



Minnesota Environmental Quality Board

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Submittal Deadline: October 19, 2015
Submit to EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us



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Environmental Assessment Worksheets

Comment Deadline: November 11, 2015

Project Title: R & R Ready Mix-Grothen Pit

Project Description: R and R Ready Mix Incorporated is proposing a new 42-acre aggregate mining operation. The project includes the development of a site to be used for the excavation and extraction of nonmetallic-minerals, primarily sand and aggregate (gravel) material, to be hauled off-site for further processing and/or sale.

RGU: Douglas County

Contact Person: David Rush, Director
Land & Resource Management Department
Douglas County
305 8th Ave W
Alexandria, MN 56308

Copies of the EAW will be available for review at the Land & Resource Management Office in the Courthouse and on the web at www.co.douglas.mn.us

Environmental Impact Statement Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental unit has determined the following project does 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 Pollution Control Agency, R & R Thier Feedlots, Inc. 9-21-15 (7-20-15)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, REG Albert Lea, LLC, 10-5-15 (8-17-15)
- Comfort Lake-Forest Lake Watershed District, Bixby Park Water Quality Improvement Wetland Project, 9-24-15 (8-3-15)
- City of St. Paul, 844 Fairmount Avenue - Single Family Home Roof Renovation, 10-2-15 (8-31-15)

Environmental Impact Statement Termination

Project Title: Mesabi Nugget Phase II Project

Pursuant to Minnesota Rules part 4410.6200 subpart 5, Mesabi Mining LLC has voluntarily terminated the Mesabi Mining Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process that began in 2008 and had a Final Scoping Decision Document issued on December 9, 2008. The project has encountered evolving regulatory criteria and project adjustments such that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has determined EIS scoping would need to be redone. Discussions between DNR and the company have determined that the most logical next step is to terminate the current EIS project at this time.

The DNR is notifying individuals and agencies that participated in the environmental review process about the termination. Questions or inquiries regarding the decision to terminate the preparation of the EIS can be directed to Randall Doneen 651-259-5156.

Petition

The following petition has been filed with the EQB requesting preparation of an EAW. The EQB has assigned the indicated unit of government to review the petition and decide on the need for an EAW.

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Proposed Pelican Lake Muskellunge Stocking Program

Alternative Urban Areawide Review

Comment Deadline: November 4, 2015

Project Title: Gateway

Project Description: The Gateway proposal for development of approximately 125 acres of land in the City of Brooklyn Park would result in a mixture of institutional (existing), office, and multi-family residential uses; with alternatives of either retail or industrial warehousing/distribution. The site is southwest of the Highways 169 and intersection, and is currently active farm land, a religious institution, a school, and one house. This site was previously studied in an AUAR, but that expired in 2014. Changes in the boundary of the development area have also occurred since the previous AUAR.

A copy of the draft AUAR can be found at Brooklyn Park City Hall, the Hennepin County Library – Brooklyn Park Branch, on the City's Website at www.brooklynpark.org/gatewayauar2015. Please provide comments by November 4, 2015.

RGU: City of Brooklyn Park

Contact Person: Todd A. Larson, Senior Planner
City of Brooklyn Park
5200 85th Ave N
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443
763-493-8069
todd.larson@brooklynpark.org

Alternative Urban Areawide Review Adoption

Project Title: Lino Lake I-35E Corridor AUAR Update

The City Council adopted the update on September 14, 2015. The comments and responses are part of the public record for the AUAR. Therefore, the Lino Lakes I-35E Corridor AUAR and its update dated June 29, 2015 will remain valid as the required environmental review through September 2020.

RGU: City of Lino Lakes

Contact Person: Andi Moffatt, PWS, Senior Environmental Scientist
763-287-7196
amoffatt@wsbeng.com

Project Title: Marion Road Trunk Sanitary Sewer Project Alternative Urban Areawide Review and Mitigation Plan Update

The City of Rochester Common Council passed and adopted a resolution on August 17, 2015, accepting and approving Update #2 of the Marion Trunk Sanitary Sewer AUAR.

RGU: City of Rochester

Contact Person: Richard Freese, Public Works Director
City of Rochester
201 4th Street SE, Room 108
Rochester, MN 55904
507-328-2400
rfreese@rochestermn.gov

Notice of Environmental Assessments

In the Matter of the Applications for a Route Permit for the MP 16 Line Relocation Project

PUC Docket Numbers: E015/TL-14-977

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Energy Environmental Review and Analysis (EERA) announces the release of the environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed MP 16 Line Relocation project.

