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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: June 3, 2009

Project Title: Sappi Cloquet New Paper Machine Project

Description: Sappi Cloquet, LLC proposes to construct a new paper machine to produce 671,000 net tons per year of fine coated paper on the site of its existing mill in the city of Cloquet, Minnesota. The new paper machine complex will include ancillary operations such as stock and coating preparation, finishing, converting, warehousing, and shipping. A new package boiler fired by natural gas will be installed to provide steam for the new paper machine. The former tree nursery area will be converted to a wood storage yard, which will require the rerouting of Avenue B. Pulp requirements will be met by the use of pulp currently produced on site and by purchasing a small amount of market pulp. The proposed project does not require an increase in pulp production or timber harvesting. The MPCA's Draft Air Emissions Permit for the Sappi Cloquet, LLC proposed project will also be on public notice beginning May 7, 2009. The public notice for Draft Air Emissions Permit, the Draft Air Emissions Permit, and supporting documentation will be available on the MPCA's Website at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/data/index.cfm?PN=1>. Requests for copies of the Draft Air Emissions Permit must be made in writing as directed in the public notice document.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person:

Kevin Kain
Planner Principal
Environmental Review and Feedlot Section

The *EQB Monitor* is a biweekly publication of the Environmental Quality Board that lists descriptions and deadlines for Environmental Assessment Worksheets, Environmental Impact Statements, and other notices. The *EQB Monitor* is posted on the Environmental Quality board home page at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/>.

Upon request, the *EQB Monitor* will be made available in an alternative format, such as Braille, large print, or audio tape. For TTY, contact Minnesota Relay Service at 800-627-3529 and ask for Department of Administration. For information on the *EQB Monitor*, contact:

Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
658 Cedar St., 300 Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155-1388
Phone: 651-201-2480
Fax: 651-296-3698
<http://www.eqb.state.mn.us>

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
Phone: 651-757-2482

Project Title: Clay County Sanitary Landfill Expansion

Description: Clay County (or the County) is proposing a vertical expansion to add ten years worth of disposal capacity at its existing sanitary landfill. The County is also proposing an expansion of the active gas collection system, and a leachate recirculation system, as part of the proposed project.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person:

William Lynott
Planner Principal
Environmental Review and Feedlot Section
Regional Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
Phone: 651-757-2542

Project Title: Paul Bunyan State Trail, Paving Treadway from Guthrie to Walker

Description: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) proposes to pave a segment of the Paul Bunyan State Trail that extends from Guthrie to Walker (16.5 miles), in Hubbard and Cass Counties. This segment of the multi-use, year round recreational state trail is located on an abandoned rail grade owned by MDNR. The project would prepare the subgrade and pave a ten-foot wide by three-inch thick bituminous treadway with two-foot gravel/aggregate shoulders for a total trail width of fourteen-feet.

The MDNR will accept written comments on the Environment Assessment Worksheet during the public review and comment period, which concludes Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.

Written comments should be submitted to Ronald Wieland, EAW Project Manager, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, Division of Ecological Resources, Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155-4025. Electronic or e-mail comments may be sent to environmental.review@dnr.state.mn.us with "Paul Bunyan EAW" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, please include your name and mailing address.

Public review copies of the EAW are available at the following locations:

- MDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155;
- MDNR Northwest – Region 1, 2115 Birchmont Beach Road NE, Bemidji, MN 56601-8599;
- Minneapolis Public Library, Government Documents, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401;
- Bemidji Public Library, 509 American Ave. NW, Bemidji, MN 56601
- Kitchigami Regional Library, 212 Park Ave., PO Box 14, Pine River, MN 56474
- Longville Public Library, P.O. Box 106, 5051 State Highway 84 NE, Longville, MN 56655

The EAW is also posted on the MDNR's website at www.dnr.state.mn.us. (Click on "Public Input", then select "Paul Bunyan EAW" from the scroll-down list under "Environmental Review"). Additional copies may be requested by calling (651) 259-5157.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Contact Person:

Ronald Wieland, EAW Project Manager
Environmental Policy and Review Unit
Division of Ecological Resources
Department of Natural Resources
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

Project Title: TH 61 Hastings Bridge Project

Description: This project proposes to replace the existing T.H. 61 Bridge over the Mississippi River in the City of Hastings with a four-lane bridge. Three new bridge alternatives are under consideration: Box Girder Twin Bridge, Tied Arch Single Bridge, and Cable Single Bridge. The project also proposes constructing a ring road on the north side of the river for safer vehicle access to T.H. 61 and safer pedestrian crossing of the highway.

