

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

# The EQB Monitor

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#### In this publication:

- Public Hearings for EQB Mandatory Categories
- Environmental Assessment Worksheet Need Decisions
- Environmental Assessment Worksheets
- Notice

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.

You can manage your subscription to the *EQB Monitor* <u>here</u>. Be sure to add <u>MNEQB@public.govdelivery.com</u> to your address book or safe sender list.



Check the <u>EQB Calendar</u> for more details on *Monitor* deadlines and Board Meetings. Meeting minutes, agendas and additional notices are also posted on the <u>EQB Website</u>.

### **Public Hearings for EQB Mandatory Categories**

The Environmental Quality Board (EQB or Board) is proposing amendments to rules relating to environmental review. This rulemaking will amend rules governing mandatory categories for environmental assessment worksheets (EAW) and environmental impact statements (EIS), definitions to support those categories, responsible governmental unit (RGU) determinations, and categories of exemptions from environmental review. (Revisor's ID Number R-04157)

**May 31, 2019 1:30 pm**: Public rulemaking hearing at MPCA, St Paul, Room 100. The hearing (via a two-way-video-conference connection—anyone wishing to give testimony to the Judge can do so via the two-way-video-conference connection) will also be available at:

- 1. Brainerd MPCA Office, 7678 College Road, Suite 105, Baxter, MN 56425
- 2. Detroit Lakes MPCA Office, 714 Lake Ave., Suite 220, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
- 3. Duluth MPCA Office, 525 Lake Ave. S., Suite 400, Duluth, MN 55802
- 4. Marshall MPCA Office, 504 Fairgrounds Rd., Suite 200, Marshall, MN 56258
- 5. Rochester MPCA Office, <u>18 Wood Lake Drive SE, Rochester, MN 55904</u>

Additional rule timeline updates are available at the EQB rulemaking webpage:

https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/content/eqb-mandatory-categories-rulemaking

#### **Environmental Assessment Worksheet Need Decisions**

The noted responsible governmental units have made decisions regarding the need for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet in response to a citizen's petition.

- City of St. Paul, Twin Cities German Immersion Charter School Expansion (Denied)
- RD Offutt Company's Potato Field Expansion (Denied)

#### **Environmental Assessment Worksheets**

### **Project Title: Midtown Village**

Comment Deadline: May 15, 2019

**Project Description:** The Midtown Village Project is a new walkable neighborhood offering diverse residential housing types currently lacking in New Brighton. The 13-acre site is proposed for a 204-unit senior apartment building, a 154-unit family apartment building, and 53 townhome units (411 units total). It offers affordable rental homes for families and seniors and owner-occupied homes for singles, couples, and young families.

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): City of New Brighton

#### RGU Contact Person: Ben Gozola Assistant Director of Community Assets and Development 803 Old Highway 8 NW New Brighton, MN 55112 651-638-2059 Ben.Gozola@newbrightonmn.gov

#### Notice

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

**University of North Texas** filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, **MDA notification number 19-NO-32**. 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 19-067-101rm. The counties identified for release include the following: Dakota County-1 location with 1 acre. Project categories include FR (Fungal Resistance) and MG (Marker Gene).

**BASF Corporation** filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, **MDA notification number 19-NO-33**. 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 **19-072-101n**. The counties identified for release include the following: Becker County-1 location with 20 acres; Big Stone County-1 location with 20 acres; Clay County-1 location with 20 acres; Freeborn County-1 location with 20 acres. Project categories include FR (Fungal Resistance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), MG (Marker Gene), and NR (Nematode 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 19-NO-34**. 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 19-058-101rm. The counties identified for release include the following: Blue Earth-2 locations with 10 and 25 acres. Project categories include HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), MG (Marker Gene), and OO (Other).

**Monsanto Company** filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, **MDA notification number 19-NO-35**. 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 19-084-106n. The counties identified for release include the following: Redwood County-1 location with 10 acres. Project categories include HT (Herbicide Tolerance).

For additional information contact: Denise Thiede Minnesota Department of Agriculture 625 Robert St N. St. Paul, MN 55155 651-201-6531 denise.thiede@state.mn.us