



Environmental Quality Board

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Submit to EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us



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Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Project Title: Northshore Mining Company Progression of the Ultimate Pit Limit Project

Comment Deadline: October 15, 2014

Project Description: Northshore Mining Company proposes to progress the Ultimate Pit Limit within its Permit to Mine at its Peter Mitchell Mine to access additional economic taconite ore, consistent with Northshore's long-term development plan for the mine. In this 108 acre progression, the taconite ore is overlain by Type II Virginia Formation (VF) rock that will be mined and stockpiled to access the ore. Northshore will permanently stockpile Type II VF rock from the progression on-site following a stockpile plan that minimizes contact of groundwater and runoff with stockpiled rock.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will accept written comments on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet during the public review and comment period, which concludes Wednesday, October 15, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.

Written comments should be submitted to Ronald Wieland, EAW Project Manager, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN, 55155-4025. Electronic or e-mail comments may be sent to Environmentalrev.DNR@state.mn.us with "Northshore EAW" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, include name and mailing address. Written comments may also be sent by fax to (651) 296-1811.

A copy of the EAW is available for public review at:

- MNDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
- MNDNR Northwest Regional Office, 2115 Birchmont Beach Rd. NE, Bemidji, MN 56601
- Hennepin Co.- Minneapolis Central Library, Government Documents, 2nd Floor, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401-1992

- Wheaton Community Library, 901 First Avenue North, Wheaton, MN 56296
- Fergus Falls Public Library, 205 E Hampden, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

The EAW is also posted on the MNDNR's website at <http://www.mndnr.gov/index.html>

(Click on "Public Input", then select "Redpath EAW" from the scroll-down list under "Environmental Review").

Additional copies may be requested by calling (651) 259-5115.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contact Person: Ronald Wieland, Project Manager
Environmental Policy Unit
Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Rd
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025
Environmentalrev.DNR@state.mn.us
Fax: 651-296-1811

Project Title: Redpath Project

Project Description: A multipurpose flood water storage impoundment along the Mustinka River/Judicial Ditch 14 in Grant and Traverse Counties. The project includes three storage pools for flood control and a by-pass corridor. Water quality and wildlife habitat natural resource enhancements are also incorporated in the project design.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will accept written comments on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet during the public review and comment period, which concludes Wednesday, October 15, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.

Written comments should be submitted to Jamie Schrenzel, EAW Project Manager, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN, 55155-4025. Electronic or e-mail comments may be sent to Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us with "Redpath EAW" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, include name and mailing address. Written comments may also be sent by fax to (651) 296-1811.

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RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contact Person: Jamie Schrenzel, Project Manager
Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Rd
St. Paul, MN 55155
Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us
Fax: 651-296-1811

Project Title: Heartland Corn Products Denatured Ethanol Storage Tank Addition

Project Description: Heartland Corn Products proposes to construct a new storage tank at its facility in Winthrop, Minnesota. Tank #2508 would have a capacity of 2,000,000 gallons used to store denatured ethanol. The proposed tank would be located within the footprint of the existing facility.

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/news/eaw/index.html>. Written comments on the EAW should be submitted to Patrice Jensen. A copy of the EAW may also be obtained by contacting Beth Tegdesch at 651-757-2100.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person: Patrice Jensen, Planner Principal
Environmental Review Unit – 4th Floor
Resource Management and Assistance Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
651-757-2465
patrice.jensen@state.mn.us

Project Title: TH 75 Highway Realignment

Project Description: This project involves reconstructing 1.8 miles of Trunk Highway (TH) 75 on new alignment. Two new bridges, a bridge over the BNSF railroad and a bridge over Whiskey Creek, will be constructed. The project is located in and around Kent, Wilkin County, Minnesota.

The comment period for this project will be September 15, 2014 through October 15, 2014. A copy of the EAW can be accessed from MnDOT's website at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d4/projects/hwy75kent/>. It will also be available in hard copy at the following locations:

- Fergus Falls Public Library, 205 E Hampden Avenue, Fergus Falls, MN 56537
- Breckenridge Public Library, 205 7th Street N, Breckenridge, MN 56520

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person: Tom Pace
Project Manager
MnDOT
1000 Hwy 10 W
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
218-846-3627
thomas.pace@state.mn.us

To request this document in an alternative format, please contact the Affirmative Action Office at 651-366-4723 or 1-800-657-3774 (Greater Minnesota); 711 or 1-800-627-3529 (Minnesota Relay). You may also send an e-mail to ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us. (Please request at least one week in advance.)

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.

- City of Brooklyn Park, 610 Commerce Center, August 25, 2014 (June 23, 2014)
 - City of Brooklyn Park, Northcross Business Park, July 7, 2014 (May 25, 2014)
 - City of Lakeville, Berres Ridge Residential Development, September 2, 2014 (July 7, 2014)
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AUAR Update Adopted

Project Title: Woodbury Northeast Area

The City of Woodbury has adopted the AUAR Update for the Woodbury Northeast Area. The study area is approximately 580 acres of contiguous, mostly undeveloped land and is located along Interstate 94, a major transportation corridor. The study area is bordered by I94 on the north and Manning Avenue on the east with development to the west and undeveloped land to the south. Development scenarios reviewed included commercial, office, and residential.

