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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: June 15, 2011

Project Title: Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority MN&S Freight Rail Study

Description: The Proposed Action consists of required track improvements to the existing Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) Bass Lake Spur, CPMN&S Spur, and the BNSF Railway (BNSF) Wayzata Subdivision in the city of St. Louis Park to accommodate the proposed relocation of the Twin Cities and Western (TC&W) freight rail traffic currently operating in the Kenilworth Corridor in Minneapolis. A portion of the proposed BNSF siding extends into the city of Minneapolis.

Copies of the EAW which documents the purpose and need of the project, along with the anticipated social, economic and environmental impacts, are available for public review beginning May 16, 2011, at the following locations:

- Project website – <http://mnsrailstudy.org>
- City of St. Louis Park Public Library – 3240 Library Lane
- St. Louis Park City Hall – 5005 Minnetonka Boulevard
- Hennepin County Public Library – 300 Nicollet Mall

To afford an opportunity for all interested person, agencies and groups to be informed about the contents of the EAW, the RGU will host an open house on June 8, 2011 from 4:00 pm. – 7:00pm at St. Louis Park Recreation Center, Banquet Room, 3700 Monterey Drive, St. Louis Park.

The EAW can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at (800)627-3529.

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>

Copies of the EAW are being distributed to agencies on the current MEQB list. The comment period will begin on **May 16, 2011**. Comments will be accepted through **June 15, 2011** and can be sent to the address below.

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person:

Frank Pafko
Director, Office of Environmental Stewardship
Minnesota Department of Transportation
395 John Ireland Boulevard, MS 620
St. Paul, MN 55155-1899
Email: frank.pafko@state.mn.us

Project Title: Perham Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion

Description: The city of Perham (or City) is proposing to expand and upgrade its existing municipal wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) by adding a new 19.2 acre holding pond and two new spray irrigation sites. The existing WWTF is designed to treat an average wet weather flow of 0.580 million gallons per day (mgd) and consists of two aerated ponds, three holding ponds, and land application onto seven rapid infiltration basins and four spray irrigation sites. The upgraded WWTF will increase the pond design capacity to 1.107 mgd; however, the WWTF will be permitted for 0.720 mgd due to the currently available land application acreage. When the City secures adequate acreage for additional irrigation, an application for modification of the permit to the full design capacity of 1.107 mgd will be submitted. There will be no discharge to surface waters from this WWTF.

In addition to the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's draft State Disposal System (SDS) Permit will be also available for the public comment on May 16, 2011. The contact person for the SDS Permit is Denise Oakes at 218-846-8119.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency website, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person:

Debra Moynihan
Planner Principal
Environmental Review and Feedlot Section
Regional Division – 4th Floor
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
Phone: 651-757-2587

Project Title: Terminal 2-Humphrey 2011 North Security Checkpoint

Description: The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) is proposing to construct a multi-level in-fill addition at the northeast end of Terminal 2-Humphrey, adjacent to an existing ticket lobby and skyway. The building addition will create space for a second checkpoint adjacent to the north skyway that will accommodate up to six new screening lanes.

Copies of the Draft Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) are being distributed to agencies on the current MEQB list and others. The Draft EAW is available on the MAC's website at <http://www.metroairports.org/mac/>

A Public Hearing will be conducted on Wednesday, June 8, 2011 at the Metropolitan Airports Commission Finance, Development and Environment Committee meeting to receive comments on the Draft EAW. The meeting will be held at 10:00 am at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, Room 3048A, Terminal 1-Lindbergh. Written comments can be submitted through Wednesday, June 15, 2011 to the address below.

RGU: Metropolitan Airports Commission

Contact Person for Comments on the Draft EAW:

Roy Fuhrmann – Director of Environment
Metropolitan Airports Commission
Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport
6040 – 28th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450-2799
Phone: 612-726-8100
Email: roy.fuhrmann@mspmac.org

EA/EAW AVAILABLE

Project Title: Highway 7 and Louisiana Avenue Interchange Project, St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Description: The City of St. Louis Park, in cooperation with Mn/DOT, is proposing the construction of a grade separated interchange that would replace the existing at-grade intersection of Highway 7 and Louisiana Avenue.

