

EQB Monitor

Weekly announcements and environmental review notices

Volume 47, Number 5

January 31, 2023

Announcements

Share your ideas for enhancing Minnesota's Environmental Review Program

We are developing a new process for identifying and prioritizing Environmental Review Program improvement initiatives and we want to hear from you. Visit our [engagement platform](#) to share your ideas for program improvement and learn more about our continuous improvement effort. The online forum closes Friday, February 17.

REQUIRED PUBLIC NOTICES



Environmental review project notices

EQB publishes environmental review notices provided by responsible governmental units. For more information on a project undergoing environmental review, click on the individual project links below. You can also find information about active projects in your community on the [Environmental Review Projects Interactive Map](#).

Riverside Flats

Location: Melrose, Stern County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet

Step: Environmental impact statement (EIS) need decision

Responsible governmental unit decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Responsible governmental unit decision date: January 19, 2023

Link to public documents: No link to documents provided. See responsible governmental unit contact information below.

Location of public documents: City of Melrose City Hall, 221 First St NE, Melrose, MN 56352

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Melrose, [Colleen Winter](#), 620-256-1958

Westwind Residential Development in Woodbury, MN

Location: Woodbury, Washington County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet

Step: Environmental impact statement (EIS) need decision

Responsible governmental unit decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Responsible governmental unit decision date: January 11, 2023

Link to public documents: [Westwood Residential Development EIS need decision](#)

Location of public documents: Woodbury City Hall, 8301 Valley Creek Rd., Woodbury, MN 55125

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Woodbury, [Jennifer McLoughlin](#), 651-714-3522

Xcel Energy/ City of Northfield AUAR

Location: Northfield, Dakota County

Process: Alternative urban areawide review (AUAR)

Step: Draft order of review

End of comment period: March 2, 2023

Project description: Xcel Energy and the City of Northfield are partnering to conduct an Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) for an approximately 787-acre area in the northwestern portion of the City of Northfield. Portions of the AUAR area include land within Greenvale Township. Two development scenarios will be evaluated as part of the AUAR which primarily consist of technology center and industrial park uses. Additional steps are required to initiate the AUAR process for certain large projects, which include a public comment period on the scope of the AUAR. This Scoping Document is available for review and comment as part of the AUAR process in accordance with Minnesota Rules, part 4410.3610, subpart 5a.

Link to public documents: [Excel Energy / City of Northfield draft order of review](#)

Location of public documents: Northfield City Hall, 801 Washington Street, Northfield, MN 55057

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Northfield, [Mikayla Schmidt](#), 507-645-3059

Xcel Energy / City of Becker Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR)

Location: Becker, Sherburne County

Process: Alternative urban areawide review (AUAR)

Step: Revised AUAR

End of comment period: February 14, 2023

Project description: The City of Becker and Xcel Energy are partnering on an Alternative Urbanwide Review (AUAR) for an area of land adjacent to the Sherco Power Plant in Becker. Several parcels within the boundary of the proposed AUAR area are owned by Xcel Energy to serve as a buffer around the power plant. Xcel Energy and the City of Becker are collaborating to develop this land with uses that can benefit from the existing infrastructure, support community development, and replace some of the tax base that will be lost when the plant closes. The City's currently adopted 2040 Comprehensive Plan guides most of this land as heavy industrial because the land is uniquely suited to accommodate such uses.

Link to public documents: [Xcel Energy / City of Becker revised AUAR](#)

Location of public documents: City of Becker City Hall, 12060 Sherburne Ave SE, Becker, MN 55308

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Becker, [Jacob Sanders](#), 763-200-4242

Kelzer Property

Location: Chaska, Carver County

Process: Alternative urban areawide review (AUAR)

Step: AUAR adoption

Responsible governmental unit decision: Adequate

Responsible governmental unit decision date: January 9, 2023

Link to public documents: [Kelzer Property AUAR adoption](#)

Location of public documents: Chaska City Hall, One City Hall Plaza, Chaska, MN 55318

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Chaska, [Liz Hanson](#), 952-448-9200

Update - Snelling Midway AUAR

Location: St. Paul, Ramsey County

Process: Alternative urban areawide review (AUAR) update

Step: AUAR update adoption

Responsible governmental unit decision: Adequate

Responsible governmental unit decision date: January 23, 2023

Link to public documents: No link to documents provided. See responsible governmental unit contact information below.

