

The *EQB Monitor*

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Submission Deadline: [View 2021 Schedule](#)
Use the [EQB Monitor Submission Form](#)

The *EQB Monitor* is a weekly publication announcing environmental review documents, public comment periods and other actions of the Environmental Quality Board. For more information on environmental review, please visit the [EQB website](#). You can find active projects in your community on the [Environmental Review Projects Interactive Map](#).



Check the [EQB Monitor Schedule](#) and [EQB calendar](#) for more details on *Monitor* deadlines and Board Meetings. Meeting minutes, agendas and additional notices are also posted on the [EQB Website](#).

To manage your subscription to the *EQB Monitor*, [click here](#). Be sure to add MNEQB@public.govdelivery.com to your address book or safe sender list.

In this publication:

- [EQB Announcements](#)
- [Environmental Assessment Worksheet](#)
- [Environmental Impact Statement Need Decisions](#)
- [Alternative Urban Areawide Review Draft Order and Scoping for Large Project](#)
- [General Notices](#)

EQB Announcements

Environmental Quality Board Meeting: February 17, 2021

We invite you to join the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) at their [next Board meeting](#) on February 17, 2021 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the EQB will convene its February Board meeting virtually through the WebEx platform. Instructions for connecting to WebEx are included on page five of the Board packet.

[Access link to February 17, 2021 Board Meeting](#)

The meeting will address one decision and two informational objectives:

- Elect an EQB Vice Chairperson
- Discuss findings from Jill Lindsey Harrison's book *From the Inside Out: The Fight for Environmental Justice within Government Agencies*
- Review updates to the Environmental Quality Board work plan

Accessibility: This material can be provided in different forms, like large print, braille, or on a recording. Please contact EQB staff at least one week prior to the event at info.EQB@state.mn.us to arrange an accommodation.

Notice of Request for Public Feedback on Draft Recommendations

[Integrating climate change information into environmental review](#)

The EQB Environmental Review Subcommittee would like your input on draft recommendations before making final decisions on changes to Minnesota's Environmental Review Program. The [draft recommendations](#) and more information about this project can be found on this [EQB web page](#).

We are soliciting written feedback through Wednesday, March 31, 2021. Please let us know if you support the draft recommendations as proposed, or suggest changes that would result in your support.

We will collect your input starting Wednesday, February 17, 2021 and ending on Wednesday, March 31, 2021. Please submit your input:

- Send an email to Env.Review@state.mn.us with subject line CLIMATE
- Mail your feedback to EQB, 520 Lafayette Rd N, St. Paul, MN 55155

EQB will be holding listening sessions this spring to hear from the public. To stay up-to-date on this project, go to the EQB Project webpage [Climate Change and Environmental Review Engagement](#). Updates will also be posted in the [EQB Monitor](#).

Public Survey on Pollinator Protection in Minnesota

The Interagency Pollinator Protection Team (IPPT) would like public feedback on the 2020 Minnesota State Agency Pollinator Annual Report and how useful it is to Minnesotans. Additionally, the IPPT is interested in learning what actions people and organizations are taking to help pollinators and what barriers they are encountering. Your answers will bring new perspectives to the IPPT and will help us identify opportunities for action to advance pollinator protection in Minnesota.



You can access and share the pollinator survey using the following link:
<https://survey.mn.gov/s.asp?k=161038710365>

Please answer the survey by February 26th. If you have any questions, please contact the State Pollinator Coordinator, Rebeca Gutierrez-Moreno by email at rebeca.gutierrez-moreno@state.mn.us, or by phone: 651-757-2268.

We appreciate your participation!

Environmental Assessment Worksheet

Ron Olson Construction Proposed Sand and Gravel Mine

Comment Deadline: March 18, 2021

Project Description: Ron Olson Construction (Olson) is proposing to establish a sand and gravel mining operation on 184 acres of property located in San Francisco Township, Carver County, MN (Site). The Site is currently used for agricultural production. Mining is proposed on 37 acres within the Site. Reclamation will return the land to agricultural production. The proposed operations include stripping, mining of sand and gravel, crushing, screening, recycling asphalt and concrete, hauling, and reclamation activities.

Link to Document: <https://sanfranciscotownship.com/>

RGU: San Francisco Township

RGU Contact: Heidi Schmidt, 952-873-5429, heidiSFT@gmail.com

Environmental Impact Statement Need Decisions

The noted responsible governmental units have determined the following projects do not require the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements (EISs).