The joint state Environmental Assessment Worksheet/federal Environmental Assessment document (EAW/EA) describes the purpose and need for the project, along with the anticipated social, economic and environmental impacts. Copies of the EAW/EA are available for public viewing during regular business hours at the following locations:

- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Metro District
1500 W. County Rd B2, Roseville, MN 55113
- Minnesota Department of Transportation Library
395 John Ireland Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155
- Legislative Reference Library
645 State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155
- Pleasant Hill Library
1490 South Frontage Rd. Hastings, MN 55033

- Prescott Public Library
800 Borner Street North, Prescott, WI 54021
- Minneapolis Central Library
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401

Information on the project is also available on the project website at:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hastingsbridge/>

The EAW/EA comment period will begin on May 4, 2009. Written comments will be accepted through June 17, 2009. Comments should be submitted to the Mn/DOT Project Manager listed below.

There will be a public open house meeting/hearing to provide an opportunity for the public to find out more about the proposed project and to provide comments on the EAW/EA. The meeting will be held at the Hastings City Hall (101 4th Street East, Hastings, MN 55033) on May 20, 2009, from 3:00 to 7:30 PM CST.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person:

Steve Kordosky, Project Manager
Minnesota Department of Transportation
Metro District, 1500 West County Road B2
Roseville, MN 55113; 651/234-7880;
Email: hastingsbridge@dot.state.mn.us

EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparation of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the *EQB Monitor*.

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Rush Creek Habitat Restoration Project, April 21, 2009 (February 9, 2009)
- Scott County Board, CSAH 83 Reconstruction, April 14, 2009 (February 23, 2009)

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Project Title: Brooklyn Park Gateway

Description: Brooklyn Park Gateway is a mixed-use development in the southwest quadrant of Trunk Highway 610 and Trunk Highway 169 in Brooklyn Park, MN. The AUAR reviews one development scenario that includes 1,437,000 square feet of commercial and office use, a church and school of 114,000 square feet and 510 residential units.

RGU: City of Brooklyn Park

Contact Person:

James Verbrugge
City Manager
5200 85th Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443
Phone: 763-493-8001
Fax: 763-493-8391

NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA Office of Energy Security

Issued: April 21, 2009

NOTICE OF PERMIT DECISION

In the Matter of the Application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission for a Route Permit for the South Bend-Stoney Creek Transmission and Substations Project in Blue Earth County (PUC Docket No. ET2, E002/TL-08-734)

At a meeting on April 16, 2009, and in an Order issued April 21, 2009, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission determined that the Environmental Assessment and the record created at the public hearing had adequately addressed the issues identified in the Scoping Decision. The Commission also designated and issued a High Voltage Transmission Line Route Permit to Xcel Energy and Great River Energy for the South Bend-Stoney Creek Project, authorizing the Permittee to:

Build a new 115-161/69 kilovolt (kV) South Bend Substation in Rapidan Township and a new 115-69 kV Stoney Creek Substation with a 69 kV breaker in Mankato Township; and rebuild a 69 kV transmission line within the existing easement to a 115 kV transmission line to loop around Mankato, including:

- Four miles of an existing NSP-Minnesota 69 kV transmission line rebuilt to 115 kV from South Bend Substation to Ballard Corner switches;
- Two miles of an existing NSP-Minnesota 69 kV transmission line rebuilt to 115/69 kV double-circuits from Ballard Corner switches to Stoney Creek Substation; and
- Two miles of an existing NSP-Minnesota and Great River Energy 69 kV transmission line rebuilt to 115 kV from the Stoney Creek Substation to the Pohl Substation.

If you have any questions about this project or would like more information, please contact the OES Project Manager, David E. Birkholz, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55155. Tel: 651.296.2878; e-mail: david.birkholz@state.mn.us.

See <http://www.energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19642> to view the Order and the Permit.