

The *EQB Monitor*

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The *EQB Monitor* is a weekly publication announcing environmental review documents, public comment periods and other actions of the Environmental Quality Board. For more information on environmental review, please visit the [EQB website](#).

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

EQB Announcements

Environmental Quality Board Meeting: April 15, 2020 (**Updated Access Link**)

We invite you to join the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) at their next Board meeting on April 15 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and [Executive Order 20-20](#), the Environmental Quality Board (EQB or Board) meeting will virtually convene the April Board meeting through the WebEx platform. Instructions for connecting to WebEx are included on page five of the Board packet.

Note: The access link in this notice has been updated from previous notices, please use this link to connect to the meeting.

[Access Link to the April 15, 2020 Board Meeting](#)

The April 15, 2020 EQB meeting will address three informational objectives:

- Discuss recommendations for implementing the strategies identified in the 2019 *Emerald Ash Borer in Minnesota*
- Continue discussing Minnesota's strategies to protect pollinators by learning about Minnesota Department of Agriculture's approach to pest management and actions to address the effects of pesticides on pollinators.
- Reflect on the 2019 Environmental Congress and generate ideas to inform the next Congress in the 2021-2022 biennium.

COVID-19 Update

Environmental Quality Board staff are working remotely until further notice due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Staff are available by [email](#), phone, or the environmental review hotline at 651.757.2873. For general environmental review questions or if you are an RGU with specific questions related to Environmental Review Program requirements during the pandemic, please email Env.Review@state.mn.us.

For more information on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), please visit the State of Minnesota's [COVID-19 Portal](#).

Environmental Impact Statement Need Decision

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.

Project: Eveleth-Gilbert-Virginia Public School Relocation 3-24-20 (2-3-20)

Link to Document: No link provided. Contact the RGU.

RGU Contact: City of Virginia, Britt See-Benes, City Administrator, 218-748-7500, britts@virginiamn.us

Notices

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

Betaseed, Inc. filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number **20-NO-16**. 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 **20-071-101n**. The counties identified for release include the following: **Dakota-3 locations with not more than 10, 10, and 20 acres per location, respectively; Goodhue-1 locations with not more than 10 acres.** Project categories include **AP (Agronomic Performance)** and **FR (Fungal Resistance)**.

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number **20-NO-21**. Notification is for genetically modified **WHEAT**, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic wheat, referenced as Application Number **20-031-101rm**. The counties identified for release include the following: **Clay-1 location with 5 acres.** Project categories include **AP (Agronomic Performance)**, **HT (Herbicide Tolerance)**, **MG (Marker Gene)**, and **OO (Other)**.

BASF Corporation filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number **20-NO-22**. Notification is for genetically modified **SOYBEAN**, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic soybean, referenced as Application Number **19-354-102rm**. The counties identified for release include the following: **Becker-1 location with 20 acres; Big Stone-2 locations with 20 acres per location; Clay-1 location with 20 acres; and Freeborn-1 location with 20 acres.** Project categories include **FR (Fungal Resistance)**, **HT (Herbicide Tolerance)**, **IR (Insect Resistance)**, **MG (Marker Gene)**, and **NR (Nematode Resistance)**.

USDA-ARS filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number **20-NO-23**. Notification is for genetically modified **ALFALFA**, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic alfalfa, referenced as Application

Number **20-072-103n**. The counties identified for release include the following: **Ramsey-1 location with 0.2 acres**. Project categories include **OO (Other)**.

For additional information contact:

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Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

Links to environmental review documents were provided by the RGU. In the event that the link does not work, you may contact the RGU directly to request either a paper or electronic copy of the documents. If you are not able to connect with the RGU, please email EQB staff at Env.Review@state.mn.us, call 651.757.2873, or visit our [website](#).



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