Electronic versions of the EA, the scoping decision, route permit application and other documents relevant to this matter are available on the Minnesota Department of Commerce's

website: <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=34059>, and on the Department of Commerce eDockets website: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the Docket Number Year "14" and Number "977").

The Environmental Assessment is a written document that describes the human and environmental impacts of the transmission line project (and selected alternative routes) and methods to mitigate such impacts. Applications for high voltage transmission line route permits under the alternative permitting process require a public hearing upon completion of the EA pursuant to Minn. R. 7850.3800. A portion of the hearing must be held in a county where the proposed project would be located.

The public hearing will be noticed separately and in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 216E.03, subdivision 6.

If you have any questions about this document or would like more information, please contact the DOC EERA Environmental Manager: Bill Storm, 85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101; Tel: 651.539.1844; e-mail: bill.storm@state.mn.us.

In the Matter of the Application of Great River Energy and Minnesota Power for a Certificate of Need and Route Permit for the Menahga Area 115 kV Transmission Line Project in Hubbard, Wadena, and Becker Counties, Minnesota

Docket Numbers: ET2, E015/TL-14-787 and ET2, E015/TL-14-797

The Minnesota Department of Commerce (Department) has issued the environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed Menahga Area 115 kV transmission line project in the Minnesota counties of Hubbard, Wadena, and Becker.

The EA analyzes the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and methods to avoid and mitigate such impacts, including route and site alternatives.

Electronic versions of the EA, maps of the proposed project, and other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing on the Department's website: <http://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/Docket.html?Id=33985>, and on the State of Minnesota's eDockets system: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> (enter the year "14" and the number "787" or "797").

Print copies of the EA will be available at the following locations:

- Menahga City Hall, 115 2nd Street NW, Menahga, MN 56564
- Park Rapids Library, 210 1st Street West, Park Rapids, MN 56470
- Sebeka City Hall, 213 Minnesota Ave. West, Sebeka, MN 56477
- Wadena Library, 304 1st Street SW, Wadena, MN 56482

A public hearing for the project will be held at 6:00 p.m. on October 19, 2015, at the Menahga Senior Center in Menahga, Minnesota. Notice of the hearing will be issued separately and will be available on the above-noted websites.

If you have questions about the EA or would like more information, contact the Department's environmental review manager for this project, Ray Kirsch, 651-539-1841, raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us. Tracy Smetana is the public advisor for this project. Contact Ms. Smetana at 651-296-0406 (1-800-657-3782), consumer.puc@state.mn.us.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio tape) by calling 651-539-1530.

Notices

Project Title: Metropolitan Airports Commission/ Assessment of Environmental Effects of the 2016-2022 Capital Improvement Program for MSP and Reliever Airports

Project Description: Minnesota Statutes 1988, Chapter 664, requires the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) to prepare an Assessment of Environmental Effects (AOEE) for projects in the Commission's seven-year Capital Improvement Program (2016-2022) for airports included in its system.

An EAW, EA or EIS has been prepared previously and a public hearing held for each MSP and reliever airport project in the 2016-2022 CIP that requires an EAW under Chapter 664. An assessment of the cumulative environmental effects of CIP projects at each affected airport in the system is presented in the AOEE.

A copy of the AOEE can be downloaded on the Internet at:
<http://www.metroairports.org/Airport-Authority/Metropolitan-Airports-Commission/Administration/Publications.aspx>

Additionally, a copy of the AOEE can be obtained by contacting Christene Sirois Kron, Metropolitan Airports Commission, 6040 28th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55450; 612-725-6455. Comments concerning the AOEE can be given at a Public Hearing to be held on Monday, November 2, 2015 at 10:30 a.m. in room 3048A, Mezzanine level, Terminal 1-Lindbergh, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, or in writing to Christene Sirois Kron at 6040 28th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55450. Comments on the AOEE must be received by the close of business on Thursday, November 12, 2015.

