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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: January 30, 2008

Project Title: Roosevelt Shores

Description: Platting of 16 residential lots in an approximately 34-acre area. Twelve of the 16 lots are riparian and will have lakeshore access to Roosevelt Lake near Emily, MN. The area is currently occupied by one private resident and is forested habitat.

RGU: City of Emily

Contact Person:

Charles Marohn, City Planner
PO Box 68
Emily, MN 56447
Phone: 218-763-2480
Fax: 218-763-2481
marohn@communitygrowth.net

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>

Project Title: Alexandria High School

Description: The project consists of the construction of a new high school building, parking lot, access roads, athletic fields, connections to utilities, and storm water conveyance and treatment systems.

RGU: City of Alexandria

Contact Person:

Mike Weber, City Planner
704 Broadway
Alexandria, MN 56308
Phone: 320-763-6678
Fax: 320-763-3511
mweber@rea-alp.com

Project Title: New Ulm Quartzite Quarries

Description: New Ulm Quartzite Quarries (“NUQQ”) proposes continued lateral expansion of its quartzite mining operations in New Ulm, Minnesota. The mining expansion will allow NUQQ to mine 13.2 million tons of quartzite over five to twenty-five years of the phased expansion.

RGU: Nicollet County

Contact Person:

Robert Redding, Deputy Zoning Administrator
501 S. Minnesota Ave.
St. Peter, MN 56082
Phone: 507-934-0251
Fax: 507-934-0259
redding@co.nicollet.mn.us

Project Title: Toren and Schwarzrock Gravel Mines

Description: The project consists of the continued expansion and operation of the Toren and Schwarzrock nonmetallic mineral (gravel) mines, which have been determined to be a “phased action” requiring environmental review. The mining sites are located in portions of Sections 8 and 9 of Melville Township, Renville County, Minnesota.

RGU: Renville County

Contact Person:

Mark Erickson, Director
Division of Environment and Community Development
410 E DePue Ave., Room 311
Olivia, MN 56277
Phone: 320-523-3768
Fax: 320-523-3843
Mark_e@co.renville.mn.us

Project Title: Cambridge Commercial Retail Development

Description: Opus Northwest, LLC is proposing to develop a 39-acre commercial development located north of Highway (TH) 95, City of Cambridge, Isanti County, Minnesota. The project includes the construction of a Lowe's Home Improvement Store, Kohl's Department Store, and additional small retail buildings.

The size of the project warrants a mandatory Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW). The EAW can be viewed at the Cambridge City Center, located at 300 3rd Avenue NE, Cambridge, MN 55008 or the East Central Regional Library, located at 244 Birch Street So., Cambridge, MN 55008. Comments on the EAW will be accepted at City Hall until 4:30 p.m. on January 30, 2008. Comments should be submitted to the contact person listed below.

RGU: City of Cambridge

Contact Person:

David L. Carlberg, Community Development Director
300 3rd Ave. NE
Cambridge, MN 55008
Phone: 763-689-3211
Fax: 763-689-6801

Project Title: Lyon County Sanitary Landfill Expansion

Description: Lyon County is proposing an expansion of its existing municipal sanitary landfill. The proposed expansion of the Lyon County Sanitary Landfill (the Landfill) would increase the capacity of the Landfill by approximately 7,133,080 cubic yards, including waste and cover material, representing an additional 81 years of service life. The Landfill is used for waste disposal for residents and businesses of Lyon, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, and Yellow Medicine counties.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person:

Jessica Ebertz, Planner Principal
Environmental Review and Operations Section
Regional Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road No.
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
651-296-8011

Project Title: VONCO EAW for Gravel Mining

Description: Veit USA, Inc. is proposing to expand their VONCO II Mining operation in Becker Township, Sherburne County, to include an additional 200-acre property. Of the 200 acres, 147.9 acres will be mined for gravel and aggregate materials. The proposed restoration is C&D waste disposal.

RGU: Sherburne County Zoning

Contact Person:

Lynn Waytashek, Assistant Zoning Administrator
13880 Highway 10
Elk River, MN 55330
Phone: 763-241-2900
Fax: 763-241-2910

Project Title: VONNCO C&D Landfill

Description: Veit USA, Inc. is proposing to expand their VONCO II Mining and C&D Landfill operations in Becker Township, Sherburne County, to include an additional 200-acre property. Of the 200 acres, 147.9 will be mined for gravel and aggregate and subsequently filled with C&D waste.

