

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.

You can manage your subscription to the *EQB*Monitor here. Be sure to add

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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>. You can also find us on Twitter and Facebook.

EQB Announcements

Citizen Environmental Review Survey

The Environmental Quality Board, which oversees the state's Environmental Review program, is undergoing a continuous improvement project to monitor and improve the effectiveness of Environmental Review. Minnesota citizens who have participated in the Environmental Review process are asked to consider taking 10 minutes to complete the survey at the link below. Engagement in the process may include: reviewed a document, attended a public meeting, wrote a comment, contacted staff, etc.

http://survey.mn.gov/s.asp?k=151335922389

Contact Person:

Kristin Mroz Environmental Review Program Staff 520 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155 651-757-2873 env.review@state.mn.us

Guide to the Petition Process

If you are concerned about a new project or are affected by a project occurring in your area and believe there are environmental risks that have not yet been assessed, you may want to get involved. The citizen petition process is designed to provide a standard mechanism by which citizens can alert government entities of projects that may have the potential for significant environmental effects. Learn more about how to complete a citizen petition here. We provide a number of written guidance documents and informational videos all available on our website, https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/, under Environmental Review. EQB staff are also available to answer questions about Environmental Review at Env.Review@state.mn.us or 651-757-2873.

RGU Contact Person:

Melissa Peck 520 Lafayette Rd N St Paul, MN 55155 651-757-2343 melissa.peck@state.mn.us

Environmental Impact Statement Need Decisions

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.

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Slip C Sediment Remediation, 4-13-18 (3-5-18)
- · Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Slip 3 Sediment Remediation, 4-13-18 (3-5-18)
- Minnesota Department of Transportation, I-35W Over the Minnesota River Project, 4-11-18 (12-18-17)

Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Project Title: Hengel Gravel Pit (May Township)

Comment Deadline: May 23, 2018

Project Description: Hengel Ready Mix and Construction, Inc. is proposing to create a new 80 acre gravel pit located 12 miles northwest of their current facility between Baxter and Pillager, MN. The new pit would be used for aggregate production and would consist of excavation and crushing activities only. Comments will be accepted during the 30 day public comment period, which begins on April 23, 2018, and ends on May 23, 2018 at 4:00 pm. Copies of the of the EAW can be reviewed at the Cass County Environmental Services Department, Cass County Courthouse, P.O. Box 3000, Walker, MN 56484 and the Kitchigami Regional Library, 212 Park Ave., P.O. Box 14, Pine River, MN 56474. The EAW can also be viewed on Cass County's website, www.co.cass.mn.us/esd/esd eaw.html

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Cass County Environmental Services Department

RGU Contact Person:

Paul Fairbanks Planner 303 Minnesota Ave West P.O. Box 3000 Walker, MN 56484 218-547-7287 paul.fairbanks@co.cass.mn.us

Project Title: Sargent Creek Channel and Floodplain Restoration Project

Comment Deadline: May 23, 2018

Project Description: The project will restore approximately 4,500 feet of Sargent Creek, a designated trout stream that is located within the St. Louis River Area of Concern. Natural Channel Design methodology will be used to restore the creek to an appropriate plan, profile and dimension. Trout habitat components are an integral part of the design. Several access trails will be built to access the stream off of the Willard Munger Trail. The EAW can be found on the South St. Louis SWCD's website at: http://www.southstlouisswcd.org. Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): South St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District RGU Contact Person: Kate Kubiak 215 N. 1st Ave. E. Rm. 301 Duluth, MN 55803 218-723-4946 kate.kubiak@southstlouisswcd.org

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): South St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

RGU Contact Person:

Kate Kubiak
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Notices

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

Project Description: University of Minnesota filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number 18-NO-39. 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 18-089-104n.

The counties identified for release include the following: Ramsey-1 locations with less than 1 acre. Project categories include HT (Herbicide Tolerance) and OO (Other).

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.

Project Description: University of Minnesota filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number 18-NO-40. 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 18-089-105n.

The counties identified for release include the following: Ramsey-1 locations with less than 1 acre. Project categories include: MG (Marker Gene).

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

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Minnesota Department of Agriculture; Plant Protection Division

RGU Contact Person:

Denise Thiede Section Manager 625 Robert Street North St. Paul, MN 55155 651-201-6531 denise.thiede@state.mn.us