



# The *EQB Monitor*

520 Lafayette Road North, Saint Paul, MN 55155 - [www.eqb.state.mn.us](http://www.eqb.state.mn.us)  
[EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us](mailto:EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us) - (651)-757-2873

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**Publication Schedule:** Mondays at 8:00 AM  
**Submission Deadline:** [View 2017 Schedule](#)  
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](#).

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## Environmental Assessment Worksheets

### Project Title: Hawkes Company, Peat Mining – Mercil Site

**Comment Deadline:** June 14, 2017

**Project Description:** The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has prepared an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the proposed Hawkes Company, Peat Mining Mercil Site Project in Marshall County, Minnesota.

Hawkes Co. Inc. (Hawkes Co.) is planning to expand their current peat mining activities to a new 299-acre site containing rich fen and upland located approximately 1.5 miles southeast of their current operations. Of this 299-

acre site, Hawkes Co. proposes to mine 198 acres of peat. Peat mined from this site would be used as a soil additive for high-quality turf in sporting arenas and golf courses worldwide.

The DNR will accept written comments on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet during the public review and comment period, which concludes on Wednesday, June 14, 2017, at 4:30 p.m. Written comments should be submitted to: Lisa Fay, EAW Project Manager; EWR Environmental Review Unit; Department of Natural Resources; 500 Lafayette Road; St. Paul, MN 55155-4025. Electronic or email comments may be sent to [Environmentalreview.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:Environmentalreview.dnr@state.mn.us) with "Hawkes Peat EAW" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, include name and mailing address. Written comments may also be sent by fax to (651) 296-1811.

A copy of the EAW is available for public review at:

- DNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155
- DNR Northwest Region Headquarters, 2115 Birchmont Beach Road NE, Bemidji, MN 56601-8599
- Hennepin County – Minneapolis Central Library, Government Documents, Second Floor, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401-1992
- Crookston Public Library, 110 North Ash Street, Crookston, MN 56716
- Thief River Falls Public Library, 102 First Street East, Thief River Falls, MN 56701

The EAW is also posted on DNR's website at:

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/input/environmentalreview/hawkes/index.html>. Additional copies may be requested by calling 651-259-5110.

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

**RGU Contact Person:**

Lisa Fay  
Principal Planner  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-259-5110  
[environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us](mailto:environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us)

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## **Project Title: 85th Street Extension & Maclver Avenue Extension**

**Comment Deadline:** June 14, 2017

**Project Description:** The City of Otsego (City) is proposing to construct 85th Street, from Nashua Avenue to one-half mile west of Mason Avenue, and Maclver Avenue from 85th Street for one-half mile south to 80th Street. This two mile long collector street will be a new Municipal State Aid (MSA) roadway and is included in the City's 2012 Transportation Plan.

A copy of the Notice of Availability and the EAW Documents may be examined at the City of Otsego's website at <http://www.ci.otsego.mn.us> or at the Otsego City Hall located at 13400 90th Street NE, Otsego, MN 55330 or at the City Engineer's office at located at 3601 Thurston Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303.

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** City of Otsego

**RGU Contact Person:**

D. Daniel Licht, AICP  
City Planner/Zoning Administrator  
13400 90th Street  
Otsego, MN 55330  
763-441-4414  
[ddl@planningco.com](mailto:ddl@planningco.com)

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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*.

- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Willmar Rail Connector & Industrial Access Project, 5-2-17 (2-6-17)
  - City of St. Louis Park, EIS Need Decision for PLACE development EAW, 5-1-17 (3-6-17)
- 

## Draft Environmental Impact Statements

### NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS FOR THE PROPOSED LINE 3 PIPELINE PROJECT

Issued: May 15, 2017

Under the authority of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC), the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Enbridge Energy's proposed Line 3 Pipeline Project has been made available for public review and comment. At the direction of the MPUC, this DEIS has been prepared by the Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to evaluate the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed Line 3 Project.

The Department is accepting comments on the DEIS through July 10, 2017. Comments may be submitted orally during public meetings scheduled for June 6-22 (see schedule below) or in writing. Substantive comments will be addressed in a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

#### **Public Comment Period**

**Comment Period:** Written comments will be accepted through **Monday, July 10, 2017**. Comments may be emailed, mailed, or faxed.

