



The *EQB Monitor*

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Use the [EQB Monitor Submission Form](#)

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 MNEQB@public.govdelivery.com to your address book or safe sender list.

Check the [EQB Calendar](#) for more details on *Monitor* deadlines and Board Meetings. Meeting minutes, agendas and additional notices are also posted on the [EQB Website](#). You can also find us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).



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EQB Announcements



2017 Minnesota Environmental Congress - Environmental Review and Permitting Breakout Session

The EQB Environmental Review Program is coordinating an afternoon breakout session at the [2017 Environmental Congress](#) titled "Adapting our Regulatory Tools to the Needs of Today". Come listen to a panel discussion of government, business, and citizen representatives share their perspectives on environmental review and environmental permitting, and the opportunities to modernize these regulatory processes.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to share their thoughts on how to modernize the environmental review and environmental permitting processes through small group activities. Conversation and materials generated by this breakout session will be provided to the [Environmental Review Advisory Panel](#).

You can register for the 2017 Environmental Congress [here](#). We hope to see you there!

EQB Board Meeting Canceled, January 18, 2017

The EQB Board Meeting scheduled for January 18, 2017, has been canceled. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is February 15, 2017.

Environmental Assessment Worksheet Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental unit has made a decision regarding the need for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet in response to a citizen's petition.

- Chisago County, Proposed Cemetery in South Chisago Lake Township (Denied)
-

Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Project Title: Bushmills Ethanol Expansion

Comment Deadline: February 8, 2017

Project Description: Bushmills Ethanol (Bushmills) plans to expand its dry-mill ethanol production facility located in Atwater, Minnesota (Facility). Bushmills' plans to expand its Facility to increase ethanol production from 65 million gallons per year (MGY) of denatured ethanol to 100 MGY of 200-proof ethanol (Project). The Project will result in an increase of corn throughput from 25 million bushels per year (MMBu/year) to 38.5 MMBu/year, and water appropriation from 216 MGY to 225 MGY.

A copy of the Notice of Availability and the EAW can be found on the MPCA website at the following address: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/topics/environmental-review/environmental-assessment-worksheets-and-environmental-impact-statements.html>

Mandatory Category Rule Citation: Minn. R. 4410.4300, Subp. 15, (B), Air pollution

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

RGU Contact Person:

Kevin Kain
520 Lafayette Rd N
St. Paul, MN 55155
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kevin.kain@state.mn.us

Project Title: New Horizon Resort Expansion

Comment Deadline: February 8, 2017

Project Description: The New Horizon Resort proposes to expand by constructing 25 seasonal recreational vehicle (RV) sites and an access road on their existing property north of County Road 139 in Oakland Township, Mahnommen County.

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Mahnommen County

RGU Contact Person:

Mark Diekman
Director
1440 Hwy 200
Mahnommen, MN 56657
218-935-5639
mark.diekman@co.mahnomen.mn.us

The comment period for the following EAW has been extended to January 30, 2017

Project Title: Lab USA's Ash Processing Facility – Red Wing

Comment Deadline: January 30, 2017

Project Description: Lab USA plans to construct a transfer and ash processing facility consisting of a 30,000 square foot building (Process Building) to process 100,000 to 150,000 of combustor ash annually to recover ferrous and non-ferrous metals. This waste combustor ash is currently generated and landfilled in the Red Wing area. The two sources of waste combustor ash are the Xcel Energy Generating Plant and Xcel Energy Ash Landfill. The Proposer will locate the Process Building approximately 1.5 miles south of U.S. Highway 61 on Goodhue County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 1 (1540 Bench Street) (Project Site). The Project Site is adjacent to Xcel Energy's Red Wing Ash Disposal Landfill, and the Goodhue County/ Red Wing Land Disposal Landfill.

Please note: The MPCA has extended the comment period for the Lab USA's Ash Processing Facility – Red Wing EAW and Solid Waste Permit until January 30, 2017. A copy of the Notice of Availability and the EAW can be found on the MPCA website at the following address:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/topics/environmental-review/environmental-assessment-worksheets-and-environmental-impact-statements.html>

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

RGU Contact Person:

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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*.

- Kandiyohi County, SP 034-605-030 Grading, Aggregate Base and Bridge No. 34J45, 12-9-16 (10-10-16)

Notices

Notice for Solicitation of Members to the Environmental Quality Board's Environmental Review Advisory Panel

The [Environmental Quality Board](#) (EQB or Board) is convening an [Environmental Review Advisory Panel](#)

(Minn. Stat. 116D.03, subd. 2) charged with modernizing and improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the ER program.

More specifically, the Environmental Review (ER) Advisory Panel (Panel) is to review and provide the Board with recommendations on any number of the following topics:

- Human health analysis in ER
- Proposed exclusions from ER
- Climate change analysis in ER
- Alternative forms of ER
- Environmental justice consideration in ER
- ER process streamlining
- Other issues as identified by the Panel

For additional background on the above mentioned policy topics visit:

<https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/content/environmental-review-advisory-panel>

The EQB is convening a Panel of 12 – 15 people representing the wide range of stakeholders affected by the ER Program. The Panel members should represent citizens, industry/project proposers, and ER practitioners (state agency and local government staff). The Board will make an effort to have balanced representation from the different geographic regions of the state.

The Panel is expected to begin meeting in February or March 2017 and continue meeting on a monthly basis for one year. Panel members are expected to attend all meetings. Some panelists may need to meet outside of the regularly scheduled monthly meetings on subgroups as assigned. The majority of the meetings will likely be at the EQB offices in St. Paul with some meetings out-state. Meetings will be open to the general public.

If you are interested in participating in the Environmental Review Advisory Panel, please send an [email](#) or US mail to Courtney Ahlers-Nelson, Planning Director for the Environmental Review Program at the EQB, expressing your interest by 4:30pm on January 16, 2017.

Courtney Ahlers-Nelson
Environmental Review Program
Environmental Quality Board
520 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155
courtney.ahlers@state.mn.us

Your expression of interest must include the following in **500 words or less**:

- “Environmental Review Advisory Panel” in the email subject line or cover page
- Contact information (Note: information provided is public information)
- The geographic area you may represent
- Applicable background information
- Description of your interaction with environmental review
- Description of the unique perspectives you will bring to the Panel