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# EQB MONITOR

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: March 12, 2008

**Project Title: Hilltop Estates**

**Description:** The Hilltop Estates development includes a 55-acre elementary/middle school site and a 362-lot residential development on approximately 367 acres of undeveloped property on the east side of the city of Chatfield. Approximately 49 acres of land will be retained for parkland, stormwater management, and environmental reserves.

**RGU:** City of Chatfield

**Contact Person:**

Kristi Clark  
City of Chatfield  
21 2nd St. SE  
Chatfield, MN 55923  
[kclarke@ci.chatfield.mn.us](mailto:kclarke@ci.chatfield.mn.us)  
Phone: 507-867-9093

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: Edina-Richfield Interceptor Improvements Project**

**Description:** The Metropolitan Council Environmental Services proposes to add gravity interceptor capacity and further address reliability and redundancy in the gravity interceptor serving Edina and Richfield. The proposed interceptor will generally follow the 75th Street corridor west of I-35W and the 76th Street corridor from I-35W to Cedar Avenue in Richfield, Minnesota. The ultimate capacity of this interceptor will be nine million gallons per day.

**RGU:** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**Contact Person:**

Dana Vanderbosch  
Environmental Review and Operations Section  
Regional Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road No.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194  
651-297-1796

**Project Title: Wright CSAH 19 Improvement Project**

**Description:** The proposed project will reconstruct Wright County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 19 from a two lane urban roadway section in the City of St. Michael to a four-lane urban roadway section with a continuous center turn lane. A raised center median will be constructed at the intersections with Trunk Highway 241/CSAH 35 and Birch Avenue/Frankfort Parkway. The proposed project will also include stormwater pond construction and sidewalk construction.

Copies of the EA/EAW will be distributed to the EQB distribution list and other interested agencies. The EA/EAW can be viewed at the following locations: Wright County Highway Department, 1901 Highway 25 North, Buffalo, MN; St. Michael City Hall, 3150 Lander Avenue, St. Michael, MN; Roy Simms Community Library, 403 Central Avenue East, St. Michael, MN; Great River Regional Library, 405 St. Germain, St. Cloud, MN. Comments should be directed to the contact person listed below.

A notice for the public hearing will be published in the Crow River News. The public hearing will be held Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at the Joint Powers Water Board Office (11100 50th Street NE, Albertville) from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The public hearing will be held in an open house format. Comment cards will be available to fill out at the public hearing or can be returned by mail. Comments on the EA/EAW will be accepted in either written form or orally (by a recorder) at the public hearing. Comments received will become part of the official record.

**RGU:** Wright County

**Contact Person:**

Virgil Hawkins, P.E., Assistant County Engineer  
Wright County Highway Department  
1901 Highway 25 No.  
Buffalo, MN 55313  
Phone: 763-682-7383  
Fax: 763-682-7313  
[virgil.hawkins@co.wright.mn.us](mailto:virgil.hawkins@co.wright.mn.us)

**Project Title: Plymouth Creek Water Quality Ponds**

**Description:** The City of Plymouth is proposing construction of two storm water ponds (North Pond and South Pond), totaling 5.6 acres in size, on the west side of Medicine Lake, to improve water quality of Plymouth Creek prior to the creek's discharge to Medicine Lake. The South Pond has a two-cell configuration. The proposed project would impact 6.1 acres of Type 3 wetland complex.

**RGU:** City of Plymouth

**Contact Person:**

Derek Asche, Project Manager  
City of Plymouth  
3400 Plymouth Blvd.  
Plymouth, MN 55447  
Phone: 763/509-5526  
Fax: 763/509-5510  
e-mail: [dasche@ci.plymouth.mn.us](mailto:dasche@ci.plymouth.mn.us)

**Project Title: Carole's Country Estates**

**Description:** This project consists of creating a 9-lot residential subdivision and mining sand, resulting in the creation of two ponds as a result of County Ditch 11 flowing through the site.

**RGU:** City of Ham Lake

**Contact Person:**

Tom Collins, City Engineer  
13635 Johnson St. NE  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
Phone: 763-862-8000  
Fax: 763-862-8042  
[tcollins@rfcengineering.com](mailto:tcollins@rfcengineering.com)

**Project Title: Pinnacle Outlet Mall**

**Description:** The proposed project consists of the development of a retail outlet shopping mall consisting of retail stores, restaurants, and the associated parking lot accommodations situated within approximately 73.02 acres in the city of Bemidji, Minnesota. The project also includes the extension of city water and sewer services approximately 1/2 mile and the construction of permanent storm water management features on an adjacent 8.39 acres.