Location of public documents: Saint Paul - City Hall Annex, 25 W. Fourth Street, Suite 1400 Saint Paul, MN 55102

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Saint Paul, [Joshua Williams](#), 651-266-6659

General notices

Notices published in this section may be required under Minnesota Statute or Rule.

Minnesota Department of Agriculture--Notification of Request for Commercial Use Exemption

Notice description: Bayer CropScience LP filed a Request for a Commercial Use Exemption with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification number CUE 23C001. The request is for genetically modified corn identified as MON 89034 x MIR162 x MON 87411 Seed Blend which has been deregulated by USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) under Petition Numbers 06-298-01p, 07-253-01p, 13-290-01p. The product has also been registered by the EPA as a Plant-Incorporated Protectant with Registration# 524-664. The product categories include insect resistance and herbicide tolerance traits.

Contact: [Denise Thiede](#), Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531

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

Notice description: KWS Seeds LLC filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # 23-NO-01. Notification is for genetically modified SUGAR BEET, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in the following permit identified as AUTH – 0000235081. The counties identified for release include the following: Carver--3 sites with 10 acres each, Clay--4 sites with 10 acres each, Dakota--3 sites with 10 acres each, Goodhue--1 site with 10 acres. Project categories include PQ (Product Quality) and MG (Marker Gene).

Contact: [Denise Thiede](#), Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531

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

Notice description: KWS Seeds LLC filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # 23-NO-02. Notification is for genetically modified SUGAR BEET, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in the following permit identified as AUTH – 0000234655. The counties identified for release include the following: Clay—5 sites with 10, 10, 20, 20, 20 acres, Chippewa—2 sites with 10 acres each, Kandiyohi —1 site with 10 acres, Norman – 1 site with 20 acres, Polk – 1 site with 20 acres, Renville--2 sites with 10 acres each. Project categories include HR (Herbicide Resistance).

Contact: [Denise Thiede](#), Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531

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

Notice description: Bayer Crop Science filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # 23-NO-03. Notification is for genetically modified SOYBEAN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000234069. The counties identified for release include the following: Brown-1 site with 10 acres, Clay-1 site with 10 acres, Dodge-1 site with 20 acres, Goodhue-1 site with 20 acres, Redwood-2 sites with a total of 45 acres, Rice-2 sites with a total of 40 acres, Steele-1 site with 20 acres, Waseca-1 site with 20 acres. Project categories include Agronomic Performance, Herbicide Resistance, Insect Resistance, and Product Quality.

Contact: [Denise Thiede](#), Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531

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

Notice description: BASF Corporation filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # 23-NO-04. Notification is for genetically modified SOYBEAN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000231838. The counties identified for release include the following: Becker-1 site with 25 acres; Clay-1 site with 25 acres; and Freeborn-1 site with 25 acres. Project categories include FR (Fungal Resistance, HR (Herbicide Resistance), IR (Insect Resistance) and NR (Nematode Resistance).

Contact: [Denise Thiede](#), Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-201-6531

Submit a notice to the *EQB Monitor*

The *EQB Monitor* is published every Tuesday at noon. Submissions to the [EQB Monitor](#) are due by 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday one week prior to the intended publication date. Please see the [EQB Monitor schedule](#) for more details.

To submit a notice for publication:

[Use the EQB Monitor submission form](#)

Questions? Contact EQB by phone at 651-757-2873 or email us at EQB.Monitor@state.mn.us.

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](#) or contact us at env.review@state.mn.us.



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