

EQB Monitor

Weekly announcements and environmental review notices

Volume 46, Number 28

July 12, 2022

Announcements

Climate Change and Environmental Review Speaker Series: Correction

Due to scheduling conflicts, there **will not be** an August Climate Change and Environmental Review Speaker Session. If you were unable to attend past events, you can view full recordings and presentations on EQB's [Climate Change and Environmental Review Pilot Program website](#).

Registration open for participation in Climate Change and Environmental Review Pilot Program

EQB is seeking local responsible governmental units (RGUs) and consultants interested in participating in a pilot program that will assess the efficiency and effectiveness of climate information by testing a draft revised environmental assessment worksheet. Participants will benefit from shared learning as well as training provided by technical experts. Registration is open to all RGUs and consultants, regardless of whether you are actively reviewing a project. This cohort-based program began in early 2022. [Register now!](#)

If you are not eligible to register, but would like to receive updates about the Pilot Program, please [sign-up here](#).

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](#).

Twin Spruce Farms

Location: Eden Lake Township, Stearns County

Process: Petition

Step: Petition on hold

Notice description: On July 7, 2022, EQB received notice from the Pollution Control Agency (the designated responsible governmental unit) that no permit applications had been submitted for this project. Per the requirements in MR 4410.1100 Subp. 9, the petition will remain in effect for one year from the date on which it was filed with the EQB (May 17, 2022). During that time, a prohibition on final governmental decisions (MR 4410.3100) remains in effect for any proposed project for which the nature and location is substantially similar to the project identified in the petition.

Responsible governmental unit contact: Pollution Control Agency, [Kirsten Barta](#), 651-757-2827

The Oaks of Battle Brook

Location: Baldwin Township, Sherburne County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet available

End of comment period: August 11, 2022

Project description: The OAKS OF BATTLE BROOK is a proposed single-family residential subdivision on +/-109 acres on three (3) contiguous parcels. The proposed project is in Section 20 of Baldwin Township, Sherburne County, MN. Portions of the property located in the Shoreland Overlay Districts of nearby the Battle Brook – a tributary stream and nearby Protected Waters basin 710042 – an unnamed Natural Environment Lake. The project consists of platting approximately 30-acres into 10 residential lots along existing roads. The residential lots will have individual wells and septic systems. There are no plans to develop the remaining 75-acres at this time.

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

Location of public documents: Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, MN 55330

Public meeting date, time, location: August 18, 2022, 6 p.m., Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Drive, Elk River, MN 55330

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Sherburne County, [Marc Schneider](#), 763-765-4454

Knife River Borg Aggregate Mine

Location: Oak Lawn Township, Crow Wing County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet available

End of comment period: August 11, 2022

Project description: Knife River is proposing opening a 91-acre nonmetallic mineral mine, producing construction sand and gravel, located in Oak Lawn Township, Crow Wing County. This project would mine sand and gravel on agricultural cropland and recently harvested timber lands. Mining will take agricultural areas out of production for the duration of the project. Access to the site is established. Per Crow Wing County Land Use Ordinance, application will be made for a Conditional Use G4 permit allowing for topsoil removal, natural material removal, crushing, screening, washing, processing and stockpiling of bituminous and demolition materials, and hot mix asphalt plant operations with bituminous

reprocessing. Mining will involve site preparation by stripping topsoil overburden with dozers or other earth moving equipment to expose the sand and gravel material. Site preparation will occur only as needed for that mining season.

Link to public documents: [Knife River Borg Aggregate Mine EAW](#)

Location of public documents: Land Services Building, 322 Laurel Street, Suite #15, Brainerd, MN 56401

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Crow Wing County, [Jake Frie](#), 218-824-1124

Rose Creek Wind Project

Location: Mower County

Process: Alternative review

Step: Final order of review

Notice title: Notice of Public Hearings and Availability of Draft Site Permit

Notice description: In the Matter of the Application of Rose Creek Wind, LLC for a LWECS Site Permit for the 17.4 MW Rose Creek Wind Project in Mower County, Minnesota. PUC Docket Number: IP-7065/WS-21-643; OAH Docket Number: 23-2500-38341

Project description: Rose Creek Wind, LLC has proposed to decommission the existing Rose Wind facility located in Mower County, Minnesota and construct the Rose Creek Wind facility in its place. The existing Rose Wind facility is a 17.4-megawatt Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) that was originally permitted by Mower County and consists of 11 turbines ranging in size from 1.5 to 1.65 megawatts. The new Rose Creek Wind facility would consist of up to 7 new larger turbines ranging in size from 2 to 2.82 megawatts. The new turbines would not be built in the same locations as the existing turbines. Associated facilities would include electrical collector lines, gravel turbine access roads, and a temporary construction yard. The facility would continue to have a nameplate capacity of up to 17.4 megawatts and would use the existing point of interconnection, which is a project substation that is connected to a 69-kilovolt Dairyland-owned transmission line. The project substation would be expanded slightly to accommodate equipment upgrades.

Link to public documents: [Rose Creek Wind Project documents](#)

Location of public documents: Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave NE, Austin, MN 55912

First public meeting date, time, location: July 27, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Holiday Inn Austin Conference Center, 1701 4th St NW, Austin, Minnesota, 55912.

First public meeting additional details: Written comments will be accepted through August 15, 2022, by 4:30 p.m. Please include the docket number in all communications. Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

Please focus your comments on information that will help answer the following questions:

- Should the Commission issue a site permit for the proposed large wind energy conversion system?
- If issued, what additional conditions or requirements should be included in the site permit?

Comments may be submitted:

Online: <https://mn.gov/puc/consumers/public-comments>

Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

U.S. Mail: Consumer Affairs Office – Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101

Second public meeting date, time, location: July 28, 2022, 6:00 p.m., Remote-Access

Second public meeting virtual

link: <https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=m7d94b24fff2c87e20cb42ddc240f7bceWebEx>

Second public meeting additional details: WebEx Link:

<https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=m7d94b24fff2c87e20cb42ddc240f7bce>

WebEx Number: 2492 893 6239

WebEx Password: cVvyEY6cs77 (28893962 from phones)

Join by Phone: 1-855-282-6330 Toll Free Access Code: 249 289 36239

If you are joining the hearing by WebEx and would like to ask a question or make a comment during the designated portion of the hearing, use the chat function to send a message to the hearing moderator. If you are joining the hearing by phone, press *3 on your phone. When it is your turn to speak, your line will be unmuted, and you will be able to ask questions and provide comments.

Additional information and instructions are available at:

<https://mn.gov/puc/activities/meetings/webex/>

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Public Utilities Commission, [Scott Ek](#), 651-201-2255

Submit an environmental review notice to the *EQB Monitor*

The *EQB Monitor* is published every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. 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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