RGU: Sherburne County Zoning

Contact Person:

Dave Lucas, Solid Waste Administrator
13880 Highway 10
Elk River, MN 55330
Phone: 763-241-2900
Fax: 763-241-2910

Project Title: Timber Shores Subdivision

Description: Timber Shores Subdivision is a 37-lot residential subdivision on 144 acres located on the NW shore of Lee Lake, a Natural Environment Lake, in Clay County, MN. Lot sizes vary from 1.5 to 5.48 acres and each lot will be served by an individual well and septic system.

RGU: Clay County

Contact Person:

Tim Magnusson, Planning Director
807 11th St. No.
Moorhead, MN 56560
Phone: 218-299-5002
Fax: 218-299-5195
Tim.magnusson@co.clay.mn.us

Project Title: Dan Patch Trail Residential Development

Description: The Dan Patch Trail residential development is a three-phased 211-lot single-family and three 48-unit apartment building development with trails, forest, and wetland preservation and restoration areas. It is located on approximately 108.0 acres about 1000 feet south of STH 13, north of Scott Co. 16, and is in both the cities of Savage and Burnsville.

RGU: City of Savage

Contact Person:

Bryan Tucker, Planning Manager
City of Savage
6000 McColl Dr.
Savage, MN 55378
Phone: 952-882-2660
Fax: 952-882-2656
btucker@ci.savage.mn.us

EAW NEED DECISIONS

The noted responsible governmental unit has made a decision regarding the need for an EAW in response to a citizen petition.

- City of Ramsey, Diamonds Sports Bar and Grille. Denied.

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 Pollution Control Agency, Feist Livestock, LLC Expansion Project, December 18, 2007 (October 8, 2007)
- Pope County Board of Commissioners, Hackberry Creek RV Park, December 11, 2007 (March 12, 2007)

FINAL AUAR ADOPTED

Re: Fischer Sand and Aggregate, LLP

On December 13, 2007, the Apple Valley City Council approved by a motion the supplemental mitigation plan for the Final Alternative Urban Areawide Review (FAUAR) and Mitigation Plan for the Fischer Sand and Aggregate property, an existing 559-acre gravel mining operation in Apple Valley.

Previously, the city council, at its meeting of August 17, 2007, accepted and authorized distribution, as required by EQB rules, of the draft of the Cobblestone Lake FAUAR. Distribution of the draft generated several comments, from which the City prepared written responses and the final AUAR and Mitigation Plan, as required by the EQB.

On November 5, 2007, the FAUAR and Mitigation Plan was distributed for a 10-day comment period, at which time no further comments were received. Consequently, the city council gave its final approval of the FAUAR and Mitigation Plan.

DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE

Notice of Availability Draft Environmental Impact Statement Minnesota and US Highway 14, New Ulm to Nicollet County Road 6

The Minnesota Department of Transportation has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation documenting the impacts of the proposal to reconstruct US/Minnesota Trunk Highway 14 as a four-lane divided highway. The proposed project will begin at Front Street in New Ulm, and extend approximately 22.5 miles east, through the cities of Courtland and Nicollet to County Road 6 in North Mankato. Several alternatives are being considered, including bypasses of Courtland and Nicollet, and either following the existing alignment or rerouting the highway to the top of the bluff between New Ulm and Courtland.

The Draft EIS/4(f) document is available for public review at the following locations:

New Ulm Public Library
17 North Broadway
New Ulm, MN

Blue Earth Public Library
100 E. Main Street
Mankato, MN

North Mankato Taylor Library
1001 Belgrade Avenue

North Mankato, MN

The DEIS will also be available for public review in Courtland and Nicollet, at locations to be determined. Locations will be publicized via press release.

The Draft EIS is also available on the internet at the following address:
<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d7/projects/14newulmtonmankato/documents.html>

Copies of the Draft EIS/4(f) are being distributed to the MEQB document review list and others. The required State review period will begin upon publication of this Notice in the December 31, 2007, EQB Monitor.

