

The *EQB Monitor*

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Submission Deadline: [View 2020 Schedule](#)
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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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Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Barrick Family Farms, LLP – Lockhardt 25

Comment Deadline: August 19, 2020

Project Description: Barrick Family Farms proposes to construct a new feedlot consisting of two total confinement barns (gestation and farrowing) in Section 25 of Lockhart Township in Norman County. The fully constructed facility will consist of 3,741 Animal Units, below-ground concrete liquid manure storage, one animal mortality compost building, one stormwater infiltration basin, water well, and driveway.

Link to Document: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/regulations/projects-under-mpca-review>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

RGU Contact: Kevin Kain, 651-757-2482, kevin.kain@state.mn.us

LJP Enterprises of North Mankato, LLC

Comment Deadline: August 19, 2020

Project Description: LJP Enterprises of North Mankato, LLC at 2160 Ringhofer Drive in North Mankato, Minnesota, proposes to double the processing capacity of source separated industrial waste from 23,890 tons per year to 47,780 tons per year with installation of a new shredder at their existing solid waste transfer station. The new solid waste permit amendment will allow for processing of refuse derived fuel by using the new shredder.

Link to Document: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/regulations/projects-under-mpca-review>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

RGU Contact: Jenna Ness, 651-757-2276, jenna.ness@state.mn.us

Bituminous Roadways Asphalt Cement Storage Facility

Comment Deadline: August 19, 2020

Project Description: Bituminous Roadways, Inc. proposes to expand its existing asphalt cement storage operations by constructing three aboveground storage tanks in two phases at its existing permitted asphalt production plant/sand and gravel mine in Inver Grove Heights. Phase 1 includes constructing two 1.8 million gallon asphalt cement storage tanks and associated truck loading/unloading equipment along with a small building addition. Phase 2 consists of constructing a single 1.8 million gallon asphalt cement storage tank.

Link to Document: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/regulations/projects-under-mpca-review>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

RGU Contact: Patrice Jensen, 651-757-2465, patrice.jensen@state.mn.us

Environmental Impact Statement Adequacy Determination

Merriam Junction Sands Project

Project Description: The Merriam Junction Sands project is proposing the addition of sandstone mining and processing of silica sand to an existing sand/gravel and limestone mining operation. The project encompasses 682 acres across multiple parcels located in Louisville Township, just south of US Highway 169 and Trunk Highway 41 intersection. The EIS compared 6 different alternatives and a no-build scenario. The Draft EIS was published on February 3rd, 2020 and a public meeting was held on February 25th, 2020. Upon the completion of the DEIS comment period on March 10th, 2020 comments had been received by 7 state agencies and 3 County residents. The Final EIS incorporated the comments from the DEIS comment period and was published on June 1st, 2020. At the end of the comment period for the FEIS on June 15th, 2020, 2 "no comment" letters were the only comments received. On July 7th, 2020 the Scott County Board of Commissioners deemed the EIS to be adequate.

RGU: Scott County

RGU Contact: Jesse Krzenski, 952-496-8361, jkrzenski@co.scott.mn.us

Date of Determination: July 7, 2020

Determination: Adequate

Link to Document: scottcountymn.gov/mjs

Notice of Public Hearing

Three Waters Wind Farm

Issued: July 10, 2020

In the Matter of the Application of Three Waters Wind Farm, LLC for a Certificate of Need and a Site Permit for the 201 MW Three Waters Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Jackson County, Minnesota

PUC Docket Numbers: IP-7002/CN-19-154, IP-7002/WS-19-576

Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) Docket Number: 5-2500-36624

Date: July 28, 2020

Time: 1:00 PM* and 6:00 PM*

Location: Remote-Access Hearing (telephone and/or internet)

*The hearing will end when all attendees have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded. **The same information will be covered at the 1 pm and 6 pm hearings. Attending both events is not necessary.**

To find out if a meeting is canceled call 1-855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit mn.gov/puc.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold a remote-access public hearing on the applications of Three Waters Wind Farm, LLC (Three Waters) for its proposed 201 megawatt (MW) large wind farm project. **Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the remote-access public hearing will replace the standard in-person hearing. Similar to an in-person hearing, the remote-access hearing will provide interested persons the opportunity to: (1) provide comments regarding the need for the proposed project; and (2) ask questions and provide comments on potential issues to be considered by the Commission in its decision-making process or included as a condition in the final site permit.**

How to Attend the Hearing

To participate, follow the directions below to access the hearing over the telephone to listen and/or provide verbal comments (audio only). If you are also interested in accessing the video portion of the meeting, follow the directions below to view the presentation over the internet (video only – no audio). **You must, at a minimum, join the hearing by telephone if you are interested in listening to the hearing and/or in providing verbal comments on the proposed project.** If you wish to watch the video stream with audio you must join by both phone and internet. Written comments may also be submitted during the comment period following the hearing using the methods described in this notice.

