

## The *EQB Monitor*

520 Lafayette Road North, Saint Paul, MN 55155 - [www.eqb.state.mn.us](http://www.eqb.state.mn.us)  
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**Publication Schedule:** Tuesdays at 12:00 PM  
**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](mailto:MNEQB@public.govdelivery.com) to your address book or safe sender list.

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## EQB Announcements



### Climate Change & Environmental Review: We are listening!

Minnesota's Environmental Quality Board (EQB) is considering changes to the Environmental Review Program to address climate change, and these changes may impact you in some way. Opportunities to provide input include:

- written comments via mail and email through an open-comment period that ends on March 31st,
- [Attend the March 17th listening sessions](#)

- Attend March 27<sup>th</sup> listening Session from 10:00am to 11:30am (more information posted on March 19<sup>th</sup>)
- Take an online survey (posted soon)

Please visit the [Climate Change and Environmental Review](#) page on the EQB website to find out more information about all the ways you can participate. And, [sign up](#) for the Climate Change and Environmental Review contact list to receive updates on this project.

## Apply now to be an Environmental Quality Board member

The application is open for a Public Board Member position representing Minnesota's Congressional District 6. This district spans parts of Benton, Carver, Sherburne, Stearns, Wright, Anoka and Washington counties, including cities such as Saint Cloud, Big Lake, Hugo, and Waconia.



Serving on the Environmental Quality Board is a unique opportunity to shape environmental issues in Minnesota. Public Board Members bring the voices of Minnesotans from around the state into decision making, helping the Board think in new ways about environmental challenges and solutions.

To learn more, visit the Environmental Quality Board's [Join the Board](#) page. The position is open until filled, and begins in January 2022.

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## Environmental Assessment Worksheets

### Lake Traverse Water Quality Improvement Project - Phase II

**Comment Deadline:** April 15, 2021

**Project Description:** The Bois de Sioux River Watershed is proposing to complete the Lake Traverse Water Quality Improvement Project (LTWQIP) Phase II of a multi-phase project to improve water quality, reduce sedimentation, reduce flooding and improve fish habitat through restoration of Traverse County Ditch 52 (TCD 52), a main tributary to Lake Traverse in the Bois de Sioux watershed. Phase II consists of channel stabilization improvements and habitat enhancement on the TCD 52 tributary from immediately downstream of Minnesota State Highway 27 to the outlet at the confluence with TCD 52, approximately 1,500 feet of channel.

**Link to Document:** <http://www.bdswd.com/>

**RGU:** Bois de Sioux Watershed District

**RGU Contact:** Jamie Beyer, 320-563-4185, [bdswd@runestone.net](mailto:bdswd@runestone.net)

# Hiawatha Maintenance Facility Expansion (comment period extended)

**Comment Deadline:** March 25, 2021

**Project Description:** This EAW studies the proposed Hiawatha Maintenance Facility Expansion located at 1911 East 26th Street, 1860 East 28th Street and 2717 Longfellow Avenue in Minneapolis. The Minneapolis Public Works Department is proposing to expand their Hiawatha Maintenance Facility, located at 1911 East 26th Street, into the property immediately to the south. This will involve the relocation and consolidation of water distribution maintenance office, shop, yard and vehicle/equipment storage functions, and sewer and stormwater office staff from elsewhere, requiring the demolition of the former Roof Depot warehouse building, and construction of approximately 328,000 square feet of new buildings, and parking (surface and structured) for an additional 360 City and personal vehicles.

**Link to Document:** [http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/cped/planning/cped\\_eaw](http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/cped/planning/cped_eaw)

**RGU:** City of Minneapolis

**RGU Contact:** Hilary Dvorak, 612-673-2639, [hilary.dvorak@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:hilary.dvorak@minneapolismn.gov)

## General Notices

### Minnesota Department of Agriculture - Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms

**KWS Seeds, LLC** filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # **21-NO-14**. Notification is for genetically modified **SUGARBEET**, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application **AUTH - 0000105452**. The counties identified for release include the following: **Carver-2 locations with 10 acres/location ; Clay-4 locations with 10 acres/location; Dakota-3 locations with 10 acres/location; Goodhue-2 locations with 10 acres/location; LeSueur-1 location with 10 acres, Scott-1 location with 10 acres, and Wilkin-1 location with 10 acres**. Project categories include **HR (Herbicide Resistance) and PQ (Product Quality)**.