**Email address:** [Pipeline.Comments@state.mn.us](mailto:Pipeline.Comments@state.mn.us)

**U.S. Mail:** Jamie MacAlister, Environmental Review Manager  
Minnesota Department of Commerce  
85 7th Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198

**Fax:** 651-539-0109

**Important:** Please include the docket numbers CN-14-916 and PPL-15-137 on all comments. Comments will be made available to the public via the MPUC's electronic docketing system (eDockets) and the Department of Commerce's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. Personally identifying information is not edited or deleted from submissions.

#### **Public Information Meetings**

Each public information meeting will provide an opportunity to learn about the information contained in the EIS and provide oral or written comments into record. A court reporter will record all oral comments; comment forms will be available for persons who wish to provide written comments. Each meeting will provide the same opportunity to obtain information and the opportunity to comment.

Public information meetings will be held at the following times and locations:

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Tuesday June 6, 2017	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Rice Lake Community Center 13830 Community Loop Bagley, MN 56621
Tuesday June 6, 2017	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	IRA Civic Center 1401 NW 3rd Ave Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Wednesday June 7, 2017	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Park Rapids High School Cafetorium 401 Huntsinger Ave Park Rapids, MN 56470
Wednesday June 7, 2017	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Palace Casino Hotel 16599 69th Ave NW Cass Lake, MN 56633
Thursday June 8, 2017	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Downtown Fair Center 107 W 7th Ave Floodwood, MN 55736
Thursday June 8, 2017	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Central Lakes College Classroom E54, 501 West College Drive Brainerd, MN 56401
Friday June 9, 2017	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Maslowski Wellness & Research Center 17 5 <sup>th</sup> Street Southwest Wadena, MN 56482
Monday June 12, 2017	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Grand Casino Hinckley 777 Lady Luck Drive Hinckley, MN 55037

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Monday June 12, 2017	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	East Lake Community Center 36666 State Hwy 65 McGregor, MN 56718
Tuesday June 13, 2017	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College 2101 14th Street Cloquet, MN 55720
Tuesday June 13, 2017	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Intercontinental Hotel Saint Paul 11 E. Kellogg Boulevard St. Paul, MN 55101
Wednesday June 14, 2017	11:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Staples Community Center 122 6th Street NE Staples, MN 56479
Wednesday June 14, 2017	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Initiative Foundation 405 1st Street Southeast Little Falls, MN 56345
Thursday June 15, 2017	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Henry's Catering and Banquet Hall 6774 MN-25 Foley, MN 56329
Thursday June 15, 2017	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Phoenix Hotel & Banquet Center 210 MN-23 Milaca, MN 56353
Friday June 16, 2017	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	The Grand Event Center 2025 Rowland Rd Mora, MN 55051
Tuesday June 20, 2017	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Marshall County Central Schools 310 West Minnesota Avenue Newfolden, MN 56738
Tuesday June 20, 2017	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Hallock City Hall 163 3rd Street SE Hallock, MN 56728
Wednesday June 21, 2017	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Ralph Engelstad Arena Imperial Room 525 Brooks Avenue North Thief River Falls, MN 56701

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Wednesday June 21, 2017	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Plummer Senior Citizen Center 185 Minnesota Street Plummer, MN 56748
Thursday June 22, 2017	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Gully Community Center 120 Main Street Gully, MN 56646
Thursday June 22, 2017	6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Sanford Center and George W. Nielson Convention Center 1111 Event Center Drive NE Bemidji, MN 56601

### **DEIS Availability**

The DEIS can be viewed on the Department's Line 3 website: [mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/line3](http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/line3).

The DEIS can also be viewed through the MPUC's website: [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc). Under the heading Search Documents or File Here, select eDockets and enter the year and the docket number ("14" and "916" or "15" and "137").

Electronic copies of the DEIS will be available at the public information meetings listed above. Copies on CD can also be requested from Department staff (see contact information below).

Electronic copies of the DEIS will be available for viewing at the following public libraries:

