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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: January 13, 2010

Project Title: University of St. Thomas – Anderson Student Center and Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex

Description: The University of St. Thomas plans to construct the Anderson Student Center and has begun construction of the Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex, both on the University's main campus in St. Paul. The 210,000-square foot Anderson Student Center will be built on the current site of O'Shaughnessy Hall and Parking Lot H, and the 190,000-square foot Anderson Athletic and Recreation Complex is under construction to the northeast, on the former site of Schoenecker Arena, Coughlan Field House, Foley Theater and Parking Lot E. Written comments on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet should be submitted, prior to the close of the comment period on January 13, 2010, to the contact person listed below.

Copies of the EAW will be available for viewing on the website for the City of St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development, under Planning/Current Activities (direct link <http://www.stpaul.gov/DocumentView.aspx?DID=11017>). It will also be available from the West Summit Neighborhood Advisory Committee website, www.wsnac.net. Printed copies of the document will be available at the Merriam Park Library, as well as at the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library on the University of St. Thomas campus.

A public open house to review the EAW, answer questions, and receive comments will be held on Tuesday, January 5, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Poster boards summarizing the EAW will be available for review beginning at 6:00 p.m., followed by a presentation at 7:00 p.m. and the opportunity to have oral comments entered into the record beginning at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Macalester College in the Ruth Stricker Dayton Campus Center (located at the southwest corner of Grand and Snelling Avenues) in the John B. Davis lecture hall. City of

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>

St. Paul staff, representatives from the University of St. Thomas, and environmental consultants will be available to provide specific information and individual assistance. The EAW will be available for public viewing at the meeting. The 30-day comment period will run through Wednesday, January 13, 2010.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Josh Williams at 651-266-6659 or Josh.Williams@ci.stpaul.mn.us

RGU: City of St. Paul

Contact Person:

Joshua Williams
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Phone: 651-266-6659

EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do 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, TH 61 Hastings Bridge Project, December 4, 2009 (May 4, 2009)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Trunk Highway 10 (TH 10) in Ramsey Preliminary Interchange Design-City of Ramsey, December 7, 2009 (June 1, 2009)
- Red Wing City Council, Xcel Energy Prairie Island Nuclear Power Plant Maintenance Dredging, November 23, 2009 (July 27, 2009)
- Cottonwood County Board of Commissioners, SMC Sioux Rock Quarry, December 1, 2009 (October 19, 2009)

DEIS NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Project Title: Keetac Mine Expansion Project:

Description: The Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) has prepared a joint state-federal Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) for the Keetac Mine Expansion Project. United States Steel Corporation is the project proposer. 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 DEIS discusses potential environmental impacts from the Proposed Project, a No Action Alternative, Proposed Action Alternative, stockpile locations concepts and options for stationary air emissions controls. The document also considers mitigation of adverse effects.

The DEIS is posted on the DNR website at the following address:
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/keetac/index.html>

The DEIS is available at the following locations:

- DNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul
- Duluth Public Library, 144 West Second Street, 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

The DEIS Executive Summary and a DVD containing the complete DEIS may be requested using the contact information below.

Public Comment: The DNR will accept comment on the DEIS until January 26 at 4:30 PM. Written comments can be sent to the contact listed below or to this email address: environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us. The words, "Keetac Mine Expansion Project" must be in the subject line of the email. All emails should include a name and legal mailing address.

A public meeting will be held Monday, January 11, 2010, beginning at 6:30 PM, at the Hibbing Memorial Building, Dining Room, 400 East 23rd Street, Hibbing, Minnesota.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contact:

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NOTICES

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Notice of Annual Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission will convene the annual public hearing on the Power Plant Siting and Transmission Line Routing Program from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 29, 2009, in the Large Hearing Room at the Commission's offices on the third floor of the Metro Square Building, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55101.

The annual hearing is required by Minnesota Statute 216E.07, which provides that:

The commission shall hold an annual public hearing at a time and place prescribed by rule in order to afford interested persons an opportunity to be heard regarding any matters relating to the siting of large electric generating power plants and routing of high-voltage transmission lines. At the meeting, the commission shall advise the public of the permits issued by the commission in the past year.

While the Commission has multiple statutory authorities for the permitting of several types of energy infrastructure, the scope of the annual hearing is limited to the above cited statute and associated administrative rules in Minn. Rule 7850. The purpose of the hearing is not to take testimony regarding open dockets before the Commission.

The Commission has prepared an Agenda for the meeting, which is available on its webpage at www.puc.state.mn.us (click on December 29 under Upcoming Events). Docket number E999/M-09-1351 has been opened for creation of a record in this matter.

At the hearing the public will be afforded an opportunity to be heard through presentation of oral or written statements. Written statements and relevant exhibits may also be submitted for inclusion in the annual hearing record by eFiling (see PUC website link above) or by delivery to the Commission's offices at the address above by the close of business on February 1, 2010. The staff recognizes that the time and location may make it difficult for all interested persons to attend, and emphasizes that written comments are encouraged and will be given equal consideration. The report of the 2008 Annual Hearing is available at in edockets for Docket 08-1426. Direct all inquiries and written comments regarding the annual hearing to: Bret Eknes, Phone 651-201-2236, email: bret.eknes@state.mn.us.