

EQB Monitor

Weekly announcements and environmental review notices

Volume 46, Number 25

June 21, 2022

Announcements

Considerations for responsible governmental units when creating an administrative record

Climate Change and Environmental Review Speaker Series

Thursday, June 23, 10 – 11 a.m.

[Join online](#)

Join a panel discussion of experienced legal practitioners that will share their perspectives on historic legal challenges, lessons learned from the administrative records of recent legal challenges and considerations when creating an effective administrative record. Featuring:

- Robert Roche - Assistant Ramsey County Attorney and former Assistant Attorney General for Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
- Colin O'Donovan - Assistant Attorney General, Office of Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison
- Jean Coleman - Senior Attorney, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Throughout the [Climate Change and Environmental Review Pilot Program](#), EQB is hosting a monthly speaker series open to anyone that will feature presentations by technical experts about incorporating climate information into environmental assessment worksheets.

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 will begin 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](#).

We need your feedback: Some governmental units are completing environmental review using the draft revised environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) form that includes information about greenhouse gases and climate change. These reviews are noted below with a star (*) in front of the project title. Help us understand the usefulness of the climate change information in these EAWs by completing a [brief survey](#). Your feedback is important to the Environmental Quality Board and will inform decision making on the final EAW form.

Cleveland Avenue Reconstruction Project

Location: St. Paul, Ramsey County

Process: Petition

Step: Responsible governmental unit assigned

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Ramsey County, [John Mazzitello](#), 651-266-7105

Kenneth Gruenes Farm

Location: Richmond, Stearns County

Process: Petition

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) need decision

Responsible governmental unit decision: Exempt from Minn. R. 4410 (no EAW ordered)

Record of decision date: June 13, 2022

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

Proposed Mixed Use Development for 37 acres of Lake 9 of the Lester Park Golf Course

Location: Duluth, St. Louis County

Process: Petition

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet (EAW) need decision

Responsible governmental unit decision: Negative (no EAW ordered)

Record of decision date: June 14, 2022

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Duluth, [Adam Fulton](#), 218-730-5580

***Abbott Northwestern Surgical and Critical Care Pavilion**

Location: Minneapolis, Hennepin County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet available

End of comment period: July 21, 2022

Project description: This EAW studies the proposed Abbott Northwestern Surgical and Critical Care Pavilion located at 2742 10th Avenue South, 800, 916, 920, and 924 28th Street East, 2651 and 2753 Chicago Avenue, and 2701 Elliot Avenue in Minneapolis. Allina Health is proposing to construct the Abbott Northwestern Surgical and Critical Care Pavilion (Care Pavilion). The Care Pavilion project proposes replacing the four-story Ramp 1 with an approximately 588,000 square foot, 10-story quaternary Care Pavilion. The Care Pavilion will include 30 operating rooms, expanded heart services, four floor of inpatient beds, and a shelled floor for future patient care. The Care Pavilion will provide centralized kitchen and sterile spaces for the larger Abbott Northwestern campus. The project will also include roadway access system modifications, parking spaces, roadway reconstruction, and outdoor amenity and landscaping spaces.

Link to public documents: [Abbott Northwestern Surgical and Critical Care Pavilion EAW](#)

Location of public documents: Hennepin County Library - Central, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401

First public meeting date, time, location: August 8, 2022, 1:30 p.m., Minneapolis City Hall - Council Chambers, 350 5th St S, #317, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Second public meeting date, time, location: August 18, 2022, 9:30 a.m., Minneapolis, City Hall - Council Chambers, 350 5th St S, #317, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Minneapolis, [Andrew Frenz](#), 612-673-3790

Shoreview Deluxe Redevelopment

Location: Shoreview, Ramsey County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet (EAW)

Step: Environmental impact statement (EIS) need decision

Responsible governmental unit decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Responsible governmental unit decision date: June 9, 2022

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

Location of public documents: Shoreview City Hall, 4600 Victoria Street North, Shoreview, MN 55126

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Shoreview, [Tom Simonson](#), 651-490-4612

Wabasha Barge Facility

Location: Wabasha, Wabasha County

Process: Environmental impact statement

Step: Environmental impact statement scoping EAW and draft scoping decision

End of comment period: July 21, 2022

Project description: This Scoping Document addresses a proposed barge facility in Wabasha, MN that will serve to transport sand from Mississippi River navigation channel dredging operations from the river to offsite locations for beneficial re-use. The project area encompasses 54.0 acres and will include infrastructure construction, including access channel dredging, a sheet pile dock wall, barge mooring and maneuvering facilities, conveyors and hoppers for material management, temporary storage area for transported dredge material, sewer and water utilities, internal access road, a weighing station, and a small operations structure (see Appendix A for a series of location maps and existing/proposed site condition maps). Facility operations will involve the transfer of sand from river barges to trucks for transport to off-site facilities for use as reclamation material for existing sand and gravel mines or other potential beneficial reuse.

Link to public documents: [Wabasha Barge Facility environmental impact statement scoping EAW and draft scoping decision](#)

Location of public documents: Wabasha City Hall, 900 Hiawatha Drive E, Wabasha, MN 55981

First public meeting date, time, location: July 19, 2022, 5:30 p.m., Wabasha City Hall, 900 Hiawatha Drive E, Wabasha, MN 55981

First public meeting virtual link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82539841446>

First public meeting additional details: The meeting will occur as part of the regularly scheduled Wabasha Port Authority and Development Agency meeting. Interested individuals unable to attend in-person can attend virtually.

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Wabasha Port Authority, [Caroline Gregerson](#), 651-565-4568

Nelson Mine Backwater Project

Location: Cottage Grove, Washington County

Process: Environmental impact statement

Step: Environmental impact statement preparation notice

Project description: Holcim (formerly Aggregate Industries – MWR, Inc.) is proposing to move its mine area, which supports the existing Nelson Sand & Gravel Mine Facility, onto an approximately 395-acre parcel of privately owned land that the company leases in the

backwaters of the Mississippi River on Lower Grey Cloud Island in Cottage Grove, MN. The planned shift in mine area would take place during a 20 to 25-year period. On May 4, 2022, the Cottage Grove City Council passed a resolution approving the Final Scoping Decision Document. A formal Notice of EIS preparation will be published on June 21, 2022.

Summary of scoping decision: Pursuant to Minnesota Administrative Rules (Minnesota Rules) for nonmetallic mineral mining, 4410.4400, Subpart 9B and Subpart 9C, the City of Cottage Grove, acting as the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) has prepared a Final Scoping Decision Document (SDD) for Aggregate Industries – MWR, Inc. (Proposer) Nelson Mine Backwater Project (Project). The existing Nelson Sand & Gravel Mine Facility mines aggregate in the Lower Grey Cloud Island deposit and will exhaust its currently accessible minable reserves in approximately five years given the current rate of mining, market trends, and geologic variations at the site. The proposed Project's purpose is to exercise Aggregate Industries' lease to continue mechanical dredging operations in an adjacent backwaters area of the Mississippi River to supply to the Twin Cities and other local markets with construction quality natural aggregate for an additional 20 to 25 years.

Link to public documents: [Nelson Mine Backwater Project environmental impact statement preparation notice](#)

Location of public documents: Cottage Grove City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Cottage Grove, [Emily Schmitz](#), 651-458-2874

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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