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EQB MONITOR

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: July 16, 2008

Project Title: Cold Spring Granite Company Mixed Use Development

Description: The proposed project is a mixed-use development containing residential, commercial, and recreational uses. Residential components include both townhomes and apartments, while planned commercial components include a hotel, grocery store, a bank, and several office/retail structures. Recreational uses include incorporation of the Ricori Trail through the project site. Construction is planned to start in 2008 and be completed by 2022.

RGU: City of Cold Spring

Contact Person:

Larry Lahr, City Administrator
27 Red River Ave. So.
Cold Spring, MN 56320
Phone: 320-685-3653
Fax: 320-685-8551
llahr@coldspring.govoffice.com

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: John Perschbacher Hog Farm

Description: The total proposed project will include one 2,400-head (720 animal units) and two 2,000-head (600 animal units each) wean to finish swine buildings located on two sites located approximately 1.15 miles apart. Site 1, which will contain one 2,400-head building, is located in Section 12 of Alden Township in Freeborn County. Site 2, which will contain two 2,000-head buildings, is located in Section 10 of Alden Township in Freeborn County. The buildings will be total confinement, naturally ventilated barns. All barns will have under barn reinforced concrete manure storage. Manure will be sold and land applied by injection at agronomic rates to cropland. The total number of animal units proposed for the two sites is 1,920.

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:

Jim Sullivan, Project Manager
Environmental Review & Operations Section
Regional Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
651-297-1788

Project Title: Wild Wings Flood Protection

Description: The City of Plymouth proposes to excavate channels in public waters 579W, 584W, and 585W to relieve the potential for flooding of private properties and city streets.

RGU: City of Plymouth

Contact Person:

Derek Asche
Water Resources Manager
3400 Plymouth Blvd.
Plymouth, MN 55447
Phone: 763-509-5526
Fax: 763-509-5510
dasche@ci.plymouth.mn.us

Project Title: Hoyt Lakes 138 kV Transmission Line and Substation

Description: The project consists of the construction of approximately 2.2 miles of 138 kV transmission line located exclusively on mineland owned by Mesabi Nugget, Inc. and entirely within the city limits of the City of Hoyt Lakes, Minnesota. The new line will provide service from an existing high voltage transmission line to a

new substation which will service new mining operations at Mesabi Nugget. The 138 kV transmission line will be either wood or metal construction. The pole heights will range from 60 feet to 90 feet above the ground.

RGU: City of Hoyt Lakes

Contact Person:

Rick Bradford, City Administrator
City of Hoyt Lakes
206 Kennedy Memorial Dr.
Hoyt Lakes, MN 55750
218-225-2344

Jim Atkinson, Project Manager
Minnesota Power
30 West Superior St.
Duluth, MN 55082
218-343-9119

EAW PUBLIC NOTICE EXTENSION

Project Title: MinnErgy, LLC

Description: The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has extended the public comment period on the Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the proposed MinnErgy, LLC ethanol production facility in Olmsted County, near the city of Eyota, Minnesota. An additional 30 days will be added to the comment period, which will now end on Friday, August 1, 2008, at 3:30 p.m.

The MPCA will hold a public information meeting on the MinnErgy EAW, scheduled for Thursday, June 19, 2008, at the Dover-Eyota High School. The meeting will begin with an open house, which will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by a formal presentation by MPCA staff at 7:00 p.m.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet can be viewed 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:

Steve Sommer, Planner Principal
Biofuels Sector
Industrial Division
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194
651-282-5851

EAWS AVAILABLE

Project Title: Kraemer Sauk Rapids Quarry

Description: Kraemer Mining and Materials, Inc. proposes to operate a 44-acre excavated granite quarry as a part of an approximately 76-acre total site, to produce high quality construction aggregate using standard quarrying techniques that will minimize the surface area utilized, and to reclaim the property into the future land use surrounding a lake.

A 30-day public review and comment period will begin on June 16, 2008 with the publication of notice of availability of this EAW in the EQB Monitor. For additional copies of the EAW, call 320-258-5334 or visit the City of Sauk Rapids website at www.ci.sauk-rapids.mn.us and select the Kraemer Sauk Rapids Quarry Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) link.

Written comments on the EAW must be received by Wednesday, July 16, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. and sent to:

City of Sauk Rapids
Attn: City Planner
115 2nd Ave. No.
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

Signed comment letters may be sent via facsimile to 320-259-5359. Electronic or e-mail comments may be sent to mcurfman@ci.sauk-rapids.mn.us with "Kraemer EAW" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, please include your name and mailing address so that the city can respond to your comment in writing. Questions or inquiries regarding the EAW should be made directly to 320-258-5334.