Comments will be accepted through March 15, 2008. Comments should be directed to:

Peter Harff
Project Manager
Mn/DOT District 7
501 South Victory Drive
Mankato, Minnesota 56001
(507) 304-6147

Public Hearings

To afford an opportunity for all interested parties, agencies and groups to comment on the proposed action, two public hearings will be held in early February 2008. Details for both hearings are provided below:

February 5, 2008	February 7, 2008
Courtland Community Center	Nicollet Public High School
Courtland, Minnesota	Nicollet, Minnesota
4:30 – 7:30 p.m.	4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

An informal open house format will be used at both meetings. Mn/DOT personnel will be available to provide specific information and individual assistance. Mn/DOT specialists will be available to provide guidance and information regarding right-of-way and building purchasing procedures.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation along with maps, drawings and supporting documents will be available for public viewing.

The above referenced document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the Project Manager at (507)304-6147 or to individuals who are hearing or speech impaired by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this event please contact the Project Manager at the phone number listed above or through the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 by January 29, 2008.

Project Title: Xcel Energy West Lakeland Ash Disposal Facility

Description: DESCRIPTION: The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the proposal by Xcel Energy, Inc. (Xcel) to construct and operate a fly ash disposal landfill on a 46-acre land parcel in West Lakeland Township. This is Xcel's preferred means of disposing of fly ash from the Allen S. King Electric Generating Plant in Oak Park Heights, which has recently been rebuilt to operate for the next 25-30 years, and whose current fly ash disposal facility in Oak Park Heights will reach permitted capacity in 2010.

The Draft EIS is being placed on public notice for 45 days. Comments on it must arrive at the MPCA not later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 14, 2008.

The MPCA will host an informal listening session, during which interested parties may drop in at any time to ask questions and speak one-on-one with project staff, in River Room A of the Stillwater Public Library from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 15, 2008. There will be no formal presentation at this session. There will also be a public informational meeting on the Draft EIS from 6:00-9:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2008, at Oak-Land Junior High School in West Lakeland Township. This meeting will begin with an informal open house and poster session, followed by a formal presentation and question and answer session that begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m.

The Draft EIS is available for review at the following locations: the MPCA at 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul; the Legislative Reference Library at 645 State Office Building, St. Paul; the Minneapolis Public Library at 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; the Washington County Library at 8595 Central Park Place, Woodbury; and the Valley Branch Library at 380 St. Croix Trail, Lakeland.

The Draft EIS may also be viewed on the MPCA Web site at: www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/xcel-eis.html.

Questions on the Draft EIS and the EIS process should be directed to Jennifer Groebner at 651-296-7706.

Written comments on this Draft EIS should be sent to William Lynott at the address listed below.

RGU: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Contact Person:

William Lynott, Planner Principal
Environmental Review and Operations Section
Regional Division – 4th Floor
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road No.
St. Paul, MN 55155

FINAL EIS AVAILABLE**County State Aid Highway 21 Extension**

Scott County has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 21 Extension project and park-and-ride transit station. Scott County proposes to extend CSAH 21 between CSAH 42 in Prior Lake, Minnesota and CSAH 18 at Southbridge Parkway in Shakopee, Minnesota, a distance of approximately three miles, and construct a park-and-ride transit station.

Copies of the Final EIS have been distributed to the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) list and the federal agency mailing list and are also available for review at the following locations during regular office hours. A copy of the Draft EIS is also available for review at these locations.

Shakopee Public Library
235 South Lewis Street
Shakopee, MN 55379

Prior Lake Public Library
16210 Eagle Creek Avenue SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372

Shakopee City Hall
129 Holmes Street
Shakopee, MN 55379

Prior Lake City Hall
16776 Fish Point Road SE
Prior Lake, MN 55372

Scott County Government Center
200 Fourth Avenue West
Shakopee, MN 55379

Scott County Public Works Division
600 County Trail East
Jordan, MN 55352

The Final EIS, along with the Draft EIS, is also available on the project website at www.co.scott.mn.us. Go to Roads and Transportation/Roads/Roads-Study Phase/CSAH 21 Extension.