**KWS Seeds, LLC** filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # **21-NO-15**. Notification is for genetically modified **SUGARBEET**, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application **AUTH - 0000103828**. The counties identified for release include the following: **Clay-4 locations with 10 acres/location; Dakota-2 locations with 10 acres/location; Goodhue-2 locations with 10 acres/location; and Wilkin-1 location with 10 acres**. Project categories include **HR (Herbicide Resistance)**.

**For additional information** related to Minnesota Department of Agriculture - Releases of Genetically Engineered Organisms, contact Denise Thiede, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 625 Robert St N., St. Paul, MN 55155, 651-402-3149, [denise.thiede@state.mn.us](mailto:denise.thiede@state.mn.us).

# NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Issued: March 9, 2021

**In the Matter of the Application of Petroleum Fuels Company for a Gas Pipeline Routing Permit for the Pine Bend Pipeline Project in Dakota County, Minnesota**

**PUC Docket Numbers: IP-7042/PPL-20-872**

**Date: March 25, 2021**  
**Time: 6:00 PM\***  
**Location: Remote-Access Meeting (telephone and/or internet)**

\*The meeting will end when all attendees have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded.

To find out if a meeting is canceled call 1-855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc).

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold a remote-access public meeting on the application of Petroleum Fuels Company (PFC) for its proposed gas pipeline project. **Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the remote-access public meeting will replace the standard in-person meeting. Similar to an in-person meeting, the remote-access meeting will provide interested persons the opportunity to: (1) provide comments regarding the proposed project; and (2) ask questions and provide comments on potential issues to be considered by the Commission in its decision-making process or included as a condition in the final route permit.**

## How to Attend the Meeting

To participate, follow the directions below to access the meeting over the telephone to listen and/or provide verbal comments (audio only). If you are also interested in accessing the video portion of the meeting, follow the directions below to view the presentation over the internet (video only – no audio). **You must, at a minimum, join the meeting by telephone if you are interested in listening to the meeting and/or in providing verbal comments on the proposed project.** If you wish to watch the video stream with audio you must join by both phone and internet. Written comments may also be submitted during the comment period following the meeting using the methods described in this notice.

<b>To attend the 6:00 pm meeting: Join the meeting by telephone</b> Phone: 1-866-609-6127 Conference ID: 9446307 An operator will assist you	<b>Join the meeting by internet (video only – no audio)</b> Navigate on your computer to: tinyurl.com/n2nxrdy5 or <a href="https://minnesota.webex.com">https://minnesota.webex.com</a> Event Number: 187 536 9478 Event Password, if needed: MPUC
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Please contact Michael Kaluzniak, Public Advisor if you have questions on how to participate or have trouble accessing the meeting at [Mike.Kaluzniak@state.mn.us](mailto:Mike.Kaluzniak@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2257.

Information on the application review process and documents related to the proposed project including the route permit application and the filings in this docket are available on the Department of Commerce website at: <https://mn.gov/eera/web/project/14174/> and the

Commission's website at [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *eDockets*, enter the year (20) and the docket number (872) and select *Search*.

### **Project Description**

The proposed project would include construction of a new 4.5-inch steel pipeline, approximately 5,600 feet in length, in Inver Grove Heights, MN. The proposed pipeline will transport gas from a Renewable Natural Gas Processing Facility near the Republic Services Pine Bend Landfill to a delivery point into the Northern States Power Company high-pressure gas system. The pipeline will operate at a pressure of 670 pounds per square inch gauge.

PFC filed its application under the Commission's partial exemption review process. The partial exemption review process is applicable to pipeline projects that are not anticipated to have significant environmental impacts. The partial exemption process is outlined in Minn. Rule 7852.0600 and applications are reviewed under the evaluation criteria outlined in Minn. Rule 7852.0700.