Hentges Industrial Park

Decision: Negative (no EIS required), February 2, 2021

Link to Document: <https://www.shakopeemn.gov/business-development/current-development/hentges-industrial-park>

RGU: City of Shakopee

RGU Contact: Mark Noble, 952-233-9348, mnoble@shakopeemn.gov

Fremad Building Redevelopment

Decision: Negative (no EIS required), January 7, 2021

Link to Document: No link to electronic copies of the documents was provided by the RGU. For copies of the documents, see RGU contact information below.

RGU: City of Glenwood

RGU Contact: David Iverson, 320-634-5433, davei@ci.glenwood.mn.us

Alternative Urban Areawide Review Draft Order and Scoping for Large Project

Upper Harbor Terminal

Comment Deadline: March 18, 2021

Project Description: The AUAR study area encompasses an area totaling approximately 53 acres (shown on Figure 2). United Properties, in partnership with First Avenue Productions, the City of Minneapolis, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), is proposing to redevelop the 53-acre Upper Harbor Terminal site, which was formerly used as a barge shipping terminal and is currently made up of city-owned land and quasi-public entities, including utilities and Canadian Pacific (CP) rail lines. The proposed development would include residential, hospitality, retail/service, office/employment, light industrial, an outdoor amphitheater, and recreational land uses.

First Public Meeting Date: April 20, 2021

First Public Meeting Time: 1:30 p.m.

First Public Meeting Location Name and Address: BIHZ Committee, virtual meeting. No link provided. See RGU contact information below.

Second Public Meeting Date: April 30, 2021

Second Public Meeting Time: 9:30 a.m.

Second Public Meeting Location Name and Address: City Council, virtual meeting. No link provided. See RGU contact information below.

Link to Document: http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/cped/planning/cped_eaw

RGU: City of Minneapolis

RGU Contact: Hilary Dvorak, 612-673-2639, hilary.dvorak@minneapolismn.gov

General Notices

Minnesota Department of Agriculture - Notification of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms

BASF Corporation filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number **21-NO-02**. Notification is for genetically modified **SOYBEAN**, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for the environmental release of transgenic soybean, referenced as Application Number **AUTH - 0000068522**. The counties identified for release include the following:

Becker-1 location with 25 acres; Clay-1 location with 25 acres; and Freeborn-1 location with 25 acres. Project categories include **FR (Fungal Resistance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), and NR (Nematode Resistance)**. For additional information contact Denise Thiede, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-402-3149, denise.thiede@state.mn.us.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture - Notification of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms

Bayer Research and Development Services LLC filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number **21-NO-03**. Notification is for genetically modified **CORN**, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application **20-315-103rm**. The counties identified for release include the following: **Brown-1 location with 10 acres, Dodge-2 locations with 25 acres/location, Goodhue-1 location with 25 acres, McLeod-1 location with 10 acres, Mower-1 location with 25 acres, Redwood-2 locations with 10 acres/location, Rice-3 locations with 5 acres/ location, Steele-2 locations with 25 acres/location, Waseca-2 locations with 25 acres/ location.** Project categories include **AP (Agronomic Performance), BR (Bacterial Resistance), FR (Fungal Resistance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), OO (Other), PQ (Product Quality)**. For

additional information contact Denise Thiede, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-402-3149, denise.thiede@state.mn.us.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture - Notification of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms

Bayer Research and Development Services LLC filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # **21-NO-04**. Notification is for genetically modified **CORN**, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application **20-336-102rm**. The counties identified for release include the following: **Dakota-1 location with 10 acres, Freeborn-1 location with 10 acres, Goodhue-1 location with 10 acres, Lincoln-2 locations with 10 acres per location, Lyon-1 location with 10 acres, Nobles-1 location with 10 acres, Rice-1 location with 10 acres, Swift-1 location with 10 acres, Waseca-1 location with 10 acres**. Project categories include **IR (Insect Resistance)**. For additional information contact Denise Thiede, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-402-3149, denise.thiede@state.mn.us.

Links to environmental review documents were provided by the RGU. In the event that the link does not work, you may contact the RGU directly to request either a paper or electronic copy of the documents. If you are not able to connect with the RGU, please email EQB staff at Env.Review@state.mn.us, call 651.757.2873, or visit our [website](#).

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