To attend the 1:00 pm hearing:	Join the hearing by internet (video only – no audio)
Join the hearing by telephone	Navigate on your computer to:
Phone: 1-800-374-0221	https://tinyurl.com/y8ftbclx or https://minnesota.webex.com
Conference ID: 4943759	Event Number: 146 496 5442
An operator will assist you.	Event Password, if needed: MPUC
To attend the 6:00 pm hearing:	Join the hearing by internet (video only – no audio)
Join the hearing by telephone	Navigate on your computer to:
Phone: 1-800-374-0221	https://tinyurl.com/y7ajtjnI or https://minnesota.webex.com
Conference ID: 3187536	Event Number: 146 597 4475
An operator will assist you.	Event Password, if needed: MPUC

Please contact David Birkholz, Environmental Review Manager if you have questions on how to participate or have trouble accessing the hearing at David.birkholz@state.mn.us or 651-539-1838.

Information on the application review process and documents related to the proposed project including materials from the public hearing, the certificate of need and site permit applications, and the environmental report are available on the Department of Commerce website at: <https://mn.gov/eera/web/project/13761/> and the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select *eDockets*, enter the year (19) and the docket number (154) for the certificate of need, or (576) for the site permit, and select *Search*.

Project Description

The proposed project would entail construction of 71 wind turbines for a combined nameplate capacity of 201 MW. The project also includes a 300 foot 345 kV high voltage transmission line, a collector substation, transformers, collection lines, an operation and maintenance (O&M) building, permanent meteorological tower(s), gravel access roads to each turbine, temporary construction areas, including crane paths, pull sites, access roads, a batch plant, and a laydown yard. The project footprint would occupy approximately 48,087 acres of land southwest of the city of Lakefield, along the Minnesota-Iowa border. Three Waters has also secured 11,000 acres of additional land in Iowa to site turbines, if some of the proposed Minnesota turbine locations are found unfeasible.

The project, if approved, would interconnect with ITC's electric transmission grid and the power will be sold to Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (MMPA) to achieve its goal of 100 percent renewable energy.

Public Hearing Process Information

The purpose of the public hearing is to obtain public input on the proposed project and compile the record for the Commission to consider in making a final decision on the certificate of need and site permit applications. The **Honorable James Mortenson, Administrative Law Judge** will administer the hearing and will provide the Commission with a report that includes findings, conclusions, and recommendations regarding the project. The public hearing and written comment period afford interested persons the opportunity to ask questions of the applicant and agency staff and to offer oral and written comments on the merits of the proposed project, on the environmental report, and on conditions to be considered for inclusion in a site permit. The public hearing is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of Minn. Stat. §§ 216B.243, Subd. 4, and 216E.04, Subd. 6 and Minn. R. 7850.3800.

Minnesota Statutes and Rules: The certificate of need application is reviewed under Minnesota Statute 216B.243 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7849. The LWECS site permit is reviewed under Minnesota Statute 216F and Minnesota Rules Chapter 7854. Minnesota Statutes and Rules are available at www.revisor.mn.gov.

Eminent Domain: The applicant does not have eminent domain authority to acquire land necessary for the project. All leases or easements secured to acquire land for the project are voluntary.

Written Comment Period

Written comments will be accepted through **August 7, 2020, by 4:30 p.m.** Please include the docket numbers (19-154, and/or 19-576) in all communications. *Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.*

Please focus your comments on information that will help answer the following questions:

- Is the proposed project needed and in the public interest?
- What are the costs and benefits of the proposed project?
- What are the environmental and human impacts of the proposed project and how can these impacts be addressed?
- Should the Commission issue a certificate of need and a site permit for the project?
- Are there any other project-related issues or concerns?

Comments may be submitted by any of the following means:

Online: Visit mn.gov/puc, select *Comment* and follow the prompts.

Email: publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us

US Mail: Public Advisor, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission

121 7th Place East, Suite 350

Saint Paul, MN 55101

Important: Comments will be made available to the public via the Public Utilities Commission's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The Commission does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

How to Learn More

Department of Commerce Project Website:

<https://mn.gov/eera/web/project/13761/>

Project Mailing List: Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate (meetings, comment periods, etc.). Contact docketing.puc@state.mn.us or 651-201-2246 with the docket number (19-154 for the certificate of need or 19-576 for the site permit application), your name, mailing address and email address.

Subscribe to the Docket: Receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter at eFiling.com, or go to mn.gov/puc, select *Comment*, and follow the prompts. *Note - subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

Full Case Record: See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website - mn.gov/puc, select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (19) and the docket number (154) for the certificate of need, or enter the year (19) and the docket number (576) for the site permit application, select *Search*.

Community Locations: The certificate of need and site permit applications, the environmental report, and the draft site permit are available at these locations:

Note: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic your local library may be closed or have limited hours.

- Jackson County Public Library, 311 3rd Street, Jackson, MN 56143

Project Contacts

Public Utilities Public Advisor

Charley Bruce - publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us or 651-201-2251

Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities Planner

Cezar Panait – Cezar.Panait@state.mn.us or 651-201-2207

Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager

Richard Davis – Richard.Davis@state.mn.us or 651-539-1846

Three Waters Wind Farm, LLC Project Contact

Mark Wengierski, Project Manager – mark@scoutcleanenergy.com or 720-592-0512

If any reasonable accommodation is needed so that you may fully participate in these meetings, for example sign language or large print materials, please contact the Office of Administrative Hearings at 651-361-7900 (voice) at least one week before the meeting.

To request this document in another format such as large print or audio, call 651.296.0406 (voice). Persons with a hearing or speech impairment may call using their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.

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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