



Minnesota Environmental Quality Board

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Next Publication (8:00 AM): Dec. 19, 2016
Submittal Deadline (4:00 PM): Dec. 12, 2016
Use the [EQB Monitor Submission Form](#)
View the [2016 & 2017 EQB Monitor Schedule](#)



You can manage your subscription to the EQB *Monitor* [here](#). Be sure to add MNEQB@public.govdelivery.com to your address book or safe sender list.

Check the [EQB Calendar](#) for more details on *Monitor* deadlines and Board Meetings. Meeting minutes, agendas and additional notices are also posted on the [EQB Website](#).

The EQB is now on social media! You can find us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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EQB News

Please contact EQB staff at 651-757-2873 or Env.Review@state.mn.us with any questions regarding the information provided below.

Changes are coming to the *Monitor* in 2017!

Starting January 1, 2017, EQB staff will begin strictly adhering to the 4:00 pm deadline for submissions to the EQB *Monitor*. EQB staff have made a number of changes to streamline the submission and publication process, and this deadline will help ensure that submissions are adequately reviewed before publication. The [2017 EQB Monitor Schedule](#) is now available on the EQB website.

Additionally, EQB staff **strongly encourage** the use of the [EQB Monitor Submission Form](#) to submit notices for publication. The Submission Form helps standardize notices for publication and allows EQB to collect data on the environmental review process.

EQB Environmental Review Survey Updates

2016 Environmental Review Survey – Thank You!

In July 2016, EQB staff launched two pilot surveys for Responsible Governmental Units (RGU) that completed the environmental review process, and citizens that submitted petitions to the EQB. The surveys have provided valuable feedback on the timeliness, effectiveness, and

outcomes of the environmental review process. EQB staff will present a summary of the results, along with other environmental review data collected in 2016, to the Board in early 2017.

Thank you to all that have completed the survey! We have received responses from about 50% of RGUs and 60% of citizens invited to complete the survey. We would like to get these percentages higher as **participation in the survey is critical to guiding future improvements to the EQB Environmental Review Program.**

It's not too late to participate if you have not yet completed the survey. EQB staff will be sending a final survey reminder via email. Keep an eye out for the email and contact EQB staff with any questions.

2017 Environmental Review Survey for Proposers

Starting in January 2017, EQB staff will begin distributing an environmental review survey to project proposers upon completion of the environmental review process. This is an opportunity for proposers to give feedback on their experience with the environmental review process. Please contact EQB staff with any questions.

Environmental Assessment Worksheets

The following EAWs have a comment deadline of January 11, 2017

Project Title: Clearwater Road Extension Project

Project Description: Clearwater Road/Heatherwood Road is proposed to be extended from Clearwater Road/Heatherwood Road to 60th Street South in the I-94 Business Park, a distance of approximately 1.4 miles. Approximately 80 feet of right of way will be established and will include a three lane roadway with two 14-foot thru lanes in both directions, a 12-foot two-way center turn lane, 2-foot shoulders, and a 10-foot trail with curb and gutter.

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): City of St. Cloud

RGU Contact Person:

Matt Glaesman
Community Development Director
400 2nd Street South
St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301
320-650-3110
matt.glaesman@ci.stcloud.mn.us

Project Title: Demolition of the Ess House; 217 Walnut Street Chaska MN

Project Description: Demolition of the Joseph Ess House and garage at 217 North Walnut Street, Chaska, MN A fire in late 2014 caused extensive damage to the roof, attic and one story addition, with smoke and water damage throughout the house. The City of Chaska investigated various options to repair the house and no feasible options were found. After demolition, future plans will be consistent with zoning district permitted uses: "Commercial establishments: Public and semi-public facilities serving all or a portion of the City such as municipal offices, library, post office, fire station, schools, and churches; and Apartments, if

located above the street level in non-residential structures.”

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): City of Chaska

RGU Contact Person:

Elizabeth Hanson
City Planner
One City Hall Plaza
Chaska, Minnesota 55318
952-448-9200
ehanson@chaskamn.com

Environmental Impact Statement Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental unit has determined the following project does not require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the Environmental Assessment Worksheet notice was published in the EQB *Monitor*.

