

The *EQB Monitor*

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Publication Schedule: Mondays at 8:00 AM
Submission Deadline: [View 2019 Schedule](#)
Use the [EQB Monitor Submission Form](#)

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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 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](#).



EQB Announcements

Citizen Board Member Opening - 4th Congressional District

Applications are now open for an EQB Citizen Board Member in the 4th Congressional District. The position is for a four-year term starting January 1, 2020. The first review of applications will be August 5, 2019. The position is open until filled. For details and to apply: <https://commissionsandappointments.sos.state.mn.us/agency/details/107>

Comment Period for EQB Mandatory Categories

The Environmental Quality 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)

CURRENT COMMENT PERIODS:

- June 27, 2019—July 16, 2019 4:30pm (Post Hearing Comment Period) - [eComment](#)
- July 17, 2019—July 23, 2019 4:30pm (Post Hearing Rebuttal Period)

How to submit written comments:

1. Email: Denise.wilson@state.mn.us and/or Erik.Dahl@state.mn.us with the subject line: "Mandatory Category Rulemaking: Comment"
2. OAH's eComment portal: [eComments](#) -- *comments on the rule or requests for a hearing can be made at this website.*
<https://minnesotaoah.granicusideas.com/discussions/35532-environmental-quality-board-posthearing-comment-period>
3. Mail to: Environmental Quality Board
Attn: Mandatory Category Rulemaking
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

Additional rule timeline updates are available at the EQB rulemaking webpage:
<https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/content/eqb-mandatory-categories-rulemaking>

Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Project Title: Spirit Lake Sediment Remediation Project

Comment Deadline: August 21, 2019

Project Description: The Spirit Lake Sediment Remediation Project would remediate chemical constituents of concern and improve habitat in the Spirit Lake area of the Saint Louis River Area of Concern. The project would occur across 226 acres and include 770,000 cubic yards of sediment removal, 107 acres of subaqueous capping, 41 acres of enhanced natural recovery, and over 100 acres of habitat enhancement and restoration. Material removed would be placed in onsite confined disposal facilities. The project would require specific design requirements to protect the Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad (LSMRR) segment that bisects the remediation area. The project has included tribal consultation, which has continued during the remedial design.

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): City of Duluth Planning Commission

RGU Contact Person:

Adam Fulton
Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Economic Development
West First Street, Room 160
Duluth, MN 55802
218-730-5580
afulton@duluthmn.gov

Project Title: Wolf Creek Autobahn Development

Comment Deadline: August 21, 2019

Project Description: The Wolf Creek Autobahn Development includes the construction of a recreational road course, new villas, convenience market and fuel station, RV park, and retail businesses related to automotive recreation on 466.41 acres east of CSAH 46 and west of Interstate 35 in Sections 1, 2, 12, and 13 of Forest Township, Rice County. Existing land use includes: agricultural as cultivated cropland, rural farmstead, and natural land cover including wetlands and forested areas. Written comments that address the accuracy and completeness of the materials contained in the EAW, potential impacts that may warrant further investigation, and the need for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposed project will be accepted by the County during the thirty-day period from July 22, 2019 to August 21, 2019. Written comments should be sent by 4:30 p.m., August 21, 2019 to: Julie Runkel, Environmental Services Director, Rice County Environmental Services, 320 3rd Street NW, Faribault, MN 55021, email: orrcplanningzoning@co.rice.mn.us

The Rice County Planning Commission will also accept verbal comments that address the accuracy and completeness of the materials contained in the EAW, potential impacts that may warrant further investigation, and the need for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposed project at the August 8, 2019 Planning Commission meeting at Buckham West (formerly Faribault Senior Center), 19 West Division Street, Faribault, MN. The public hearing will begin at 7:00 p.m. The EAW can be reviewed on the Rice County website: <https://www.co.rice.mn.us/157/Environmental-Services>. A paper copy of the document is also available at the Rice County Environmental Services Department, 320 3rd Street NW, Faribault, MN.

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Rice County

RGU Contact Person:

Julie Runkel
Environmental Services Director
320 3rd Street NW
Faribault, MN 55021
507-332-6113
jrunkel@co.rice.mn.us

Alternative Urban Areawide Review Final Order and Scoping for Large Projects

Project Title: Ford Site

Project Description: As the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU), the City of Saint Paul has determined that an Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) is required for the proposed development on the Ford Site and adjacent parcels. The notice of availability for the Draft AUAR Order and Scoping document was published in the EQB Monitor on June 10, 2019. The 30-day public comment period began on June 10, 2019 and closed at 4:00 PM on July 10, 2019. The Final AUAR Order is available at www.stpaul.gov/Ford-auar.

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): City of Saint Paul

RGU Contact Person:

Menaka Mohan
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