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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: December 29, 2010

Project Title: County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 17 (Lexington Avenue) Transportation Improvements, Blaine and Ham Lake, Anoka County, Minnesota (SP 02-617-18)

Description: In 2012, Anoka County will initiate the reconstruction of CSAH 17 (Lexington Avenue in the cities of Blaine and Ham Lake from CSAH 14 (125th Avenue) to just north of CSAH 116 (Bunker Lake Boulevard). Review and approval of the CSAH 17 Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EA/EAW) was completed by Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration in fall 2010. The county encourages the public to attend a Public Hearing and Open House for the proposed Transportation Improvements.

The Open House and Public Hearing will be held Tuesday, December 14, 2010 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. (formal public hearing from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.) at the Blaine City Hall, Cloverleaf Farm Room, 10801 Town Square Drive, Blaine, MN 55449.

The proposed project includes reconstruction of 2.74 miles of an existing rural two-lane roadway to a six- and four-lane divided urban roadway with dedicated left-and right-turn lanes; construction of storm sewer, storm water treatment ponds; construction of an off road bituminous trail; construction of one new traffic signal and the reconstruction of another. This project will impact wetlands and require the acquisition of right-of-way. The tentative schedules for right-of-way acquisition and construction, dependent upon federal approvals, will be discussed at the open house.

The purpose of the open house is to answer questions about the proposed project. Maps, drawings and other pertinent information, including the Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet

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>

(EA/EAW) will be available. The EA/EAW is the federally-required document that outlines social, economic and environmental impacts of the proposed project. The public is encouraged to discuss the project with staff and the consultant during the open house portion of the event.

The purpose of the open house is answer questions about the proposed project. Maps, drawings and other pertinent information, including the Environmental Assessment/ Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EA/EAW) will be available. The EA/EAW is the federally-required document that outlines social, economic and environmental impacts of the proposed project. The public is encouraged to discuss the project with staff and the consultant during the open house portion of the event.

The purpose of the public hearing is to collect comments and feedback on the EA/EAW document. During this portion of the meeting, the public is encouraged to provide oral or written comments on the document. A court reporter will document oral comments. Comments collected during the hearing will be incorporated and responded to in the final EA/EAW. Staff from the county is not permitted to answer questions during the formal hearing.

During the public hearing, meeting participants will have the opportunity to submit verbal comments that will become part of the official public hearing record. The hearing will be extended appropriately to accommodate verbal comments.

Copies of the EA/EAW will be available for public viewing at the public meeting and for at least 15 days prior to the public meeting during business hours at the following locations from November 29, 2010 through January 12, 2011:

- Anoka County Highway Department: 1440 Bunker Lake Blvd NW, Andover, MN 55304
- City of Blaine, 10801 Town Square Drive, Blaine, MN 55449
- City of Ham Lake, 15544 Central Avenue NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304
- Johnsville Library, 12461 Oak Park Blvd NE, 55304
- Minnesota Department of Transportation Room 175 Transportation Building, 395 John Ireland Boulevard, Saint Paul, MN 55155

In addition, a copy of the EA/EAW can also be viewed on the Anoka County Website at:
http://ww2.anokacounty.us/v3_highway/CSAH17/welcome.html

Written comments can be submitted at the public meeting or mailed, prior to the close of the public comment period on January 12, 2011, to Jack Corkle, Anoka County Highway Department, 1440 Bunker Lake Blvd NW, Andover, MN 55304.

Accessibility and ASL

For accessibility or ASL, please make your request by December 6, 2010.

To request an ASL interpreter or other reasonable accommodations, call Jack Corkle at 763-862-4219 or e-mail your request to jack.corkle@co.anoka.mn.us

RGU: Anoka County Highway Department

Contact Person:

Jack Corkle

Anoka County Highway Department
1440 Bunker Lake Blvd NW
Andover, MN 55304.

EA AVAILABLE

Project Title: Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Expansion Project

Description: The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for proposed development at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. The proposed development (Proposed Action) includes expanding Terminal 2-Humphrey and relocating all airlines except Delta Airlines and its Skyteam alliance partners to Terminal 2-Humphrey. It also consists of the modernization and expansion of Terminal 1-Lindbergh, including new international arrivals facility.

The MAC's goal is to share information and identify concerns early in the EA process; to that end, you are invited to an Agency Briefing on Tuesday, December 7, 2010. The briefing will be held 10:30am-12:00pm at the MAC's General Offices, located at 6040 28th Ave South, Minneapolis, MN 55450. Although an EA process does not include a scoping period, the MAC is asking for your comments and reaching out in order to assure concerns are addressed adequately in EA. More information on the Proposed Action will be provided at the December 7 briefing and mailed to those who are not able to attend.

Whether or not you are able to attend the briefing, written comments or questions should be submitted to me no later than Thursday, January 6, 2011. Submissions should be sent to my attention at 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

FEIS ADEQUACY DECISION

Project Title: UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project

As the Responsible Government Unit, the University of Minnesota Board of Regents has determined that the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project in the City

of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County is adequate. This notice of the Adequacy Determination is being distributed pursuant to Minnesota Rules 4410.2800, subpart 6.

As described in Minnesota Rules 4410.2800, subpart 4, a Final EIS shall be determined adequate if it:

- a. Addresses the potentially significant issues and alternatives raised in scoping so that all significant issues for which information can be reasonably obtained have been analyzed.
- b. Provides responses to the substantive comments received during the Draft EIS review concerning issues raised in scoping; and
- c. Was prepared in compliance with the procedures of the act and parts Minnesota Rules 4410.0200 to 4410.6500.