RGU: Metropolitan Airports Commission

Contact Person: Chad Leqve, Director of Environment
Metropolitan Airports Commission
6040 28th Avenue S
Minneapolis, MN 55450
612-725-6326
chad.leqve@mspmact.org

Notice of Sale of State Metallic Minerals Leases

Notice is hereby given that a sale of leases to explore for, mine and remove metallic minerals in trust fund lands, lands and minerals forfeited for non-payment of taxes, lands and minerals otherwise acquired, and other state-owned land under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Natural Resources, and located in portions of Aitkin, Carlton, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, and Saint Louis Counties, is scheduled to be held on Monday, November 16, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. The sale will take place in the Lobby of the Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota.

The Commissioner will receive sealed bids and applications for leases covering minerals in state lands, in accordance with Minnesota Rules, parts 6125.0100 through 6125.0700 – the metallic mineral rules issued under the authority of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 93. Each bid must be submitted on a form obtained from the Commissioner. Each bid form must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check, or bank money order, payable to the

Department of Natural Resources in the sum of the following amounts: a) an application fee of \$100.00 for each mining unit bid upon; and b) rental for one full calendar year for each mining unit bid upon. All bids must be received by the Commissioner at the office of the Division of Lands and Minerals, Fourth Floor, DNR Building, 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-4045, before 4:30 p.m. on Friday, November 13, 2015.

On Monday, November 16, 2015, at the time specified, the Commissioner or his representative will publicly open the bids and announce the amount of each bid separately. At a subsequent time, leases will be awarded by the Commissioner, subject to the approval of the State Executive Council, to the highest bidder for the respective mining units, but no bids will be accepted that do not equal or exceed the base royalty rates set forth in the Rules or that do not comply with all provisions of the Rules. The State reserves the right, through the State Executive Council, to reject any or all bids.

The purpose of Minnesota's metallic minerals rules is to promote and regulate the prospecting for, mining and removal of metallic minerals on state-owned and state-administered lands. These Rules, and the leases issued under the Rules, authorize exploration and development of these minerals and impose certain requirements on the lessee. The requirements include: the payment of minimum rentals that increase over the term of the lease; the payment of royalty for all ore mined and removed; the submission of data and other reports; and the submission of exploration plans. In addition, the lessee must comply with all applicable laws. After the conclusion of the sale, each high bidder will be required to provide evidence demonstrating that the bidder is qualified to hold a state mineral lease pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 6125.0410. The Rules state that a lease will only be issued to an applicant qualified to do business in Minnesota and qualified to conduct exploratory borings in Minnesota. In addition, the Commissioner may request evidence that the lease applicant is technically and financially capable of performing under the terms of a state mineral lease. The requested evidence must be provided within 45 days of the request from the Commissioner or the bids from that high bidder will be rejected.

On Monday, November 16, 2015, at the time specified, the Commissioner or his representative will publicly open the bids and announce the amount of each bid separately. At a subsequent time, leases will be awarded by the Commissioner, subject to the approval of the State Executive Council, to the highest bidder for the respective mining units, but no bids will be accepted that do not equal or exceed the base royalty rates set forth in the Rules or that do not comply with all provisions of the Rules. The State reserves the right, through the State Executive Council, to reject any or all bids.

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Upon the award of a lease, the application fee submitted with the bid will be deposited as a fee for the lease. All bids not accepted will become void, and the application fee and rental

payment accompanying such bids will be returned to each respective bidder; provided however, the application fee and rental payment accompanying a bid shall not be returned if the bidder was the high bidder and subsequently withdrew the bid prior to the award of a lease.

Bid forms, instructions on how bids are to be submitted, copies of the rules (Minnesota Rules, parts 6125.0100 through 6125.0700) and copies of the Mining Unit Book listing the land areas designated by the Commissioner as mining units may be obtained from the Land Acquisition and Legal Services Section, Division of Lands and Minerals, DNR Building, 500 Lafayette Road, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-4045. E-mail inquiries may be sent to susan.damon@state.mn.us.

The Mining Unit Book will be available at least 30 days prior to November 16, 2015. Application for each copy of the Mining Unit Book must be accompanied by a check or money order payable to the Department of Natural Resources in the sum of \$25.00 as a fee for such Mining Unit Book plus shipping and applicable State of Minnesota sales tax. Mining Unit Books will also be available for inspection at the Hibbing and Saint Paul offices of the Division of Lands and Minerals, and on the internet through the DNR website at: http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/lands_minerals/leasesale/index.html.

Dated: October 2, 2015
Jess Richards, Director
Division of Lands and Minerals