**RGU:** Greater Bemidji Joint Planning Board

**Contact Person:**

Mel Milender, Planning Administrator  
317 4th St. NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
Phone: 218-759-3579  
Fax: 218-759-3590

**EAW NEED DECISIONS**

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

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Midtown Eco Energy Project. Proposer volunteered.

**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*.

- Pine County Board of Commissioners, Pine County Ditch #1, January 29, 2008 (December 3, 2007).
- Wright County Board of Commissioners, Annandale Rock Products Gravel Mine, January 29, 2008 (November 5, 2007).
- Clay County Highway Department, CSAH 11 Over the Buffalo River, January 15, 2008 (December 3, 2007).
- Carver County, CSAH 18 Reconstruction from TH 41 to CSAH 17, January 22, 2008 (November 19, 2007).
- City of New Ulm, New Ulm Menards Store Project, October 2, 2007 (August 13, 2007).
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Willmar Wastewater Treatment Facility and Conveyance System, January 31, 2008 (December 3, 2007).

## PETITION FILED

The following petitions have 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.

- Cass County, Great River Energy Longville 69 kV Transmission Line
- Carver County, L.G. Everist Gravel Transload Station

## NOTICES

### **Public Meeting Notice – Northern Regional Landscape Committee Minnesota Forest Resources Council**

The Northern Regional Landscape Committee of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet on Wednesday, February 20, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in International Falls at the Holiday Inn.

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 – Southeast Regional Landscape Committee Minnesota Forest Resources Council**

The Southeast Regional Landscape Committee of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet on Monday, February 25, 2008, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Eagle's Nest Restaurant in Wabasha, Minnesota.

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 –Landscape Committee Minnesota Forest Resources Council**

The Landscape Committee of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet on Thursday, February 28, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Cloquet at the Cloquet Forestry Center.

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 – North Central Regional Landscape Committee  
Minnesota Forest Resources Council**

The North Central Regional Landscape Committee of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) will meet on Wednesday, March 12, 2008, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Grand Rapids at the Forest History Center.

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>.

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
NOTICE OF PLANS TO ISSUE STATE INDUSTRIAL MINERALS LEASES**

Notice is hereby given that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Lands and Minerals, is planning to issue six state mineral leases to explore for, mine and remove industrial minerals in Aitkin County in accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 6125.8000, the industrial minerals rules, issued under authority of Minnesota Statutes, sections 93.08 through 93.12, and 93.25. The industrial minerals covered by the leases are kaolin clay, serpentine, and olivine.

The areas located in Aitkin County to be covered by the industrial minerals leases are as follows:

Section Two (2), Township Forty-eight (48) North, Range Twenty-two (22) West.

Lot One (1), Lot Two (2), South Half of Northeast Quarter (S1/2-NE1/4), Lot Three (3), Southeast Quarter of Northwest Quarter (SE1/4-NW1/4), Northeast Quarter of Southwest Quarter (NE1/4-SW1/4), South Half of Southwest Quarter (S1/2-SW1/4), Southeast Quarter (SE1/4) in Section Three (3), Township Forty-eight (48) North, Range Twenty-two (22) West.

Section Ten (10), Township Forty-eight (48) North, Range Twenty-two (22) West.

Section Eleven (11), Township Forty-eight (48) North, Range Twenty-two (22) West.

Section Thirty-four (34), Township Forty-nine (49) North, Range Twenty-two (22) West.

East Half of Northeast Quarter (E1/2-NE1/4), Southwest Quarter of Northeast Quarter (SW1/4-NE1/4), South Half-section (S1/2) in Section Thirty-five (35), Township Forty-nine (49) North, Range Twenty-two (22) West.

The applicant for the leases is Kennecott Exploration Company, 10861 N. Mavinee Drive, #141, Oro Valley, Arizona 85737. The effective date of the leases is March 11, 2008, contingent upon State Executive Council approval.

For more information, contact Vicki Hubred, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Lands and Minerals, 1525 Third Avenue East, Hibbing, Minnesota 55746; telephone 218-231-8484, TTY: 1-800-657-3929.

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

<b>File Number</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Crop</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>County</b>
08-NO-002	SES VanderHave	Sugar Beet	Disease Resistance	Polk
08-NO-003	SES VanderHave	Sugar Beet	Disease Resistance	Polk
08-NO-004	Monsanto	Corn	Drought Tolerance	Clay, Rice, Blue Earth (2), Steele, Freeborn, Renville, Kandiyohi
08-NO-005	Monsanto	Corn	Herbicide Tolerance	Rice, Steele, Blue Earth (2), Renville, Freeborn
08-NO-006	Monsanto	Canola	Increased Yield Herbicide Tolerance	Pennington, Red Lake, Polk, Wilkin, Otter Tail

For more information contact Mary Hanks, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651/201-6277, [mary.hanks@state.mn.us](mailto:mary.hanks@state.mn.us) .