- Hennepin County Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401
- Crookston Public Library, 110 North Ash St., Crookston, MN 56716
- Bemidji Public Library, 509 American Ave. NW, Bemidji, MN 56601
- Duluth Public Library, 520 W. Superior St., Duluth, MN 55802
- Kitchigami Regional Library, 212 Park Ave., Pine River, MN 56474
- Great River Regional Library, 1300 W. St. Germain, St. Cloud, MN 56301
- East Central Regional Library, 244 So. Birch St., Cambridge, MN 55008
- Fergus Falls Public Library, 205 East Hampden Ave., Fergus Fall, MN 56537
- Montevideo Public Library, 224 South First St., Montevideo, MN 56265
- Willmar Public Library, 410 Fifth St. SW, Wilmar, MN 56201
- Blue Earth County Library, 100 E. Main St., Mankato, MN 56001
- Rochester Public Library, 101 Second St. SE, Rochester, MN 55904
- Hallock Public Library, 101 1st St. SE, Hallock, MN 56728
- Godel Memorial Library, 314 E. Johnson Ave., Warren, MN 56762
- Thief River Falls Public Library, 101 E. First St., Thief River Fall, MN 56701
- Red Lake Falls Public Library, 105 Champagne Ave. SW, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750
- McIntosh Public Library, 115 NW Broadway, McIntosh, MN 56556
- Bagley Public Library, 79 Spencer Ave. SW, Bagley, MN 56621
- Park Rapids Area Library, 210 W. 1st St., Park Rapids, MN 56470
- Wadena City Library, 301 1st St. SW, Wadena, MN 56482
- Crosslake Area Library, 14126 Daggett Pine Rd., Crosslake, MN 56442
- McGregor Public Library, 111 E. Center Ave. McGregor, MN 55760
- Carlton Public Library, 213 Chestnut Ave. Carlton, MN 55718
- Cass Lake Community Library, 223 Cedar Ave., Cass Lake, MN 56633
- Grand Rapids Public Library, 140 NE 2nd St., Grand Rapids, MN 55744
- Staples Public Library, 611 Iowa Ave. NE, Staples, MN 56479
- Little Falls Public Library, 108 NE 3rd St., Little Falls, MN 56345
- Foley Branch Library, 251 North 4th Ave., Foley, MN 56329
- Milaca Community Library, 235 1st St. East, Milaca, MN 56353
- Mora Public Library, 200 W. Maple, Mora, MN 55051



- Hinckley Public Library, 106 1st SE, Hinckley, MN 55037
- Wheaton Public Library, 901 1st Ave. N, Wheaton, MN 56296
- Morris Public Library, 102 E. 6th St., Morris, MN 56267
- Benson Public Library, 200 13th St. N, Benson, MN56215
- Olivia Public Library, 405 S. 10th St., Olivia, MN 56277
- Sibley County Library, 400 Court Ave., Gaylord, MN 55334
- St. Peter Public Library, 601 S. Washington Ave., St. Peter, MN 56082
- Le Sueur Public Library, 118 E. Ferry St., Le Sueur, MN 56058
- Waseca-Le Sueur Regional Library, 408 N. State St., Waseca, MN 56093
- Albert Lea Public Library, 211 E. Clark St., Albert Lea, MN 56007
- Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave. NE, Austin, MN 55912

## **Project Description and State of Minnesota Review Process**

Enbridge Energy (Enbridge) is proposing to construct a new oil pipeline in Minnesota to replace its existing Line 3 pipeline. Enbridge proposes that the new pipeline follow the existing Line 3 pipeline from North Dakota to the Clearbrook Terminal in Clearwater County, Minnesota. From the Clearbrook Terminal eastward, Enbridge proposes that the pipeline be constructed in a new right-of-way, south of the existing Line 3, ending at an existing terminal in Superior, Wisconsin. Enbridge is proposing that the existing Line 3 pipeline be permanently deactivated and remain in place.

Enbridge's proposed Line 3 project requires two approvals from the MPUC – a certificate of need (CN) and a route permit. Enbridge applied to the Commission for these approvals in April 2015.

The Minnesota Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) requires that an EIS be prepared for major governmental actions that have the potential for creating significant environmental impacts. To fulfill its MEPA responsibilities, the Commission authorized the preparation of a joint EIS that addresses Enbridge's CN and route permit applications. By order of the Commission, the Department is preparing the EIS in cooperation with the DNR and MPCA.

The EIS has been issued in draft form so that it can be improved through public comment. A final EIS will be developed based on comments received on the DEIS.

Upon completion of the final EIS, public hearings will be held in the project area by an administrative law judge (ALJ) from the Office of Administrative Hearings. The hearings will address Enbridge's CN and route permit applications. At the public hearings, citizens will have an opportunity to submit comments, present evidence, and ask questions. After completion of the hearings, the ALJ will submit a report to the Commission with findings of facts, conclusions of law, and recommendations regarding a CN and route permit for the project. Decisions by the Commission on Enbridge's CN and route permit applications are anticipated in the spring of 2018.

## **How to Learn More**

**Department of Commerce Line 3 Website:** [mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/line3](http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/line3).

