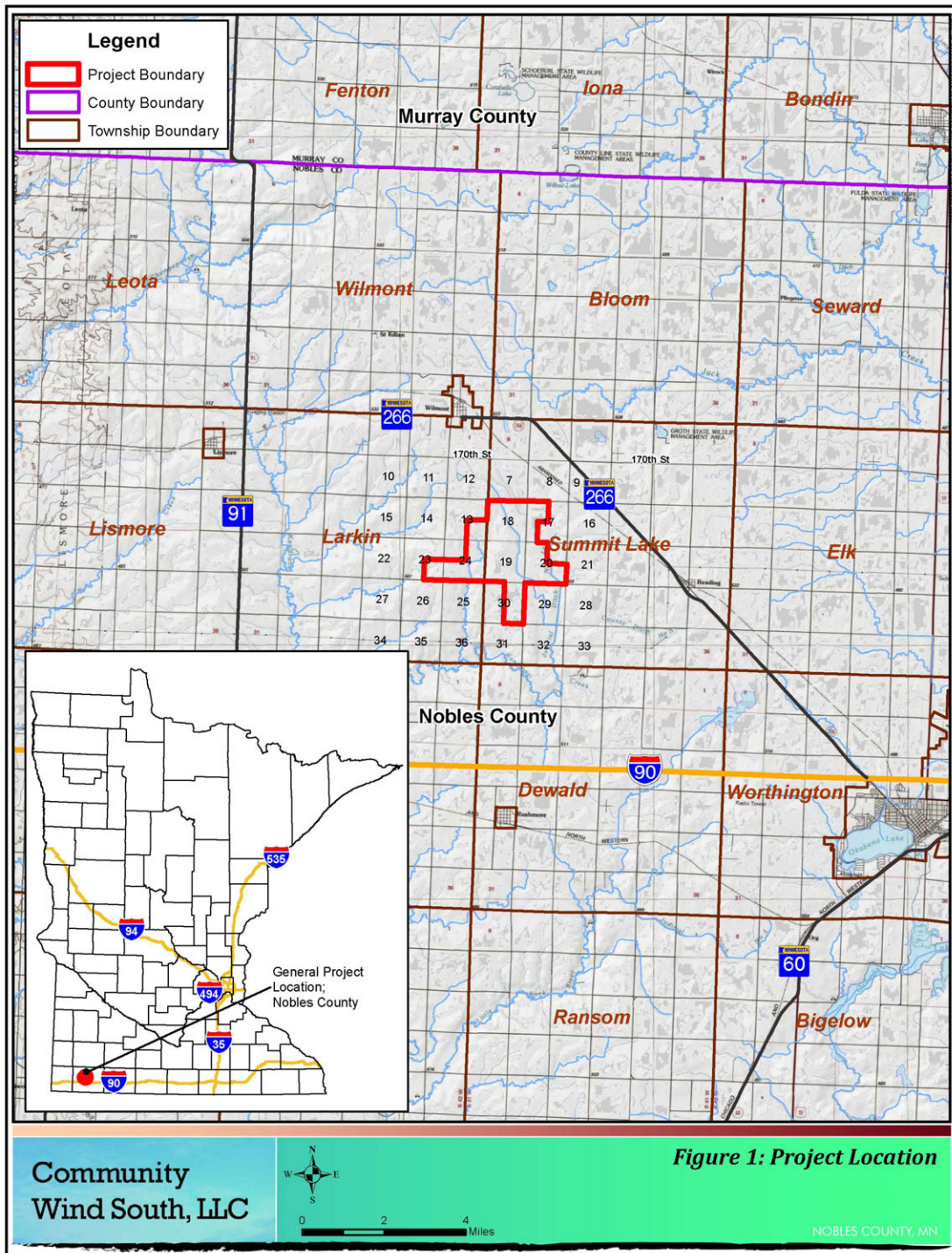
Project Contacts and Information. If you have questions or if you would like further information about this project please contact:

Larry Hartman, State Permit Manager
 Minnesota Department of Commerce
 85 7th Place East, Suite 500
 St. Paul, MN 55101
 651-296-5089
 Fax: 651-297-7891
larry.hartman@state.mn.us

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

Questions about the project and site permit application can also be directed to the applicant by contacting Mark Willers, at 507-283-9140 or mkwill@minwind.com.

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 call us through Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529 or by dialing 711.



EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2012

Volume Number	Deadline for Submission	Publication Date	EAW Comment Deadline
36-1	December 30 (Friday)	January 9	February 8
36-2	January 13 (Friday)	January 23	February 22
36-3	January 30	February 6	March 7
36-4	February 13	February 20	March 21
36-5	February 27	March 5	April 4
36-6	March 12	March 19	April 18
36-7	March 26	April 2	May 2
36-8	April 9	April 16	May 16
36-9	April 23	April 30	May 30
36-10	May 7	May 14	June 13
36-11	May 21	May 28	June 27
36-12	June 4	June 11	July 11
36-13	June 18	June 25	July 25
36-14	July 2	July 9	August 8
36-15	July 16	July 23	August 22
36-16	July 30	August 6	September 5
36-17	August 13	August 20	September 19
36-18	August 27	September 3	October 3
36-19	September 10	September 17	October 17
36-20	September 24	October 1	October 31
36-21	October 8	October 15	November 14
36-22	October 22	October 29	November 28
36-23	November 5	November 12	December 12
36-24	November 19	November 26	December 26
36-25	December 3	December 10	January 9, 2013
36-26	December 17	December 24	January 23, 2013