**RECLAMATION PROJECT PLANNED FOR LAKE  
DNR DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE**

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife is planning one Muskie rearing pond reclamation project this winter. The project involves the application of rotenone, a federal and state registered pesticide. Heble Pond is proposed to be treated for the purpose of removing existing fathead minnow and other unwanted fish populations. This alteration will allow the pond to be used for raising Muskie fingerlings, which will later be stocked into local fishing lakes. Rotenone will be used with a target concentration of 3.0 ppm.

<b>Lake Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Township</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Section</b>
Heble Pond (DOW 40-052)	Le Sueur	109N	24W	25

For general information about these projects, contact Mike Halverson, Fisheries Acquisition and Development Consultant, Box 12, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155.

**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT****Large Electric Power Generating Plant Site Application  
Great River Energy's Elk River Peaking Station Project  
PUC Docket No. ET2/GS-07-715**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Elk River Peaking Stations Project (PUC Docket ET2/GS-07-715).

Copies of the FEIS can be obtained through the DOC Project Manager and maybe viewed at the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) web site:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19178>

**Project Description.** The proposed project consists of a single, simple-cycle combustion turbine (CT) generator with a nominal summer generating capacity of 175 MW and other associated facilities. The facility will use natural gas and ultra-low sulfur distillate fuel oil. The preferred project site is on GRE's campus in Elk River, Sherburne County, Minnesota. The Elk River campus currently includes the Elk River Station, a Refuse-Derived-Fuel (RDF) combustor that co-produces electricity, and GRE's corporate offices. The preferred site is an area of approximately 11 acres in the northeast portion of the campus.

The alternative site is located on GRE's property in the city of Rosemount in Dakota County, Minnesota. The site is bordered on the south by County Highway 42, on the east by Emery Avenue, on the north by Ehler's Path and 140th Street, and to the west by Rich Valley Golf Club. The property is currently leased to a farmer for crop production.

**Background:** May 18, 2007, Great River Energy (GRE) submitted an application for a Certificate of Need (CON) for the proposed Elk River Peaking Station. The PUC issued an Order finding the CON application to be substantially complete on June 19, 2007. The docket number for this filing is ET2/CN-07-678.

On June 14, 2007, GRE submitted an application for a Site Permit for the proposed Elk River Peaking Station. The PUC issued an Order finding the Site Permit application to be complete on August 1, 2007, and authorized the Department to initiate the full review process under Minn. Rules 7845.5010 to .6500. The docket number for this filing is ET2/GS-07-715.

The Draft EIS was released on November 21, 2007.

Public meetings on the DEIS and the contested case hearing for this docket were held on December 19 and December 20, 2007, at the Rosemount and Elk River city halls, respectively.

**Regulatory Review Process.** In accordance with the Power Plant Siting Act (Minnesota Statutes, 216E.001 through 216E.18) a site permit is required before a large electric power generating plant (LEPGP) can be constructed. The power plant siting act requirement became law in 1973. The rules to implement the



permitting requirement for LEPGP are in Minnesota Rules Chapter 7849.5010 through 7849.6500. A LEPGP is defined as any electric power generating equipment and associated facilities designed for or capable of operation at a capacity of 50,000 kilowatts or more.

GRE's LEPGP site permit application is being reviewed under the Full Review Process (Minnesota Rule Chapter 7849.5200) within the Power Plant Siting Act. Under the full permitting process the applicant is required to submit two sites (i.e., a preferred and an alternate) for consideration. As part of the permitting process, the Department of Commerce is responsible for certain procedural requirements (i.e., public notice and meetings), issuing the EIS Scoping Decision and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). A contested case hearing will also be conducted following completion of the draft EIS. The PUC will make the final decision; that decision includes a determination on the adequacy of the FEIS and the determination whether to grant the requested permits, as well as, site selection and permit conditions.

Inquiries about this project should be directed to the DOC project manager, Bill Storm ([bill.storm@state.mn.us](mailto:bill.storm@state.mn.us)) or the public adviser, Deb Pile ([Deborah.Pile@State.mn.us](mailto:Deborah.Pile@State.mn.us)) 85 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101, telephone 651.296.9535, (toll free 1.800.657.3794), facsimile 651.296.3698 (TTY relay service 800.627.3529).