The Commission will decide whether to grant or deny the partial exemption based upon public comments received, the information in the record, and the criteria set forth in Minnesota Rule 7852.0700, Subp. 3. If the Commission does not grant the partial exemption, PFC may submit its application pursuant to the Commission's full pipeline route selection procedures.

### **Meeting Information**

The purpose of the public meeting is to inform the public about the project, to obtain public input on the proposed project, and to compile the record for the Commission to consider in making a final decision on the route permit application.

- The meeting starts on time.
- Log in/dial in a few minutes before the scheduled start time.
- Public Utilities Commission, Department of Commerce, and PFC representatives are available to answer questions about the permitting process and the project.
- You may provide verbal comments or ask questions.

### **Submit Comments**

#### **Topics Open for Public Comment:**

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

- What potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project should be considered?
- What are the possible methods to minimize, mitigate, or avoid potential impacts of the proposed project?
- Are there any unique characteristics of the proposed site or the project area that should be considered?
- Should the Commission grant or deny the partial exemption requested by PFC?
- Are there other project related issues or concerns?

**Comment Period:** Comments accepted through **April 16, 2021 at 4:30 PM**

Comments received after the close of the comment period may or may not be considered by the Commission.

**Comments may be submitted by any of the following means:**

**Online:** Visit [mn.gov/puc](https://mn.gov/puc), select *Comment* and follow the prompts.

**Email:** [publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us):

**US Mail:** Public Advisor, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission  
121 7th Place East, Suite 350 Event Number: 187 536 9478  
Saint Paul, MN 55101

**Important:** Comments will be made available to the public via the Public Utilities Commission's website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The Commission does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

**Process Information**

Before a pipeline can be constructed, the Commission must issue a route permit for the project. PFC's partial exemption application was accepted as complete by the Commission on February 23, 2021. The Commission's partial exemption permitting process takes about 90 days.

The public information meeting is intended to inform the public about the permitting process, to compile information to assist the Commission in determining whether to grant or deny the partial exemption application, and to afford an opportunity for members of the public to submit comments. In deciding whether to grant or deny the partial exemption, the Commission will consider comments filed, the information contained in the application, and the record as a whole relevant to the criteria for a partial exemption. If the Commission grants a partial exemption, it will issue a pipeline route permit.

**How to Learn More**

**Department of Commerce Project Website:** <https://mn.gov/eera/web/project/14174/>

**Project Mailing List:** Sign up to receive notices about project milestones and opportunities to participate (meetings, comment periods, etc.). Contact [docketing.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:docketing.puc@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2246 with the docket number (20-872), your name, mailing address and email address.

**Subscribe to the Docket:** Receive email notification when new documents are filed in this matter at [eFiling.com](https://efiling.com), or go to [mn.gov/puc](https://mn.gov/puc), select *Comment*, and follow the prompts. \*Note - subscribing may result in a large number of emails.

**Full Case Record:** See all documents filed in this docket via the Commission's website - [mn.gov/puc](https://mn.gov/puc), select *Search eDockets*, enter the year (20) and the docket number (872), select *Search*.

**Community Locations:** PFC's route permit application is available at these locations:

- Inver Glen Library, 8098 Blaine Avenue, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

Note: Due to the Covid-19 pandemic your local library may be closed or have limited hours.

## Project Contacts

### Public Utilities Commission Public Advisor

Michael Kaluzniak - [Mike.Kaluzniak@state.mn.us](mailto:Mike.Kaluzniak@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2257

### Public Utilities Commission Energy Facilities Planner

Cezar Panait – [Cezar.Panait@state.mn.us](mailto:Cezar.Panait@state.mn.us) or 651-201-2207

### Department of Commerce Environmental Review Manager

Larry Hartman – [larry.hartman@state.mn.us](mailto:larry.hartman@state.mn.us) or 651-539-1839

Ray Kirsch – [raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us](mailto:raymond.kirsch@state.mn.us) or 651-539-1841

### Petroleum Fuels Company Project Contact

Brooks Young, Vice President, Business Development, PFC Midstream  
– [byoung@pfcmidstream.com](mailto:byoung@pfcmidstream.com) or 713-678-0674

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\*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](mailto:Env.Review@state.mn.us), call 651.757.2873, or visit our [website](#).\*

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