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.

- Department of Natural Resources, Black Bear Lake ATV Trail project

DRAFT AUAR AVAILABLE

Project Title: Potlatch West Baxter AUAR

Description: The AUAR is comprised of approximately 465 acres of land owned by the Potlatch Corporation. The project area is located on the western end of Baxter, MN and is dissected by Trunk Highway 210.

The AUAR evaluates two land use scenarios. Each land use scenario has been derived from existing plans and studies completed for the City of Baxter, Crow Wing County and the Potlatch Corporation. Scenario One explores a variety of low to high density housing, neighborhood commercial services and industrial uses with an

integrated system of passive and active open space. This scenario serves as the full build out or worse case scenario. Scenario two was developed according to existing zoning regulations.

The full build out scenario includes residential (roughly 1,147 units), commercial, industrial and office development (roughly 1.9 million square feet of space) and includes associated public infrastructure improvements including sanitary sewer, storm sewer, public water supply and roadway/traffic improvements to serve the development. The project is expected to develop over a 20 or more year time frame.

Copies of the Draft AUAR are available for review at Baxter City Hall, 13190 Memory Drive; Baxter, MN 56425.

RGU: City of Baxter, Minnesota

Contact Person:

Brad Scheib, Project Manager
Hoisington Koegler Group, Inc.
123 North 3rd Street, Suite 100
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401
Email: bscheib@hkgi.com
Phone: (612) 252-7122

All written comments should be submitted to Mr. Scheib on or before July 16th, 2008.

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*.

- Breezy Point City Council, Breezy Sand & Gravel, June 2, 2008 (April 21, 2008).
- Township Board of Crow Wing Township, North Central Speedway Recreational Vehicle Park, May 27, 2008 (March 24, 2008).
- Wayzata City Council, Wayzata Bay Center Redevelopment, May 27, 2008 (April 7, 2008).

FINAL AUAR ADOPTED

The City of Eden Prairie has completed its review and adoption of the 2008 Updated Final AUAR for UnitedHealth Group (aka Mixed Use Development in Eden Prairie). The project consists of 1,140,000 sq. ft. of office, 324 housing units, 125-room hotel/restaurant, and 25,000 square feet of retail uses on a 71-acre site located at the southeast corner of TH 62 and Shady Oak Road in Eden Prairie, MN.

The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2008-55 on May 20, 2008, finding the AUAR and mitigation plan accurate, complete, and adequate to prevent significant environmental impacts.

EIS PREPARATION NOTICE

Proposed Nelson Mine Expansion Project Cottage Grove, Washington County, Minnesota

The City of Cottage Grove has reached a Scoping Decision regarding Aggregate Industries' proposal to expand their Nelson Mine at 11250 Grey Cloud Trail, Cottage Grove, MN. This decision follows the distribution of a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document on April 16, 2008, to all agencies listed on the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) distribution list and all interested parties. Availability of the Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document were noticed in the April 21, 2008 (Vol. 32, No. 8) *EQB Monitor*. The City of Cottage Grove held a public scoping meeting at the City of Cottage Grove City Hall on May 15, 2008, and accepted comments during a 30-day public comment period concluding on May 21, 2008.

Based upon the Scoping Decision Document, the City of Cottage Grove will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Nelson Mine Expansion project. The City of Cottage Grove considered comments on the proposed scope, made revisions to the Draft Scoping Decision Document, and issued a Final Scoping Decision Document on June 4, 2008. The Scoping Decision identifies those project alternatives and issues that will be addressed in the EIS and presents a tentative schedule for EIS completion. The tentative EIS schedule includes publication of a Draft EIS in summer of 2009, Final EIS publication in fall 2009, and determination of EIS adequacy in December 2009.

The EIS will address the physical properties of the backwater area and the immediate surroundings. The EIS will draw upon the previous studies in this area and, to the extent that agency and stakeholders' concerns are not answered by the previous studies, expanded or new studies will be conducted to assess the following areas of potential impact: wildlife, ecologically sensitive resources; physical impacts on water resources; water use; water quality, localized streambed alterations, floodplain impacts, wetland impacts, surface water disturbances, sedimentation resulting from disturbance and resuspension of river bottom sediments, sedimentation and turbidity issues during construction of the barrier dikes, turbidity and nutrient loading caused by the project, impacts on Spring Lake and Lake Pepin with regard to the TMDL; potential for thermal stratification, anoxia and fish kills, and noise and dust issues.

