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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: October 20, 2010

Public comment on draft Environmental Quality Board Water Plan

According to Minnesota Statutes 103B.151, the Environmental Quality Board is to coordinate a comprehensive long-range water resources plan for the state every ten years. The draft 2010 Minnesota Water Plan is available for public comment until **October 1, 2010**.

To view the plan and provide comment, please visit:

<http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/WaterPlanPublicComment2010.htm>. Additionally, the EQB will discuss the plan and entertain public comment at its upcoming meeting on September 16, 2010 at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Board Room, 520 Lafayette Rd., St. Paul, MN 55155. The meeting begins at 9:00 a.m.

The draft plan was prepared in cooperation with EQB member agencies and is the latest in a long history of bringing together agencies and others with an interest in achieving sustainable water management. The many local, regional and state stakeholder efforts convened in recent years also were an important part of this effort. The draft plan was prepared with a long-term vision oriented to protecting Minnesota's treasured water resources for generations to come.

Please direct any questions to Princessa VanBuren Hansen at 651-201-2478, or by email to princesa.vanburen@state.mn.us.

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: Common Interest Community Plat No. 28, Little Sand Bay Villas

Description: This project involves the proposed conversion of an existing resort consisting of eight rental units and one owner's home/office into a nine unit residential planned unit development. The project is located on a 8.4 acre riparian property situated on a recreational development lake.

RGU: Hubbard County Environmental Services

Contact Person:

Eric Buitenwerf
Environmental Services Officer
Hubbard County Courthouse
301 Court Avenue
Park Rapids, MN 56470
Phone: 218-732-3890
Fax: 218-732-7993

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 the Cologne Bypass to CSAH 11, City of Carver and Dahlgren Township, September 13, 2010 (January 11, 2010)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, I-94 Capacity Improvement Project, September 13, 2010 (June 14, 2010)

NOTICES

University of Minnesota
Ambulatory Care Unit
Environmental Information and Documentation

The University of Minnesota, in partnership with the University of Minnesota Physicians and Fairview Health Services, is submitting a grant proposal to the Department of Health and Human Services for partial funding for a new ambulatory care clinic to be located on the Twin Cities Campus. The grant application requires the completion of an Environmental Information and Documentation (EID) checklist (OMB Document No. 0915-0324) and public notification.

Project Information:

The University of Minnesota proposes to construct a new five story clinic of approximately 380,000 gross square feet. The proposed facility will be located on an existing surface parking lot at 922 Essex St. SE,

Minneapolis, MN, 55455. If the University's grant application is approved construction would begin in late Fall 2011.

A copy of the EID and additional information on the project can be obtained from the contact below.

Contact Information:

Brian Swanson
Office of Budget and Finance
335 Morrill Hall
100 Church Street SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455
Phone: 612.625.4517
Fax: 612.626

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
Office of Energy Security**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND
AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**In the Matter of the Route Permit Application for the Potato Lake 115 kV Transmission Line and Substation in
Park Rapids, Minnesota**

PUC Docket Number: ET2/TL-10-86

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security (OES) will hold a public hearing on behalf of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on the route permit application by Great River Energy for a proposed 115 kV transmission line and new substation. The public hearing will be held at the time and location listed below. The hearing will run no later than 9:00 p.m. and may conclude earlier if all attendees have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been completed.

**PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, September 29, 2010
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

Century Middle School
501 Helten Avenue
Park Rapids, Minnesota 56470

Project Description. Great River Energy proposes to construct a new 7.25-mile 115 kV single-circuit overhead transmission line and 115 kV substation in Hubbard County, Minnesota. The line would connect the newly proposed Potato Lake Substation to be located in Arago Township to a tap point on Great River Energy's existing Mantrap Sub Tap 34.5 kV transmission line in Lake Emma Township. The new 115 kV transmission facility line would initially be operated at 34.5 kV until conversion to 115 kV becomes necessary.

Environmental Assessment. The OES Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff has completed an environmental assessment (EA) on the proposed project. The EA addresses the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project. Electronic versions of the EA, maps of the proposed project, and other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing and download on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission website or the eDockets website at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=26124>

or

<https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (Search “10” Year and “86” Number).

Conduct of Hearing. The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statute 216E.04, subdivision 6, and Minnesota Rule 7850.3800. Members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions of EFP staff and Great River Energy and to offer oral and written comments and submit material into the record. The Honorable Kathleen Sheehy, Administrative Law Judge, will preside over the hearing.

Comment period. The record will remain open until **4:30 p.m., Monday, October 11, 2010**, for interested persons to submit written comments to the Administrative Law Judge. Comments must be submitted directly to Judge Sheehy at:

The Honorable Kathleen Sheehy
Office of Administrative Hearings
P.O. Box 64620
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620
Fax: (651) 361-7900
kathleen.sheehy@state.mn.us

The Administrative Law Judge will provide EFP staff a written summary of testimony given at the hearing along with comments received during the prescribed comment period. The Commission will make a final decision on the route permit application after receipt of the complete record.

Additional Information. For more information about the process, the project, or to place your name on the project mailing list, please contact:

Scott Ek, State Permit Manager
Energy Facility Permitting
Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
(651) 296-8813
1-800-657-3794
scott.ek@state.mn.us

Raymond Kirsch, Public Advisor
Energy Facility Permitting
Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
(651) 296-2878
raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us

Mailing List. Any person may add his or her name to the mailing list maintained by OES EFP for future mailings pertaining to this project. If you would like to receive notice of the Commission’s final decision in this matter please add your name to the mailing list. Names can be added to the list by contacting the project manager or by registering on [the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission website at: http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=26124](http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=26124).