

# The EQB Monitor

520 Lafayette Road North, Saint Paul, MN 55155 - <a href="www.eqb.state.mn.us">www.eqb.state.mn.us</a> - (651) 757-2873

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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* <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 EQB Website.

#### **EQB** Announcements

# Apply to be a member of the Environmental Quality Board

Applications are open for Board Members from the **3rd Congressional District**. You can find more details about being a board member and information on how to apply at the <u>Minnesota Secretary of State's website</u>. To find out what Congressional District you are located in, view the Secretary of State's <u>Congressional Maps</u>. EQB's mission is to enhance Minnesota's environmental quality for current and future generations by leading interagency work to advance meaningful public engagement and facilitate informed decision-making on critical environmental issues.

#### EQB Board Meeting - August 15, 2018

The EQB will hold its monthly meeting on August 15, 2018. The proposed meeting agenda and additional information, including details for the live webcast, can be found on the EQB website.

#### Agenda:

- 1) EQB Energy and Environment Report Card: Land Indicators
- 2) Mandatory Categories Rulemaking Update

#### **Contact Person:**

Giuseppe Tumminello 520 Lafayette Rd N St. Paul, MN, 55155 651-757-2795 giuseppe.tumminello@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.

 Department of Natural Resources, Tioga Recreation Area Mountain Bike Trail Project, 7-30-18 (6-18-18)

#### **Environmental Assessment Worksheets**

**Project Title: Upper Mustinka River Crossings** 

Comment Deadline: September 12, 2018

**Project Description:** The EAW area includes primarily the roadways, including roadway slopes and ditches, and wetland and grassland areas along Minnesota Trunk Highway 55 (TH 55), County Road 42 (CR 42), and County State Aid Highway 1 (CSAH 1). Two of the roadways, CR 42 and TH 55, cross portions of the Mustinka State Wildlife Management Area, a wildlife area managed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The primary purpose of the project is to improve safety by making the road grades higher to reduce overtopping of the roadways by the Mustinka River during flood events and to widen the shoulder areas of the roadways. A hard copy is available for public viewing at the Grant County Highway Department Offices at 224 3rd Street SE, Elbow Lake, MN 56531 and at Widseth Smith Nolting's office at 610 Fillmore Street, Alexandria, MN 56308. Written responses must be received by 4:00 P.M. Wednesday, September 12, 2018.

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Grant County Highway Department

#### **RGU Contact Person:**

Tracey Von Bargen
County Engineer
P.O. Box 1005
Elbow Lake, Minnesota 56531
218-685-8300
tracey.vonbargen@co.grant.mn.us

#### **Notices**

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

Bayer CropScience filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number 18-NO-50. 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 18-159-102rm. The counties identified for release include the following: Clay County-2 locations with 50 acres per location. Project categories include AP (Agronomic Performance) and 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.

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

#### **ER Guidance and Updates**

## Citizen's Guide to Commenting on Environmental Review Projects

Citizens can participate in the environmental review process in a number of ways, including commenting on the environmental impacts of projects. To better understand the role of comments in the Environmental Review Process and how to effectively comment on a process, check out our <u>Citizen's Guide: Commenting on Environmental Review Projects</u>.

EQB Staff provide a number of written guidance documents and informational videos all available on the EQB website, <a href="https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/">https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/</a>, under Environmental Review. EQB staff are also available to answer questions about Environmental Review at Env.Review@state.mn.us or 651-757-2873.