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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: September 8, 2010

Project Title: East Bethel Wastewater Collection System

Description: The city of East Bethel (Proposer) proposes to construct a new trunk sanitary sewer, forcemain and lift stations (Project) to convey existing and future wastewater flows to a wastewater treatment/reclamation facility proposed to be constructed in East Bethel by Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES Facility). The sanitary sewer system is expected to be constructed in five phases through the year 2030 and beyond. The first three phases of the Project, with a total peak design flow capacity of 9.8 million gallons, are proposed to begin construction in late 2010, 2015, and 2020, respectively. Future phases will be constructed after 2025, and the system will ultimately serve the city of East Bethel, as well as the Oak Grove and Ham/Lake/Andover areas. The MCES Facility is undergoing separate but concurrent environmental review, and the Environmental Assessment Worksheet for that project is also available for public comment at this time.

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>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person:

Nancy Drach, 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: 651-757-2317

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>

Project Title: East Bethel Regional Reclamation/Reuse Center

Description: Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) is proposing to construct a wastewater treatment/reclamation and effluent disposal/reuse facility (project or Facility) in the city of East Bethel. The Project will consist of a mechanical tertiary treatment facility for influent wastewater from the city of East Bethel collection system, conveyance pipes to route the tertiary-treated effluent, and two effluent subsurface disposal sites. The tertiary-treated effluent will be suitable for several reuse, recycling, or reclamation purposes in addition to the disposal to the subsurface sites, including spray irrigation of golf course, agriculture, industrial cooling water, fountains, and toilet flushing water. Initially, disposal of the treated effluent will alternate between the two subsurface sites. The Facility will have an average wet weather design flow of .470 million gallons per day.

The proposed East Bethel collection system is undergoing separate but concurrent environmental review, and the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for that project is available for public Comment at this time.

In addition to the EAW, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's draft State Disposal System (SDS) Permit will also be available for public comment beginning August 13, 2010. The contact person for the SDS Permit is Nancy Drach at 651-757-2317.

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

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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*.

- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Trunk Highway 212 Improvements from Bypass to CSAH 11 City of Carver and Dahlgren Township, Carver County, July 27, 2010 (January 11, 2010)

Final EIS AVAILABLE

Title: Trunk Highway 14 from Owatonna to Dodge Center -- Final Environmental Impact Statement

Description: The Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) is available for State Project 2001-31, 7402-25, and 7408-41, which involves improvements to Trunk Highway (TH) 14, is available for review. The TH 14 project corridor extends approximately 18-miles from the existing four-lane bypass of Dodge Center to Interstate 35 in Owatonna.

Copies of the Highway 14 Final EIS are being distributed to those agencies on the current Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (MEQB) document review list and others. The comment period will begin on **August 9, 2010** and will extend through **September 3, 2010**. Copies of the Highway 14 Final EIS are available for public review at the following locations and on the project website at:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d6/projects/hwy14>:

- Mn/DOT District 6 – Rochester Office, 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester, MN
- Mn/DOT District 6 – Owatonna Office, 1010 21st Avenue NW, Owatonna, MN
- Owatonna Public Library, 105 North Elm Ave, Owatonna, MN
- Dodge Center Public Library, 13 First Street NW, Dodge Center, MN
- Rochester Public Library, 101 Second Street SE, Rochester, MN
- Owatonna City Hall, 540 West Hills Circle, Owatonna, MN
- Claremont City Hall, 235 Front Street, Claremont, MN
- Dodge Center City Hall, 35 Main Street E, Dodge Center MN

Comments on the adequacy of the Final EIS are being requested from individuals on the MEQB distribution list, as well as from other persons or agencies to whom the proposed project may be of interest. The comment period will begin on August 9, 2010 and will extend through September 3, 2010. All comments should be directed to: Heather Lukes, Mn/DOT Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Transportation – District 6, 2900 48th Street NW, Rochester, MN 55903 or heather.lukes@state.mn.us.