**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](mailto:docketing.puc@state.mn.us), 651-201-2204, or 800-657-3782 with the docket numbers (14-916 or 15-137), your name, mailing address, and email address.

**Subscribe to the Docket:** In addition to the project mailing list, interested persons can receive email notification every time new documents are filed in the CN and route permit dockets for this project by signing up at: [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc). Under the heading Email Alerts for New Documents Filed, select Subscribe and follow the prompts.

**Full Case Record:** See all documents in the record for this project via the Commission's website: [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc). Under the heading Search Documents or File Here select eDockets and enter the year and the docket number ("14" and "916" or "15" and "137").

## **Project Contacts**

### **Department of Commerce**

Jamie MacAlister: [Pipeline.Comments@state.mn.us](mailto:Pipeline.Comments@state.mn.us), 651-539-1775 or 800-657-3794  
Ray Kirsch: 651-539-1841 or 800-657-3794

**Public Utilities Commission**

Kevin George, Public Advisor: 651-201-2251 or 800-657-3782

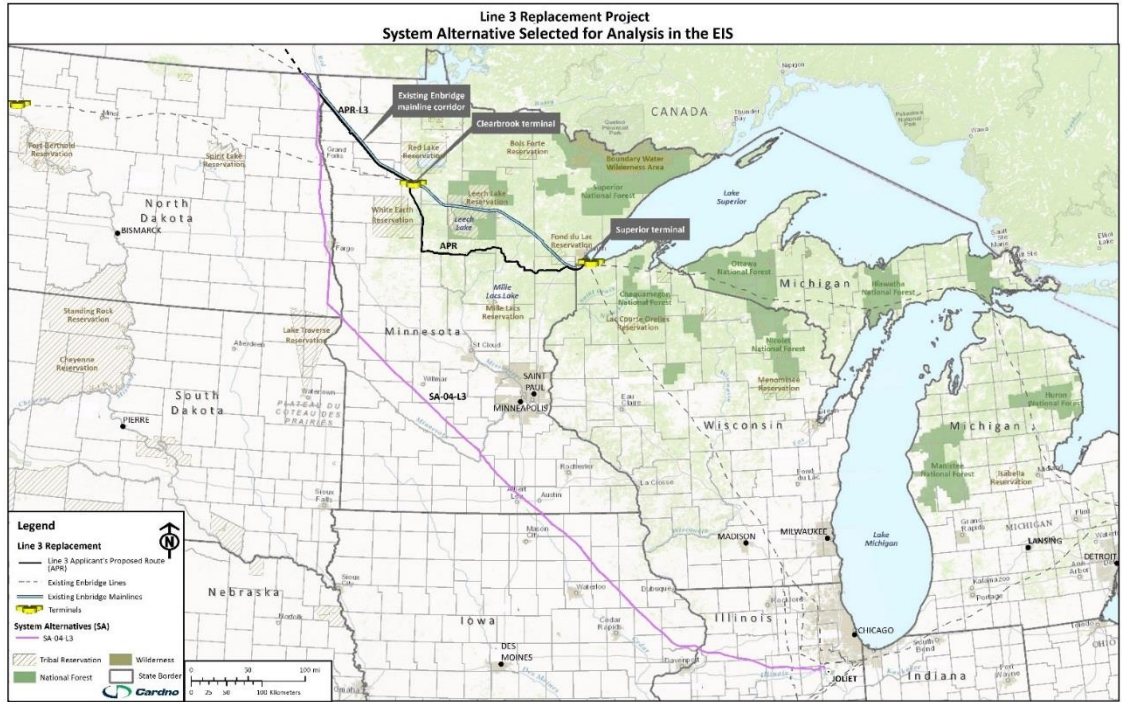
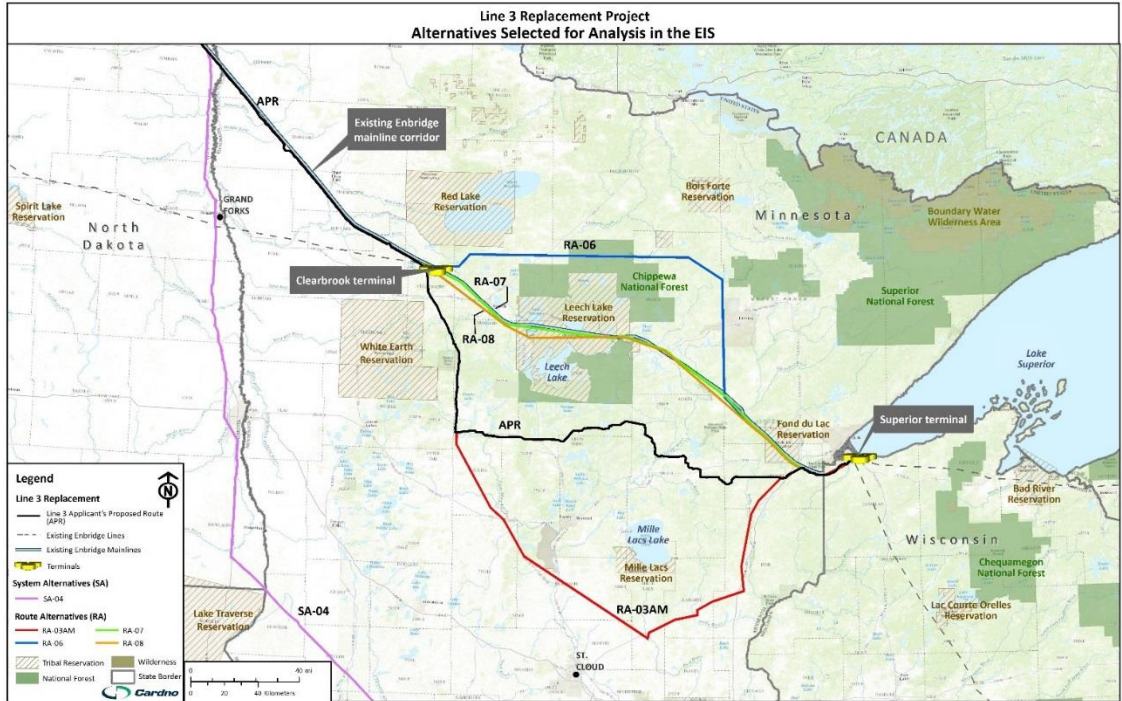
Scott Ek, Energy Facilities Planner: 651-201-2255

