



EQB MONITOR

Publication Date March 17, 2014
Vol. 38, No. 6

Next Publication: March 31, 2014
Submittal Deadline: March 24, 2014
Submit to EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us



CORRECTION: Please note that the March 3, 2014 EQB Monitor should have been Volume 38-5.

The EQB has transitioned to a new electronic notification system called GovDelivery. Add MNEQB@public.govdelivery.com to your address book or safe sender list. Manage your subscription.

EQB Meetings are regularly scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month, which can be found on the [EQB Calendar](#). There may be additional special meetings as well. [Meeting minutes, packets, and agendas](#) are posted on the [EQB website](#).

- [Environmental Assessment Worksheets](#)
- [EAW Need Decisions](#)
- [EIS Need Decisions](#)
- [AUAR Update Available](#)
- [Notices](#)

Environmental Assessment Worksheets

EAW Comment Deadline: April 16, 2014

Project Title: Stewart Creek Bank Stabilization

Project Description: This project will stabilize stream banks and restore the channel of Stewart Creek damaged by the 2012 flood. The City of Duluth and South St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District will restore 588' of stream channel to a natural pool and riffle state and remove debris upstream of a culvert.

RGU: City of Duluth

Contact Person: Charles Froseth, Land Use Supervisor
411 West First Street Rm 206,
Duluth, MN 55802
Phone: 218-730-5325
Email: cfroseth@duluthmn.gov

EAW Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental unit has made a decision regarding the need for an EAW in response to a citizen petition.

- Verizon Telecommunication Tower near the Gull River in Sylvan Township, Sylvan Township, EAW denied

EIS Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental unit has determined the following project does 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.

- Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, Wolverton Creek Restoration, February 24, 2014 (November 11, 2013)
- Department of Natural Resources, Blazing Star State Trail, Myre-Big Island State Park to Hayward project in Freeborn County, March 4, 2014 (December 23, 2013)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, TH 34 Passing Lanes from Detroit Lakes to Nevis, March 10, 2014 (December 23, 2013)
- **UPDATED:** Hennepin County, Reconstruction of CSAH 101 from CSAH 5 to US Highway 12, February 24, 2014 (October 14, 2013)

AUAR Update Available

Project Title: 2013 Update to the 2008 AUAR for First Park Lakeville

AUAR Comment Deadline: March 28, 2014

Project Description: Trammell Crow is proposing the continuation of a light industrial /warehouse development on a 140+ acre parcel in the southeast quadrant of Dodd Boulevard and 215th Street West.

Development of the AUAR study area has the potential of providing up to 1.3 + million square feet of light industrial /warehouse.

RGU: City of Lakeville

Contact Person: Frank Dempsey
Associate Planner
20195 Holyoke Avenue
Lakeville, MN 55044
952-985-4423
952-985-4429
fdempsey@lakevillemn.gov

Notices

Sediment Reduction Strategy for the Minnesota River Basin and South Metro Mississippi River

Project description: The Sediment Reduction Strategy relates to the forthcoming Total Maximum Daily Load reports for sediment in the Minnesota River Basin and South Metro Mississippi River. The strategy provides interim sediment reduction targets and identifies high-level actions that will lead to sediment reduction goals. The interim targets include a 25 percent reduction in total suspended solids by 2020 and a 50 percent reduction by 2030. Some of the actions include decreasing flow in rivers, retaining more water on the landscape and increasing living cover. Representatives of other agencies and organizations provided input as the strategy was developed.

Comment period: The draft strategy will be available for public review and comment through April 17, 2014.

For more information and opportunities to provide feedback, visit the website:
www.pca.state.mn.us/ark8qrf

Contact Person: Larry Gunderson
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd. N.
St. Paul, MN, 55155
651-757-2400
Larry.gunderson@state.mn.us

Site Permit Application of Odell Wind Farm, LLC

STATE OF MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT SITE PERMIT AND PUBLIC HEARING
Issued: March 10, 2014

In the Matter of the Site Permit Application of Odell Wind Farm, LLC for a 200-MW Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin and Watonwan Counties, Minnesota

Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Docket Number: IP-6914/WS-13-843

Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) Docket Number: 11-2500-31120

Date: March 31, 2014
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Windom Community Center
1750 Cottonwood Lake Drive
Windom MN 56101

Bad weather? Find out if a meeting is canceled – call (toll-free) 1-855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit www.puc.state.mn.us.

Hearing Information:

- Staff from the Public Utilities Commission, Department of Commerce (DOC), and Odell Wind Farm, LLC (Odell) will be available to answer questions about the process and the project.
- Citizens will have the opportunity to offer oral comments, written comments, or both into the record.
- Citizens who have questions, but do not want to ask questions orally, may submit questions in writing to the Administrative Law Judge.
- The hearing will last until everyone has the opportunity to offer comments or ask questions.

Topics for Public Comment:

- What are the environmental and human impacts of the proposed project and how can these impacts be addressed?
- Are there any changes that should be made to the draft site permit?
- Are there other project-related issues or concerns?
- Should the Public Utilities Commission require a contested case hearing about this project?

Comment Period: The comment period continues after the public hearing, through **April 17, 2014 at 4:30pm.**

Submit Public Comments: The Honorable Barbara L. Neilson
Office of Administrative Hearings
Email: RouteComments.OAH@state.mn.us
Fax: 651-539-0300
P.O. Box 64620
600 North Robert Street
St. Paul MN 55164-0620

Please include the PUC and OAH Docket Numbers (above) in all communications. Comments must be received at the Office of Administrative Hearings by 4:30 p.m. on April 17, 2014, to be considered.