The Final EIS will be available for public review and comment until Monday, February 4, 2008. Written comments on the adequacy of the Final EIS should be submitted, prior to the close of the 30-day comment period, by Monday, February 4, 2008. Written comments should be directed to Greg Felt, Operations Engineer, Scott County Public Works Division, 600 Country Trail East, Jordan, MN 55352-9339

USPS FONSI

Finding of No Significant Impact

U.S. Postal Service – Eagan P&DC-BMC Expansion, Eagan, MN

Proposed Action: The United States Postal Service (USPS) proposes to relocate operations from the St. Paul Processing and Distribution Center (P&DC) and the Twin Cities Metro Hub (TCMH) to an expanded Eagan (St. Paul) Bulk Mail Center (BMC) facility, located at 3165 Lexington Avenue South in Eagan, Dakota County, Minnesota. The expansion would result in approximately 624,000 square feet of additional work space and associated parking, loading docks, driveways, and a storage building. The expansion would occur entirely on the existing USPS-owned property. In connection with the expansion project, the USPS would construct a public road to join the segments of Denmark Avenue which currently terminate at the northern and southern boundaries of the USPS property. The USPS proposes to dispose of the USPS St. Paul P&DC on Kellogg Boulevard in downtown St. Paul in two parts. The Union Depot Railroad Concourse and walkway (which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places), the 1978 Kellogg Dock Addition, and parking areas (Portion 1), are under negotiation for sale to the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority. The St. Paul Post Office/Customs House (which is proposed for National Register eligibility) and 1961 Addition (Portion 2) will be disposed of separately to an undetermined buyer. The USPS also plans to relocate TCMH operations from Minneapolis and terminate the lease. The expanded Eagan facility would allow for the deployment of state-of-the-art mail processing technology that would result in long term, improved mail services to postal customers in the St. Paul and greater Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Summary of Potential Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures: An Environmental Assessment (EA) dated December 2007 has been completed. The EA evaluates environmental impacts related to the Proposed Action and identifies mitigation measures. The EA finds that the Proposed Action would not result in significant impacts to floodplains, wetlands, prime farmland, vegetation, fish and wildlife, air quality, employment/economics, environmental justice, land use and zoning, aesthetics, noise, hazardous materials and waste, transportation, parks and recreation, community services, utilities and infrastructure, or energy conservation. The project would result in increased truck and employee traffic in the project area. However, a traffic impact analysis indicates that project-related truck and employee traffic would not adversely affect the level of service for area roadways or create undue safety hazards.

In general, potential impacts would be minimized or prevented by facility design and layout, best management practices, use of approved disposal practices, and consideration of local environmental, design and construction codes. The Postal Service would implement the following mitigation measures to reduce potentially significant impacts to soils, hydrology, water quality, and historic resources to less-than-significant levels: Complying with the City of Eagan's land disturbance and erosion control plan requirements, stormwater management regulations (including creation of a new stormwater detention basin), and *Water Quality & Wetland Management Plan*; Revising the existing Eagan BMC Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to comply with State of Minnesota regulations; Ensuring coverage under Minnesota's General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity; and Developing and placing protective covenants on the USPS-owned St. Paul properties to protect their historic elements and potential archaeological resources following their transfer/sale to other parties.

Conclusion: Based on the findings of the EA, with implementation of the identified mitigation measures, the proposed action would not have a significant impact on the physical or cultural/built environment. Therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Notice of Availability: Copies of the EA have been provided to relevant agencies and are available for review at the (1) Dakota County Library – Wescott Branch, 1340 Wescott Road, Eagan, MN; (2) Legislative Reference Library, 645 State Office Building, St. Paul, MN; (3) Environmental Conservation Library, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN; and (4) the Eagan, St. Paul, and Minneapolis Main Post Offices. Disk copies of the EA can be made available upon request. For additional information, please contact Mr. James Ruffing at USPS Facility Headquarters, 4301 Wilson Blvd., Suite 300; Arlington, VA 22203-1861 or fax (703) 526-2701.

NOTICES

**Public Meeting Notice
East Central and West Central
Regional Landscape Committees Joint Meeting
Minnesota Forest Resources Council**

The East Central and West Central Regional Landscape Committees of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet in a joint meeting on Friday, January 11, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Little Falls, at the Morrison County Courthouse.

For more information, please contact Lindberg Ekola at (320) 256-8300 or go to the calendar on the MFRC website at <http://www.frc.state.mn.us>.

**Public Meeting Notice – Summit Meeting
MFRC Council and the
Northern, North Central, and Northeast Regional Landscape Committees
Minnesota Forest Resources Council**

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet with members of the Northern, North Central, and Northeast Regional Landscape Committees on Friday, January 17, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Grand Rapids, at the Grand Rapids Public Library.

For more information, please contact Lindberg Ekola at (320) 256-8300 or go to the calendar on the MFRC website at <http://www.frc.state.mn.us>.