



Minnesota Environmental Quality Board

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Environmental Assessment Worksheets

The following EAWs have a comment deadline of April 13, 2016

Project Title: Buendorf Hogs

Project Description: Troy and Chad Buendorf (“Proposer”) propose to expand their existing 720 Animal Unit1 (“AU”) (2,400 head) swine finishing facility in Section 6 of Hartland Township in Freeborn County (“Facility”). The proposer will construct one new power-vented building to store 720 AU (2,400 head) finishing hogs (“Project”). The Facility plus the Project will have a combined total maximum capacity of 1,440 AU (4,800 head) of finishing hogs. The Project will include construction of a total confinement barn with a 9 foot deep reinforced concrete manure storage pit below the building. The Proposer will store manure in the reinforced concrete pits beneath each of the two buildings. A copy of the Notice of Availability and the EAW can be found on the MPCA website at the following address:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/topics/environmental-review/environmental-assessment-worksheets-and-environmental-impact-statements.html>

In addition to the EAW, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s draft NPDES/SDS Permit coverage will also be available for public comment beginning March 14, 2016. The contact person for the NPDES/SDS Permit is George Schwint at 320-894-5866.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person:

Laura Hysjulien
Planner Principal
520 Lafayette Rd North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
Laura.hysjulien@state.mn.us
651-757-2455

Project Title: Michaelson Stream Restoration

Project Description: The Michaelson Stream Restoration project will restore approximately 500 feet of an unnamed tributary to Deer Creek. A sediment control structure built 30 years ago has failed. Channel form will be restored, pool and riffle habitat created, stream banks stabilized to reduce further erosion, native vegetation reestablished in the riparian corridor and the project will prevent 78 tons of sediment annually from entering the turbidity impaired Deer Creek and eventually Lake Superior.

Copies of the EAW will be available at the Carlton Soil and Water Conservation District office at 808 3rd Street, Carlton, MN 55718. Please contact Melanie Bomier at 218-384-3891.

RGU: Carlton Soil and Water Conservation District

Contact Person:

Brad Matlack
District Manager
808 3rd Street
Carlton, MN 55718
bradmatlack@carltonswcd.org
218-384-3891

Environmental Impact Statement Adequacy Determination

Project Title: PolyMet Mining, Inc., NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange

Responsible Governmental Unit: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), in conjunction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), prepared a joint state/federal Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) for the proposed PolyMet Mining, Inc. (PolyMet) NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange, located near the cities of Hoyt Lakes and Babbitt in northeastern Minnesota. The public review period for the Final EIS ended on December 21, 2015.

The MDNR as Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) is charged with determining the adequacy of the Final EIS for the proposed NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange. Minnesota Rule, 4410.2800, subpart 4, requires the RGU to find the Final EIS adequate if it:

- A) addresses the potentially significant issues and alternatives raised in scoping so that all significant issues for which information can reasonably be obtained have been analyzed in conformance with EQB Rules, 4410.2300, items G and H;
- B) provides responses to the substantive comments received during the draft [and

Supplemental Draft] EIS review concerning issues raised in scoping; and

C) was prepared in compliance with the procedures of the [Minnesota Environmental Policy] act and [Minnesota Rules] parts 4410.0200 to 4410.6500.

Based upon the Findings of Fact and Conclusions contained in the Record of Decision and the entire record of the proceedings, the MDNR has determined that the Final EIS for the proposed NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange is adequate. This determination, dated March 3, 2016, concludes the state environmental review process for the NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange.

Copies of the Adequacy Determination Record of Decision are available at this web address <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/polymet/index.html> and at the following locations:

- MDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul;
- MDNR Regional Office at 1201 East Highway 2, Grand Rapids;
- MDNR-Division of Lands and Minerals Regional Office at 1525 Third Avenue East, Hibbing;
- Hoyt Lakes Public Library at 206 Kennedy Memorial Drive, Hoyt Lakes;
- Babbitt Public Library, 71 South Drive, Babbitt;
- Duluth Public Library, 520 West Superior Street, Duluth; and
- Minneapolis Public Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis.

A copy of the Adequacy Determination Record of Decision may also be requested by calling the MDNR at (651) 259-5110 or by emailing lisa.fay@state.mn.us.

The NorthMet Mining Project would create an open pit copper, nickel, and platinum group element mine with adjacent temporary stockpiles and a permanent stockpile; refurbish a portion of the former LTV Steel Mining Company (LTVSMC) processing plant and construct a new hydrometallurgical facility at the plant site; construct an upgraded tailings basin facility on the existing LTVSMC tailings facilities; construct waste water treatment facilities at both the mine site and plant site; and add to existing utility infrastructure and rail lines. The Land Exchange would consist of USFS conveyance of Superior National Forest Lands encompassing the NorthMet mine site and surrounding lands to PolyMet, and USFS acquisition from PolyMet of up to five tracts of private lands within the Superior National Forest proclamation boundary.

