

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD

# The EQB Monitor

520 Lafayette Road North, Saint Paul, MN 55155 - <u>www.eqb.state.mn.us</u> <u>EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us</u> - (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 <u>EQB Website</u>. You can also find us on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Facebook</u>.

# **EQB** Announcements

## **Citizen Environmental Review Survey**

The Environmental Quality Board, which oversees the state's Environmental Review program, is undergoing a continuous improvement project to monitor and improve the effectiveness of Environmental Review. Minnesota citizens who have participated in the Environmental Review process are asked to consider taking 10 minutes to complete the survey at the link below. Engagement in the process may include: reviewed a document, attended a public meeting, wrote a comment, contacted staff, etc.

http://survey.mn.gov/s.asp?k=151335922389

Contact Person: Kristin Mroz Environmental Review Program Staff 520 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155 651-757-2873 env.review@state.mn.us

## **EQB** Guidance

Do you have questions about Environmental Review that are not covered by current EQB guidance? Let us know! In 2018 EQB is creating new guidance and updating existing documents, and we are welcoming input through the year. To submit suggestions, email <u>Env.Review@state.mn.us</u>. We hope to hear from you!

### **RGU Contact Person:**

Melissa Peck 520 Lafayette Rd N St. Paul, MN, 55155 651-757-2343 melissa.peck@state.mn.us

## **Environmental Assessment Worksheet Guidance Video**

Have questions about Environmental Assessment Worksheets or the Environmental Review process? Well, you're in luck! Check out our brand-new Environmental Assessment Worksheet guidance video here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juiYV-tKFp0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juiYV-tKFp0</a> Additional guidance can be found at our website: <a href="https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/content/environmental-review-program">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juiYV-tKFp0</a> Additional guidance can be found at our website: <a href="https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/content/environmental-review-program">https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/content/environmental-review-program</a> or by contacting EQB using the contact information at the top of this email.

### **RGU Contact Person:**

Melissa Peck 520 Lafayette Rd N St. Paul, MN, 55155 651-757-2343 melissa.peck@state.mn.us

## EQB Meeting, May 16, 2018

The EQB will hold its monthly meeting on May 16, 2018. The proposed meeting agenda and additional information, including details for the live webcast, can be found on the EQB website.

### Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): EQB

### **RGU Contact Person:**

Melissa Peck 520 Lafayette Rd N St. Paul, MN, 55155 651-757-2343 melissa.peck@state.mn.us

## **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.

- Wright County, Delano Sportsman's Club Trap Range (Denied)
- City of Menahga, Petition for an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for Menahga High School Addition (Denied)

## **Environmental Assessment Worksheets**

## **Project Title: Dominium EAW**

Comment Deadline: June 6, 2018

**Project Description:** Dominium proposes to redevelop an existing 9.4-acre commercial site in the City of Minnetonka to include 482 units of rental multi-family housing. The project is near the future Southwest Light Rail (SWLRT) and Opus Station and is located in the southwest corner of Bren Road East and Bren Road West. The comment period will end June 6th.

#### Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): City of Minnetonka

# RGU Contact Person:

Loren Gordon 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard Minnetonka, MN 55345 952-939-8296 Igordon@eminnetonka.com

## Project Title: Split Rock Wilds Mountain Bike Trail

Comment Deadline: June 6, 2018

**Project Description:** The Lake County Forestry and Land Department proposes approximately 21.46 miles of natural surface trails for mountain biking, hiking, snowshoeing, and other non-motorized winter uses. Multiple trail segments will connect to a proposed trailhead (north of Beaver Bay) and to the existing trail system near Split Rock Lighthouse State Park.

#### Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Lake County

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

Nate Eide Land Commissioner 601- 3rd Avenue Two Harbors, MN 55616 218-834-8340 nate.eide@co.lake.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.

- City of Lindstrom, Northland Lindstrom, 4-19-18 (2-26-18)
- City of Lindstrom, Rose Hill Senior Living, 4-19-18 (1-29-18)

## **Notices**

# Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection Meeting, Thursday, May 10, 2018

The Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection will meet at Lake Elmo Park Reserve, 1515 Keats Ave N, Lake Elmo, MN 55042 on May 10, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. For more information on this meeting, please see the meeting packet on the EQB website (<u>https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/content/governors-committee-pollinator-protection-0</u>).

### Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): EQB

RGU Contact Person: Faith Krogstad 500 Lafayette Rd St. Paul, MN 55155 651-259-5074 faith.krogstad@state.mn.us

## Public Notice - Availability of Environmental Report Bitter Root Wind Project

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Environmental Review and Analysis staff has completed an Environmental Report (ER) for the proposed project. The ER analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives to the project. The ER, and all material constituting the official record for the certificate of need, can be found on the eDockets system at: <a href="https://www.eDockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp">https://www.eDockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp</a>; search on the year "17" and number "676." Electronic versions of the ER and selected other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing on the Department's energy facility permitting website:

https://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/resource.html?Id=34810 Project Description.

On October 19, 2017, Flying Cow Wind, LLC, filed a Certificate of Need application with the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for the Bitter Root Wind Farm. Renewable Energy Systems Americas Inc.is the parent company of the Applicant. The Applicant is proposing to construct a 152 megawatt large wind energy conversion system in Yellow Medicine County, Minnesota within the approximately 22,888 acre project boundry. The Bitter Root Wind project consists of wind turbines and associated structures, which include access roads, communication lines, meteorological towers, sonic detection and ranging (SoDAR) or light range detection and ranging (LiDAR) unit, temporary batch plant, staging area, construction laydown area, operation and maintenance (O&M) facility, and electrical collector and feeder lines connecting to the proposed project substation within the project site. Flying Cow Wind currently anticipates that the project would consist of up to 44 Vestas V136 3.45 MW turbines.

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU): Department of Commerce - EERA

### **RGU Contact Person:**

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