- Morrison County, Doucette Gravel Pit Mine Expansion, 11-22-16 (10-3-16)
- Otter Tail County, CSAH 9 Reconstruction (SAP-056-609-005), Otter Tail County, MN, 11-22-16 (10-17-16)
- Otter Tail County, Prosperity Hills, 12-1-16 (10-3-16)

Notice

NOTICE OF THE POWER PLANT SITING AND TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTING PROGRAM ANNUAL HEARING

Issued: December 5, 2016

In the Matter of the 2016 Power Plant Siting Act Annual Hearing

PUC Docket Number: E999/M-16-18

Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) Docket Number: 65-2500-34007

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission will hold a public hearing 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.

Date: Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Public Utilities Commission (Large Hearing Room)
121 7th Place East, 3rd Floor
St. Paul, MN 55101

To find out if a meeting has been cancelled due to bad weather call 1-855-731-6208 or visit mn.gov/puc.

Hearing Information

- Public hearings start on time.
- Arrive a few minutes early so you have time to sign in, pick up materials, and find a seat.
- Administrative Law Judge Ann O'Reilly will preside over the hearing.
- Commission and Department of Commerce staff will provide an overview of the program and projects pending or completed in 2016 and will be available to answer questions about the Power Plant Siting Act.
- Citizens will have the opportunity to offer oral comments, written comments, or both into the record.
- The hearing will last until everyone has had the opportunity to offer comments.
- Judge O'Reilly will use information gathered at the public hearing and during the comment period to write a summary report for the Commission.

Agenda

- I. Introductions
- II. Overview of Programs
 - A. Public Utilities Commission – Facilities Permitting Unit
 - B. Department of Commerce – Energy Environmental Review & Analysis
 - C. Role of Other State Agencies
- III. Projects Reviewed
 - A. Projects Completed in 2016
 - B. Pending and Anticipated Projects
 - C. Electric Facilities Subject to Power Plant Siting Act
 - 1. Generating Plants
 - 2. Transmission Lines
 - D. Electric Facilities Not Subject to Power Plant Siting Act
 - 1. Wind Plants
 - 2. Pipelines
- IV. Public Questions and Testimony
- V. Adjourn

Written Comment Period

Comment Period: Written comments will be accepted through **January 20, 2017 at 4:30pm**. Please include the Commission's Docket Number (16-18) **and** OAH Docket Number (65-2500-34007) in all communications.

Topics for Public Comment: Any matters related to the site permit process for large electric generating power plants and routing of high-voltage transmission lines. Note – No decisions on specific projects are made at the annual hearing.

Comments may be submitted via:

Online: Visit mn.gov/puc, select Speak Up!, find this docket (16-18), and add your comments to the discussion.

Comments in Speak Up! must be submitted in the Open Discussion entitled, "2016 Power Plant Siting Act Annual Hearing, PUC Docket No. E999/M-16-18 and OAH Docket No. 65-2500-34007." Comments filed in other dockets or on other Speak Up! discussion boards will not be considered as part of this proceeding.

U.S. Mail: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101

Important: Comments received after the comment period closes may not be considered. Comments will be made available to the public via the Commission's and the Department of Commerce's websites, except in limited circumstances, consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. Personally identifying information is not edited or deleted from submissions.

Process Information

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....

Judge O'Reilly will use information gathered at the public hearing and during the comment period to write a summary report for the Commission.

Learn More

Full Case Record: The documents filed in this matter are available at: mn.gov/puc, select eDockets, enter the year (16) and the docket number (18), select Search.

Subscribe to the Docket: To receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter visit: mn.gov/puc, select Subscribe, and follow the prompts.

Contacts

Public Utilities Commission

Kevin George, Public Advisor: kevin.george@state.mn.us; 651-201-2251 or 1-800-657-3782

This document can be made available in alternative formats (e.g., large print or audio) by calling 651-296-0406 (voice). Persons with hearing loss or speech disabilities may call us through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.

Individuals with a disability who need reasonable accommodations to participate in these meetings please also contact the Public Utilities Commission at 651-296-0406 at least one week in advance of the meeting.