**Enbridge Energy**

[enbridgeinmn@enbridge.com](mailto:enbridgeinmn@enbridge.com), 855-788-7805

This document can be made available in alternative formats (e.g., large print or audio) by calling 651-539-1530 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech disabilities may call us through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.

If any reasonable accommodation is needed to enable you to fully participate in these meetings (e.g., sign language, foreign language interpreter, large print materials), please contact Commerce at 651-539-1530 or 800-657-3794 at least one week in advance of the meeting.





## Environmental Assessments

### Project Title: Zinran 115 kV Substation/Transmission Line Project

**Project Description:** Great River Energy and its member cooperative, Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC), are proposing a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission project near Savage in Scott County, Minnesota. MVEC will construct and own the new Zinran Substation, and Great River Energy will construct and own a short segment (about 1/3 mile) of new double circuit 115 kV transmission line to provide electric service to the substation. The Great River Energy line will tap Xcel Energy's existing "0898" 115 kV transmission line north of Highway 101. The project is needed to provide a reliable service to growing loads in the Savage area. The project is also needed to provide MVEC with sufficient capacity in the system to back feed the Prior Lake Substation load during highway construction projects and contingencies in the system. The project is located in Section 7, T115N, R21W. The substation is proposed at the corner of 126th St. W and Zinran Ave. The transmission line would follow Zinran Avenue north through industrial/commercial complexes and cross Highway 101 to tap the Xcel Energy 0898 Line.

The comment period will run through June 19, 2017, when the City Council is scheduled to take final action. The document is available by contacting Bryan Tucker at the Savage Planning Department at 952-882-2692 or by email at [btucker@ci.savage.mn.us](mailto:btucker@ci.savage.mn.us).

**Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU):** City of Savage

**RGU Contact Person:**

Bryan Tucker  
Planning Manager  
6000 McColl Drive  
Savage, MN 55378  
952-882-2692  
[btucker@ci.savage.mn.us](mailto:btucker@ci.savage.mn.us)

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## Notices

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

MDA Notification	Applicant	Crop	Project Category	County(s)
17-NO-28	Pioneer Hi-Bred International	Soybean	HT – Herbicide Tolerance IR – Insect Resistance	Redwood (5 acres)

Pioneer Hi-Bred International, filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number 17-NO-28. Notification is for genetically modified soybean, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic soybean, referenced as Application Number 17-117-101n. For additional information contact Clifford Watrin, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531, [clifford.watrin@state.mn.us](mailto:clifford.watrin@state.mn.us)