Notices

Notice of Extension for Release of Final Scoping Decision

Project Title: Rochester-Twin Cities Passenger Rail Corridor Investment Plan and Tier 1 EIS (Zip Rail)

In response to public interest the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the RGU for the Rochester-Twin Cities Passenger Rail Corridor project and project proposer in cooperation with the Olmsted County Regional Rail Authority, will exceed the 15 day timeframe for release of the Final Scoping Decision to allow for consideration of the large number of public comments received.

The Final Scoping Decision document will identify the issues and potential impact areas, and alternatives, including the No Build alternative, to be studied in the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). It will also include a record of all comments received during the comment period (July 7 to August 22). The Final Scoping Decision will be announced in the EQB Monitor and newspapers throughout the project corridor.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person: Praveena Pidaparathi, AICP
Planning Director - Passenger Rail Office
Minnesota Department of Transportation
395 John Ireland Blv, MS 470
St. Paul, MN 55155
info@goziprail.org
651-366-3195

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

Notice of Permit Decision In the Matter of the Application of Great River Energy for a Route Permit for a 115 kV Transmission-Line Project in the Elko New Market and Cleary Lake Areas in Scott and Rice Counties

Public Utilities Commission Docket No. ET-2/TL-12-1245

In an Order issued August 5, 2014, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission determined that the environmental assessment and the record had adequately addressed the issues identified in the scoping decision. The Commission issued a high-voltage transmission line route permit for the 115 kV Transmission-Line Project in the Elko New Market and Cleary Lake Areas, authorizing Great River Energy to construct approximately twelve miles of 115 kilovolt transmission line and to rebuild 11.3 miles of existing 69 kV lines to 115 kV standard in Scott and Rice Counties.

Further information about the project and the route permit can be found on-line at:

<http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=32989> and on the eDockets system <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the year "12" and docket number "1245").

If you have any questions about this project or would like more information please contact Commission staff: Hwikwon Ham at hwikwon.ham@state.mn.us or 651-201-2253.

Notice of Hearing in the Matter of Water Appropriation Permit Application 2013-1391

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

FOR MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

In the Matter of Water
Appropriation
Permit Application 2013-1391
Keith Van Hulzen and
Reed Van Hulzen

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Department of Natural Resources (“the Department” or “DNR”) has initiated a contested case pursuant to Keith Van Hulzen and Reed Van Hulzen’s (“Respondents”) request to determine if the Department’s decision to reject Water Appropriation Permit Application 2013-1391 is consistent with applicable Minnesota statutes and rules. A contested case prehearing conference will be held on November 7, 2014 at 9:30 a.m., at the Office of Administrative Hearings, located at Harold E. Stassen Office Building, State Capitol Complex, 600 North Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101.

ALLEGATIONS

1. On or about March 4, 2013, Respondents submitted Water Appropriation Permit Application 2013-1391 to the DNR. Application 2013-1391 requested authorization to use groundwater extracted from Well #149170 to irrigate 135 acres of cropland in Pipestone County. The requested appropriation was for 29.32 MGY to irrigate 135 acres at a rate of 800 gpm.

2. Minnesota Statute section 103G.271, subd. 4 (2012) and Minn. R. 6115.0620 (2013) require a DNR Appropriation Permit for projects that use more than 10,000 gallons of water per day or 1 MGY. In 1991, the Minnesota Legislature adopted Minn. Stat. § 103G.223 that requires the DNR to protect calcareous fens.

3. Calcareous fens are a rare and distinctive category of Type 2 wetlands. Calcareous fens that have been identified by the Commissioner “may not be filled, drained, or otherwise degraded, wholly or partially, by any activity unless the Commissioner, under an approved management plan, decides some alteration is necessary.” Minn. Stat. § 103G.223 (2012). Calcareous Fens 10566 and 34556 are

located in Section 28 T106N, R44W in Pipestone County. Calcareous Fen 10566 is located 3,040 feet from Well #149170. Calcareous Fen 34556 is located 1,230 feet from Well #149170.

4. Based on information from aquifer tests and other data evaluated by the DNR, DNR staff concluded that there is a substantial likelihood that under the appropriation options proposed by Respondents, irrigation Well #149170 would adversely impact Calcareous Fen 34556 and would have the potential to adversely impact Calcareous Fen 10566 in violation of Minn. Stat. § 103G.223 (2012), and denied the application.

ISSUES

1. Whether the proposed groundwater appropriation has the potential to wholly or partially drain or degrade calcareous fens protected by Minn. Stat. § 103G.223 (2012)?

2. Whether it is necessary within the meaning of Minn. Stat. 103G.223 to wholly or partially drain or otherwise degrade Calcareous Fens 10566 and 34556?

For a complete copy of the Notice and Order for Prehearing Conference and Hearing, contact Kim Middendorf, Minnesota Attorney General's Office, 445 Minnesota Street, Ste. 1800, St. Paul, MN 55101, phone (651) 757-1279.

Dated this 8th day of September, 2014. MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATUR

/s/ Barbara L. Naramore
BARBARA L. NARAMORE
Assistant Commissioner of Natural
Resources