All conditions specified above have been satisfied. This decision completes the Minnesota environmental review process as found in Minnesota Rules 4410. The Adequacy Determination is found in the Record of Decision document, which can be reviewed at the following locations and on the project website at:

<http://www.umorepark.umn.edu>.

- UMore Park Administration Building, 1605 160th Street, Rosemount, MN
- Dakota County Library – Farmington Branch, 508 Third Street, Farmington, MN

Requests for a copy of this document may be made by contacting the UMore Park Administration Office at 612-423-2562.

We want to express our appreciation for comments submitted on the Final EIS. Comments and responses to them have been incorporated into the Record of Decision.

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, Boiler Conversion Project in New Ulm, Voluntary EAW
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Proposed City of McGrath Waste Water Treatment Facility, Denied.

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*.

- Hubbard County Environmental Services, Common Interest Community Plat No. 28, Little Sand Bay Villas, November 3, 2010 (September 20, 2010)

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.

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Industrial Waste Landfill at Cloquet

NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA Office of Energy Security

Issued: November 17, 2010

NOTICE OF PERMIT DECISION

In the Matter of the Application for a Route Permit for the Bemidji – Grand Rapids 230 kV Transmission Line Project

PUC Docket Number: E-017, E-015, ET-6/TL-07-1327

At a meeting on October 28, 2010, and in an Order issued November 5, 2010, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission determined that the Environmental Impact Statement had adequately addressed the issues identified in the Scoping Decision. The Commission also designated and issued a High Voltage Transmission Line Route Permit to Otter Tail Power Company, Minnesota Power, Minnkota Power Cooperative, Northern States Power, and Great River Energy for the Bemidji – Grand Rapids 230 kV Transmission Line Project, authorizing the Permittees to:

- Construct approximately 70 miles of 230 kV transmission line between the Wilton Substation, located west of Bemidji, and the Boswell Substation, located in Cohasset;
- Modify the Wilton and Boswell substation to accommodate the new 230 kV transmission line; and
- Modify and expand the Cass Lake Substation to accommodate the new 230 kV transmission line.

Further information about the project and the permit details can be found at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19344>

Or contact:

Suzanne Lamb Steinhauer, State Permit Manager

651-296-2888

Suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us

Minnesota Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

Office of Energy Security

Issued: November 15, 2010

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

**In the Matter of the Application of Prairie Rose Wind, LLC, for a
Certificate of Need for an up to 101 MW Large Wind Energy Conversion System
in Rock and Pipestone Counties**

PUC Docket Number: IP-6838/CN-10-80

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Environmental Report (ER) has been completed for the Prairie Rose Wind Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) and High Voltage Transmission Line (HVTL) proposed for Rock and Pipestone. The ER was prepared for the Certificate of Need (CN) proceeding and addresses potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and project alternatives. Copies of the ER and other relevant documents are accessible at: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=28286>

Additional Certificate of Need documents can be obtained via the Commission's "eDockets" electronic filing website at: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> by searching for **year: 10** and **number: 80**.

Paper copies of the Scoping Decision may be requested from the Office of Energy Security (OES) staff listed at the end of this notice.

Project Description

The proposed site is located west of Hardwick and south and east of Jasper in Rock and Pipestone counties. The project is proposed to be constructed in Denver, Rose Dell and Spring Water townships in Rock County and Elmer and Eden townships in Pipestone County. The Project Boundary encompasses approximately 35,335 acres, of which approximately 14,000 acres were under site control at the time of application.

A certificate of need is being requested for an up to 101 MW LWECS, including the following:

1. A wind turbine layout consisting of up to 67 turbines, depending on turbine specifications; the application describes the possible use of General Electric 1.5 MW, Vestas 1.8 MW or Siemens 2.3 MW wind turbines;
2. Associated facilities, including gravel access roads, an electrical collection system, permanent meteorological towers, one step-up substation, a Sonic (SODAR) or Light (LIDAR) Detection and Ranging unit and an O&M building.

The project has an associated 24-mile 115 kV transmission system that would connect to the Split Rock Substation near Brandon, South Dakota.

The Applicant's goal is to complete the construction of the project and achieve commercial operation between the third calendar quarter of 2011 and the first calendar quarter of 2012.

PUC Review Process

The Project is a "large energy facility" as defined in Minnesota Statute 216B.2421, subp. 2 and a Certificate of Need from the Public Utilities Commission is required for such a project under Minnesota Statute 216B.243. On May 13, 2010, Prairie Rose Wind, LLC, filed a Certificate of Need application for the Project. On July 19, 2010, the PUC issued an Order accepting the application as substantially complete. OES held a public scoping meeting in Jasper on July 27, 2010; and the OES Director released the Scope of the ER on August 23, 2010.

A public hearing on the Certificate of Need will be held shortly after this release of the Environmental Report. Under state law, the PUC proceeding is the only time at which the "no-build" alternative and the size, type, and timing of a new generating facility will be considered. These items will not be addressed in the LWECS or HVTL Permit processes.

Project Contacts and Information

For more information about the environmental review process, contact State Permit Manager David Birkholz (651-296-2878, david.birkholz@state.mn.us) or Public Advisor Jamie MacAlister (651-297-1335, jamie.macalister@state.mn.us), Office of Energy Security, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-2198.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio) by calling 651.296.0406 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through Minnesota Relay at 1.800.627.3529 or by dialing 711