A more detailed description of each of these major areas can be found in the Final Scoping Decision Document. A copy of the Final Scoping Decision Document can be reviewed at:

Washington County Library System, Park Grove Branch
7900 Hemingway Avenue South
Cottage Grove, MN

City of Cottage Grove City Hall
7516 80th Street South
Cottage Grove, MN

or on the city's website at the following link: http://www.cottage-grove.org/news.htm#Nelson_Mine.

Further information regarding this proposed project may be obtained from:

John McCool, Senior Planner
Community Development Department
7516 80th Street South
Cottage Grove, MN 55016
651-458-2874
jmccool@cottage-grove.org

Jeff Lee
Barr Engineering
4700 W 77th Street
Minneapolis MN 55435-4803
952-832-2904
jefflee@barr.com

NOTICES

Notification of Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms

File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
08-NO-082	University of Minnesota	Ornamental Tobacco	Reduced or No Seed Set Genetic Marker	Ramsey

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.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
Minnesota Department of Commerce
Office of Energy Security
Issued: May 30, 2008 – Reissued: June 5, 2008

REVISED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, June 26, 2008 ♦ 6:30 p.m.
Lyon County Government Center (Court House)
607 West Main Street, Second Floor, Marshall, MN

On the Application of Xcel Energy for a Route Permit for the Lake Yankton to Marshall Transmission Line Project in Lyon County

PUC Docket E002/TL-07-1407

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce (DOC), Office of Energy Security (OES) will hold a public hearing on behalf of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC or the Commission) on the route permit application by Xcel Energy to construct a new 115 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between the Lake Yankton Substation in Balaton to the Southwest Marshall Substation in Marshall, a distance of approximately 15 miles.

Project Description. Xcel Energy proposes to build an approximately 15-mile, 115 kV volt high voltage transmission line (HVTL). The proposed route would primarily run parallel along existing public roads and transmission lines from the existing Lake Yankton Substation to the existing Southwest Marshall Substation.

Environmental Assessment. The OES has completed an environmental assessment (EA) on the proposed project. The environmental assessment addresses the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed route. The environmental assessment and other documents relevant to the route permit process are available for review and download on the PUC website <http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19448> or by contacting the OES staff listed below.

Conduct of Hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to compile the record for the PUC to consider in making a final decision on the route permit application. Upon closure of the public comment period, Judge Mihalchick will provide a written summary of testimony given at the hearing to the DOC. The PUC will make a final decision on the route permit application at a subsequent meeting.

The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statutes 216E.01 to 216E.18, and Minnesota Rules 7849.5500 to 7849.5720. The Honorable Steve Mihalchick, Administrative Law Judge, will preside over the hearing.

OES staff will be present at the hearing to make a brief presentation describing the project, explain the process to be followed, and to introduce documents to be included in the record; including the application, the environmental assessment, and relevant procedural documents. Representatives from Xcel Energy will be present to introduce evidence by way of testimony and exhibits and to answer questions. Members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions of OES staff and Xcel Energy representatives, to make oral statements/presentations, and to offer written comments and documents into the record. Members of the public are not required to file any papers in advance of the hearing in order to participate.

The record will remain open until **4:30 p.m., July 11, 2008**, for interested persons to submit written comments to the Administrative Law Judge. Comments must be submitted directly to:

**The Honorable Steve Mihalchick
Office of Administrative Hearings
P.O. Box 64620
St. Paul, MN 55164-0620
phone 651-361-7844, fax 651-361-7936
email Steve.Mihalchick@state.mn.us**

The Administrative Law Judge will provide OES staff a written summary of testimony given at the hearing. The Commission will make a final decision on the route permit application after receipt of the complete record.

Additional Information. For more information about the process, the project, or to place your name on the project mailing list, please contact:

Adam Sokolski, Project Manager
Energy Facility Permitting
Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
(651) 296-2096
adam.sokolski@state.mn.us

Scott Ek, Public Advisor
Energy Facility Permitting
Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
(651) 296-8813
scott.ek@state.mn.us

Mailing List. Any person may add his or her name to the mailing list maintained by OES for future mailings regarding this project. If you would like to receive notice of the Commission's final decision in this matter please add your name to the mailing list. Names can be added to the list by contacting Mr. Sokolski or by registering on [the](http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us) PUC website at:

<http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19448>