The project will include a Highway 7 bridge over Louisiana Avenue, entrance/exit ramps, roundabout intersection control along Louisiana Avenue, and a pedestrian/bicycle path. The City plans to begin the project construction in 2012. The Minnesota Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration completed review and approval of the Environmental Assessment/Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EA/EAW) in spring, 2011.

De Minimis Impact: The project includes minor use of land from the Louisiana Oaks City Park, which is considered a public recreational facility. This use is subject to the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966(49 U.S.C 303) and 23 U.S.C138. Section 4(f) of the Act defines procedures required for addressing impacts to recreational and other public lands that would result from federally-funded transportation projects. In addition, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act-A Legacy for User (SAFETEA-LU) Act of 2005,

Section 6009 allows for determinations that certain uses of Section 4(f) land will have no adverse effect- *de minimis*- on the protected resource; Section 6009(a) requires that a public notice and opportunity for review and

comment be provided for projects that are determined to have de minimis impact. After an evaluation of the impacts of an action upon Section 4(f) resources, a finding can be made.

The combined EA/EAW document describes the proposed project, impacts, and mitigation. This document also includes information on the Section 4(f) impacts and the preliminary de minimis finding, i.e., that adverse impacts to the recreational facility would not result from the proposed project. Any comments received regarding this issue during the public comment period will be taken by Federal Highway Administration in making its final de minimis determination.

Open House Meeting & Public Hearing: An Open House and Public Hearing for the project will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2011 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the city council chambers in the St. Louis Park City Hall, 5005 Minnetonka Boulevard, St. Louis Park, MN. The Open House will provide information about the proposed project and answer questions. Maps, drawings and other pertinent information, including the EA/EAW, will be available for review. The public is encouraged to attend the Open House to discuss the project. The purpose of the public hearing is to collect comments and feedback on the EA/EAW document. During the meeting participants will have the opportunity to submit comments that will become part of the official public hearing record. Written comments may be submitted to the City through June 15, 2011.

Copies of the EA/EAW will be available for public viewing at the public meeting and during business hours at the following locations beginning May 16, 2011:

- City of St. Louis Park Public Works Department: 5005 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park, MN 55416
- St. Louis Park Library, 3240 Library Lane, St. Louis Park, MN 55426
- Mn/DOT Central Office, Room 175 Transportation Building, 395 John Ireland Blvd, St Paul, MN 55155

The EA/EAW can also be viewed on the project website at:

<http://www.sehinc.com/online/stlouispark/index.htm>.

Written comments can be submitted at the public meeting or mailed, prior to the close of the public comment period on June 15, 2011, to Jim Olson, St. Louis Park Public Works, 5005 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park, MN 55416.

Accessibility and ASL

For accessibility or ASL, please make your request by May 26, 2011. To request an ASL interpreter or other reasonable accommodations, call Jim Olson at (952) 924-2552 or e-mail your request to jolson@stlouispark.org

RGU: Minnesota Department of Transportation

Contact Person:

Jim Olson

City of St. Louis Park

Public Works Department

5005 Minnetonka Boulevard,

St. Louis Park, MN 55416,

Phone: 952-924-2552

Email: jolson@stlouispark.org

Draft Federal Environmental Assessment Available

Project Title: North Side Storm Sewer Improvements and Runway 30R Approach Lighting System

Description: The Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) is proposing to improve the existing North Side Storm Sewer system serving the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MSP) and install an approach lighting system (ALS) as part of its Runway 30R safety area improvement program. The project area is located within Fort Snelling State Park. The proposed storm sewer system improvements would serve the north side of the MSP property with a total drainage area of approximately 410 acres. The proposed lighting system is a Medium-Intensity Approach Lighting System with Sequenced Flashing Lights (MALSF) for Runway 30R and would improve safety for approaching aircraft during reduced visibility conditions.

