

EQB Monitor

EQB announcements and environmental review notices

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EQB announcement

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](#).

Environmental review 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](#).

Squaw Lake Connector Trail

Location: Squaw Lake, Itasca County

Process: Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)

Step: EAW Available

End of Comment Period: April 28, 2022

Project Description: The proposed project will occur on the Leech Lake Reservation In Itasca County within the city limits of Squaw Lake, within the western ROW of MN 46 extending a currently existing aggregate based bituminous overlaid multi-use trail that will provide a safe means for the community and other users to enjoy the outdoors. The project will add a 1,324.74' segment to an already existing trail constructed in 2015.

Link to Public Documents: No link to documents provided. See Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) information below.

Location of Public Documents: Leech Lake Roads Department, 314 First Street NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) and Contact: Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, [Ben Benoit](#), 218-335-7417

Project Ollie

Location: Otsego, Wright County

Process: EAW

Step: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: March 14, 2022

Link to Public Documents: [Project Ollie EIS Need Decision](#)

Location of Public Documents: Otsego City Hall, 13400 90th Street NE Otsego, MN 55330

RGU and Contact: City of Otsego, [D. Daniel Licht](#), 763-441-4414

Sunrise Riverbank Development

Location: Wyoming, Chisago County

Process: EAW

Step: EIS Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: March 15, 2022

Link to Public Documents: No link to documents provided. See RGU contact information below.

Location of Public Documents: Wyoming City Hall, 26885 Forest Blvd, Wyoming, MN 55092

RGU and Contact: City of Wyoming, [Fred Weck](#), 651-462-4947

CSAH 13 Valhalla Road Improvement Project

Location: Currie, Minnesota/Lake Sarah and Mason Townships, Murray County

Process: EAW

Step: EIS Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: March 15, 2022

Link to Public Documents: No link to documents provided. See RGU contact information below.

Location of Public Documents: Murray County Highway Department, 3051 20th St, Slayton, MN 56172

RGU and Contact: Murray County, [Randy Groves](#), 507-836-1133

Additional Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant

Location: Monticello, Wright County

Process: EIS

Step: EIS Preparation Notice

Project Description: Xcel Energy proposes to extend the operating life of the Monticello nuclear plant from 2030 to 2040. To accommodate the additional spent nuclear fuel associated with this extension, Xcel Energy proposes to expand storage within the Monticello independent spent fuel storage installation, ISFSI. This additional storage requires installation of a second concrete support pad within the existing ISFSI. Additionally, a modular concrete storage system will be placed on the new concrete pad. Xcel Energy indicates that spent fuel will be stored in welded canisters, with the canisters then being placed in the concrete storage system. Xcel Energy estimates that approximately 14 additional spent fuel storage canisters will be

needed for operations through 2040.

Summary of Scoping Decision: The EIS will analyze the potential radiological and non-radiological impacts of Xcel Energy's proposed additional storage of spent nuclear fuel. The EIS will also analyze the potential impacts associated with (1) operation of the Monticello nuclear plant through 2040, and (2) use of the Monticello independent spent fuel storage installation to facilitate decommissioning of the plant in 2040.

Link to Public Documents: [Additional Storage of Spent Nuclear Fuel at the Monticello Nuclear Generating Plant EIS Preparation Notice](#)

Location of Public Documents: Minnesota Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place East, Suite 230, St. Paul, MN 55101

RGU and Contact: Minnesota Department of Commerce, [Ray Kirsch](#), 651-539-1841

General Notices

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

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 # 22-NO-08. Notification is for genetically modified SOYBEAN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000203082. The counties identified for release include the following: Clay-1 site with 5 acres, Goodhue-1 site with 25 acres, Redwood-1 site with 10 acres, Rice-2 sites with 25 acres/site, Waseca-2 sites with 25 acres/site, and Steele-1 site with 25 acres. Project categories include AP (Agronomic Performance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), MG (Marker Genes), and PQ (Product Quality). For additional information contact Denise Thiede.

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 # 22-NO-09. Notification is for genetically modified CORN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000203085. The counties identified for release include the following: Brown-2 sites

with 15 acres/site, Dodge-1 site with 25 acres, Goodhue-1 site with 25 acres, Lyon-1 site with 10 acres, McLeod-1 site with 15 acres, Mower-1 site with 25 acres, Redwood-1 site with 10 acres, Rice-2 sites with 25 acres/site, Steele-1 site with 25 acres, and Waseca-2 sites with 25 acres/site. Project categories include AP (Agronomic Performance), FR (Fungal Resistance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), MG (Marker Genes), and OO (Other). For additional information contact Denise Thiede. **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 # 22-NO-10. Notification is for genetically modified CORN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000204834. The counties identified for release include the following: Freeborn-1 site with 20 acres. Project categories include AP (Agronomic Performance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), MG (Marker Genes), and OO (Other). For additional information contact Denise Thiede.

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 # 22-NO-11. Notification is for genetically modified CORN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000203078. The counties identified for release include the following: Blue Earth-1 site with 50 acres, Dakota-1 site with 50 acres, Goodhue-1 site with 50 acres, Lincoln-1 site with 10 acres, Swift-1 site with 10 acres, and Yellow Medicine -1 site with 10 acres. Project categories include AP (Agronomic Performance), FR (Fungal Resistance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), and OO (Other). For additional information contact Denise Thiede.

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 # 22-NO-12. Notification is for genetically modified SUGAR BEET, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000205356. The counties identified for release include the following: Clay-1 site with 20 acres, Dakota-1 site with 20 acres, Goodhue-1 site with 20 acres, and Le Sueur-1 site with 20 acres. Project categories include HR (Herbicide Resistance). For additional information contact Denise Thiede.

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: Pioneer Hi-Bred International filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # 22-NO-13. Notification is for genetically modified CORN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000206725. The counties identified for release include the following: Blue Earth-2 sites with 12 and 50 acres, Faribault-2 sites with 7 and 15 acres, Fillmore-4 sites with 15, 20, 25, and 35 acres, Goodhue-1 site with 15 acres, Sibley-1 site with 25 acres, and Waseca-1 site with 50 acres. Project categories include AP (Agronomic Performance), FR (Fungal Resistance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), MG (Marker Genes), PQ (Product Quality), and OO (Other). For additional information contact Denise Thiede.

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: Pioneer Hi-Bred International filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # 22-NO-14. Notification is for genetically modified CORN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH – 0000212308. The counties identified for release include the following: Freeborn-1 sites with 10 acres and Swift-3 sites with 10 acres/site. Project categories include HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), MG (Marker Genes), and OO

(Other). For additional information contact Denise Thiede.

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: Pioneer Hi-Bred International filed a Notification for Release of a Genetically Engineered Organism with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, MDA notification # 22-NO-15. Notification is for genetically modified CORN, pending USDA-APHIS Biotechnology Regulatory Services (BRS) approval for release in Application AUTH - 0000206726. The counties identified for release include the following: Blue Earth-2 sites with 12 and 50 acres, Faribault-2 sites with 7 and 15 acres, Fillmore-4 sites with 15, 20, 25, and 35 acres, Goodhue-1 site with 15 acres, Sibley-1 site with 25 acres, and Waseca-1 site with 50 acres. Project categories include AP (Agronomic Performance), HT (Herbicide Tolerance), IR (Insect Resistance), MG (Marker Genes), and OO (Other). For additional information contact Denise Thiede.

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

Submit an environmental review notice to the *Monitor*

The *EQB Monitor* is published every Tuesday at 12:00 pm. Submissions to the [EQB Monitor](#) are due by 4:00 pm 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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