Contact Person:

Lisa Fay, EIS Project Manager
MDNR Division of Ecological and Water Resources
Environmental Review Unit
500 Lafayette Road, Box 25
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025
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651-259-5110

Environmental Assessment

There is no formal comment period for the Environmental Assessment (EA) below (Minnesota Rule 7850); however, persons may comment on the EA during the public hearing for the project. Public hearing dates, times, and comment periods are noted on the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's calendar: www.mn.gov/puc.

In the Matter of the Application of Great River Energy for a Route Permit for the Bull Moose Transmission Line Project in Cass County, Minnesota

eDockets No. ET2/TL-15-628

Please take notice that the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) issued the environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Bull Moose Transmission Line Project in Cass County, Minnesota.

The EA is a written document that describes the human and environmental impacts of the proposed transmission line project, and methods to mitigate such impacts.

Electronic versions of the EA and other relevant documents are available on the EERA website: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=34235>, and on the State of Minnesota eDockets system: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the year "15" and the number "628").

Printed versions of the EA will be available at the following locations:

- Backus City Hall – 112 King Street South; Backus, MN
- Pine River Public Library – 212 Park Avenue; Pine River, MN

A public hearing for the proposed project will be held at 6:00 p.m. on March 30, 2016, at Backus City Hall in Backus, Minnesota. Notice of this hearing will be issued separately and available on the websites noted above.

If you have questions about the EA or would like more information, please contact:

Andrew Levi, Environmental Review Specialist
Energy Environmental Review and Analysis
85 Seventh Place East, Suite 500
Saint Paul, MN 55101
651-539-1840 (direct)
andrew.levi@state.mn.us

This document can be made available in alternative formats, that is, large print or audio, by calling 651-539-1530.

Alternative Urban Areawide Review Draft

Comment Deadline: April 13, 2016

Project Title: Minnesota Vikings Headquarters and Mixed Use Development

Project Description: The proposed development within the AUAR area includes (i) a new headquarters and training facilities for the Minnesota Vikings football team, including an indoor practice facility, outdoor athletic/recreational complex with multiple practice fields, a small

stadium with up to 10,000 seats, and an office building; and (ii) a mixed-use, phased project that will include new residential and commercial development, trails and open space.

RGU: City of Eagan

Contact Person:

Mike Ridley
City Planner
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Notices

Minnesota Department of Agriculture - Notification of Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms

MDA Notification	Applicant	Crop	Project Category	County(s)
16-NO-015	Dow AgroSciences	Corn	HT, AP	Nicollet, Ottertail, Pope, Renville, Sibley, Stearns (2), Wilkin

Dow AgroSciences, filed a Notification for Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number 16-NO-015. Notification is for genetically modified corn, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic corn, referenced as Application Number 16-042-104n. For additional information contact Clifford Watrin, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531, clifford.watrin@state.mn.us

MDA Notification	Applicant	Crop	Project Category	County(s)
16-NO-016	Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC	Corn	AP	Blue Earth, Dakota, Faribault, Goodhue, Mower, Rice

Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC, filed a Notification for Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number 16-NO-016. Notification is for genetically modified corn, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic corn, referenced as Application Number 16-054-102n. For additional information contact Clifford Watrin, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531, clifford.watrin@state.mn.us

MDA Notification	Applicant	Crop	Project Category	County(s)
16-NO-017, 16-NO-018, and 16-NO-019	Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC	Corn	AP 16-NO-017 AP 16-NO-018 AP, HT 16-NO-019 AP – Improved Stress Tolerance HT – Herbicide Tolerance	Blue Earth, Dakota, Faribault, Goodhue, Mower, Rice

Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC, filed a Notification for Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification numbers 16-NO-017, 16-NO-018, and 16-NO-019. Notification is for genetically modified corn, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic corn, referenced as Application Numbers 16-055-103n, 16-055-106n, 16-054-105n. For additional information contact Clifford Watrin, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531, clifford.watrin@state.mn.us

MDA Notification	Applicant	Crop	Project Category	County(s)
16-NO-020, 16-NO-021, 16-NO-022, 16-NO-023	Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC	Corn	AP 16-NO-020 AP 16-NO-021 AP 16-NO-022 AP, HT 16-NO-023 AP – Improved Stress Tolerance HT – Herbicide Tolerance	Blue Earth, Dakota, Faribault, Goodhue, Mower, Rice (Up to 10 acres each)

Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC, filed a Notification for Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification numbers 16-NO-020, 16-NO-021, 16-NO-022, and 16-NO-023. Notification is for genetically modified corn, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic corn, referenced as Application Numbers 16-054-103n, 16-054-104n, 16-055-102n, and 16-057-104n. For additional information contact Clifford Watrin, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531, clifford.watrin@state.mn.us