Project Description: Odell proposes to build a 200 megawatt (MW) Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS).

- The proposed Odell Wind Farm will consist of 100 to 133 turbines, depending on the turbine model selected.
- Currently, 1.5 MW, 1.6 MW, and 2.0 MW turbine models are under consideration.
- Odell's goal is to complete construction and begin operation prior to December 31, 2014.
- The proposed project is located in Lakeside and Mountain Lake Townships in Cottonwood County, Christiania and Kimball Townships in Jackson County, Cedar Township in Martin County, and Odin Township in Watonwan County, near Mountain Lake, Minnesota
- The proposed Odell Wind Farm will require an associated 115 kV transmission line and a 345/115kV substation. Odell filed a separate route plan permit application for the transmission facilities in Docket No. IP6914/TL-13-591.
- The proposed Odell Wind Farm will consist of 100 to 133 turbines, depending on the turbine model selected.
- Currently, 1.5 MW, 1.6 MW, and 2.0 MW turbine models are under consideration.
- Odell's goal is to complete construction and begin operation prior to December 31, 2014.
- The proposed project is located in Lakeside and Mountain Lake Townships in Cottonwood County, Christiania and Kimball Townships in Jackson County, Cedar Township in Martin County, and Odin Township in Watonwan County, near Mountain Lake, Minnesota
- The proposed Odell Wind Farm will require an associated 115 kV transmission line and a 345/115kV substation. Odell filed a separate route plan permit application for the transmission facilities in Docket No. IP6914/TL-13-591.

Process Information: Before the project can be built, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) must approve a site permit. The Commission accepted Odell's site permit application in November 2013. The Commission's decision-making process takes about six months.

On March 6, 2014, the Commission voted to approve a draft site permit for this project. An electronic copy of the draft site permit can be viewed on the Commission's and DOC's websites as described below. Comments about the draft site permit may be submitted now through April 17, 2014.

Any person may request a contested case hearing on the site permit proceeding for the Odell Wind Project pursuant to Minnesota Rule 7854.0900. All contested case hearing requests must be filed in writing with the ALJ by 4:30 p.m. on April 17, 2014.

Judge Neilson will use all the information in the record, including written comments and comments received at the public hearings, to write a report for the Commission. The report will include findings, conclusions, and recommendations about this project. After receiving the Judge's report, the Commission will schedule a meeting to make a final decision on this project, expected by May 2014.

Minnesota Statutes and Rules: This project is being reviewed under Minnesota Statute 216F and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7854, available at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/>.

How to Learn More: Department of Commerce Project Website

View site permit application, draft site permit and other documents at <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33584>

Project Mailing List: Sign up for the project mailing list to receive notices about this project at docketing.puc@state.mn.us or call 651-201-2204.

Full Case Record: All documents filed in this docket, including the site permit application and draft site permit, are available on the Commission's website at www.puc.state.mn.us, select Search eDockets, enter the year (13) and the docket number (843), select Search.

Subscribe to the Docket: Receive email notifications every time new documents are filed. Note - subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

1. www.puc.state.mn.us
2. Select green box Subscribe to a Docket
3. Type your e-mail address
4. For Type of Subscription, select Docket Number
5. For Docket Number, select 13 in the first box, type 843 in the second box
6. Select Add to List
7. Select Save

Community Locations: The site permit application is available at the following locations:

- County Auditors' Offices: Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin and Watonwan counties
- Public Libraries: Jackson, Martin County-Fairmont, Mountain Lake, Trimont, Windom
- Regional Development Commissions: Region Nine Development Commission, Southwest Regional Development Commission
- Township Clerks: Cedar, Christiania, Kimball, Lakeside, Mountain Lake, and Odin townships

A copy of the site permit application can also be requested by contacting the applicant at the address below.

Public Utilities Commission Public Advisor

Tracy Smetana at consumer.puc@state.mn.us, 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782

Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities Planner

Michael Kaluzniak at mike.kaluzniak or 651-201-2257

Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager

Richard Davis at richard.davis@state.mn.us, 651-539-1846 or 1-800-657-3794

Odell Wind Farm, LLC Project Contact

Patrick Smith at patrick@geronimoenergy.com or 952-988-9000

Odell Wind Farm, LLC
c/o Geronimo Energy
7650 Edinborough Way
Suite 725
Edina MN 55435

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in these meetings (e.g., sign language or large print materials), please contact the Office of Administrative Hearings at 651-361-7832 (voice) or 651-361-7878 (TTY) at least one week in advance of the meeting.

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

Minnesota Department of Agriculture Notification of Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms

MDA Notification	Applicant	Crop	Project Category	County(s)
14-NO-037	Syngenta	Soybean	Herbicide tolerant	Clay(4), Dodge, Faribault, Jackson, McLeod, Polk(3), Redwood, Renville, Steele
14-NO-038	Syngenta	Soybean	Herbicide tolerant	Freeborn(3)
14-NO-039	University of Minnesota	wheat	Fungal Resistance	Dakota
14-NO-040	BetaSeed	wheat	Fungal Resistance	Clay(8), Dakota(2), Goodhue(2), Polk, Scott(2), Wilkin
14-NO-041	Syngenta	Soybean	Herbicide tolerant	Clay(2), Olmstead, Redwood

For additional information contact Dr. Steve Malone, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-66531, stephen.malone@state.mn.us