To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies and groups to learn more about the project, a public informational meeting has been scheduled for Monday, August 30, 2010 at the Mn/DOT District 6 – Owatonna Offices, 1010 21st Avenue NW, Owatonna, MN 55060. The open house style meeting will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Mn/DOT representatives along with their consultants Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc., will be present to answer questions during the meeting.

The Final EIS can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the Project Manager at (507) 286-7694 or to individuals who are hearing or speech impaired by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at (800) 627-3529 or (651) 296-9930 TTY. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Project Manager or through the Minnesota Relay Service at the telephone numbers listed above, as soon as possible.

RGU

Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person

Heather Lukes
Mn/DOT Project Manager
Minnesota Department of Transportation – District 6
2900 48th Street NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507/286-7694
heather.lukes@state.mn.us

Project Title: UNIMIN North Mine Final Environmental Impact Statements (FEIS)

Description: The Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners announces that a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) completed for a proposed expansion of the UNIMIN Minnesota Corporation silica and mining operation consisting of approximately 1015.5-acres is available for public comment. Property is located in Sections 15, 21, 22, 23 and 27 of Ottawa Township, Le Sueur County, Minnesota.

The project is nonmetallic mineral mining of a 1,015.5-acre site in an area where mining has occurred for 80 years. The mining involves excavation of overburden to expose sandstone that is blasted, placed in slurry form, and pumped to an existing processing plant. Reclamation will be ongoing as mining is conducted. The UNIMIN Minnesota Corporation, with offices located in Le Sueur County, Minnesota is the proposer of the project.

Copies of the FEIS are available for public examination locally, at the Le Sueur County Environmental Services office, 515 South Maple Avenue, Le Center, MN 56057-1652; the Le Center Public Library, 10 W. Tyrone St., the Le Sueur Public Library, 118 Ferry Street, Le Sueur, MN 56058; and the Blue Earth County Library, 100 East Main Street, Mankato, MN 56001.

Comments on the adequacy of the FEIS are being requested from individuals on the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board distribution list, as well as from other persons or agencies to whom the proposed project may be of interest. The 10-day comment period on the adequacy of the FEIS will begin on **August 9, 2010** and will extend through **August 23, 2010**.

Please be advised that comments must be submitted, in writing, by August 23 at 4:30 pm to:

Le Sueur County
Attn: Kathy Brockway, Planning and Zoning Administration
88 South Park Avenue
Le Center, MN 56057
Email: kbrockway@co.le-sueur.mn.us

NOTICES**Minnesota Department of Agriculture****Transgenic High Oleic Acid Soybean – 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 soybean line, designated as transformation event

305423, which has been genetically engineered to have higher levels of oleic acid and lower levels of linoleic, linolenic, and palmitic acids in the oil. This soybean line contains a stably integrated second copy of soybean fatty acid desaturase gene, *gm-fad2-1*, and *Gm-hra*, which is a slightly modified version of the soybean acetolactate synthase gene (*als* gen) that encodes for tolerance to ALS inhibiting herbicides. However, the GM-HRA protein fragment is used as a selectable marker and does not confer commercial levels of herbicide tolerance. The soybean line containing these genes is no longer regulated under USDA/APHIS guidelines. Under this exemption from state permit, Pioneer Hibred International will be allowed to commercially use this high oleic acid soybean line without further regulation. For additional information contact Mary Hanks, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 651-201-6277, mary.hanks@state.mn.us

Transgenic Virus Resistant Squash – Commercial Use Exemption

Monsanto has requested an exemption from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Genetically Engineered Organism Release Permit for a squash line, designated as transformation event CZW-3, which has been genetically engineered for resistance to cucumber mosaic virus, watermelon mosaic virus 2, and zucchini yellow mosaic virus. This squash line contains stably integrated virus coat protein genes from cucumber mosaic virus, watermelon mosaic virus 2, and zucchini yellow mosaic virus. The squash line containing these genes is no longer regulated under USDA/APHIS guidelines. Under this exemption from state permit, Monsanto will be allowed to commercially use this virus resistant squash line without further regulation. For additional information contact Mary Hands, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 651-201-6277, mary.hanks@state.mn.us