The analysis has been conducted in conformance with Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act, Executive Orders 11990 (wetlands) and 11998 (floodplains) and Section 4(f)/6(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act. The project will result in approximately 2,035 sf of wetland fill impact, 3.5 acres of temporary wetland excavation impact and a net increase of 4,000 cy of floodplain storage. There are no cultural resources or Section 4(f)/6(f) impacts anticipated as a result of the project.

Copies of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) are being distributed to agencies on the current Minnesota Environmental Quality Board list and others. The Draft EA is available on the MAC's website at <http://www.metroairports.org/mac/>.

A Public Hearing will be conducted on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at the Metropolitan Airports Commission Finance, Development and Environment (FD&E) Committee meeting to receive comments on the Draft EA. The meeting will be held at 10:00 am at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, Room 3048A, Terminal 1-Lindbergh. Written comments can be submitted through Wednesday, July 17, 2011 to the contact person listed below.

The comment period will begin on **May 16, 2011**. To accommodate the date of the FD&E committee meeting and public hearing process, comments will be accepted through **July 17, 2011**.

RGU:

Federal Aviation Administration - Ms. Kandice Krull, kandice.krull@faa.gov 612-713-4362

Contact Person for Comments on the Draft EA:

Roy Fuhrmann – Director of Environment
Metropolitan Airports Commission
Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport
6040 – 28th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55450-2799
Phone: 612-726-8100
Email: roy.fuhrmann@mspmac.org

AUAR Addendum AVAILABLE

Project Title: Lake Elmo Village Area Final AUAR

Description: The City of Lake Elmo has completed an addendum to the Lake Elmo Village Area Final AUAR (May 5, 2009). The addendum includes minor revisions to the AUAR Mitigation Plan for Item 17. Water Quality: Surface Water Runoff. The addendum clarifies the standards that will be used to address storm water volume control in the AUAR area.

When the AUAR and Mitigation Plan were completed, the City had not adopted its Local Surface Water Management Plan (LSWMP) and storm water management ordinance. The City has recently completed its LSWMP and Ordinance No. 08-016, an ordinance adopting regulations to govern storm water and erosion and sediment control in the City of Lake Elmo. With the completion of these documents, the City is amending Section 17 of the AUAR to require that land development activities meet the requirements of the City's adopted storm water management ordinance and the applicable rules of the Valley Branch Watershed District (VBWD). Meeting the applicable rules of the VBWD and the City's storm water management ordinance updates and clarifies Section 17.5 of the Mitigation Strategies within the AUAR to make it consistent with the adopted city ordinance and watershed rules.

A copy of the revised sections of the AUAR Mitigation Plan indicating the addendum is attached. The addendum will be distributed to persons and agencies who received the final AUAR document. For a copy of the addendum or related ordinance, please contact:

Kyle Klatt, Planning Director
City of Lake Elm
3800 Laverne Avenue N
Lake Elmo, MN 55042-9629
kklatt@lakeelmo.org

EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparations 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, Lake Ogechie Wild Rice Restoration in Mille Lacs County, May 3, 2011 (February 21, 2011)

PROJECT WITHDRAWN

Project Title: Motokazieland Recreational Park, Cannon City Township, Rice County

On May 9, 2011 the Project Proposer asked to withdraw his applications relating to this development; therefore, the Rice County Board of Commissioners will not take action on the

EAW. If further applications are received on the proposed development a new EAW will be completed if it meets the mandatory thresholds.

If you have any questions, please contact Rice County Environmental Services Department at 507-332-6113.

NOTICE

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S REPORT AVAILABLE

In the matter of the Proposed Amendments to Rules Governing the Environmental Review Program, Minn. R. Ch 4410, Establishing a Mandatory Threshold for Greenhouse Gas Emissions at Minn. Rules, Part 4410.4300, subpart 15.

The Honorable Barbara L. Neilson, Administrative Law Judge of the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings, has issued the Report of the Administrative Law judge in the above-entitled matter on May 9, 2011. The report may be viewed at <http://www.oah.state.mn.us/aljBase/290121783%20rr.htm>