

EQB Monitor

EQB announcements and Environmental review notices

Volume 45, Number 46

November 16, 2021

EQB announcements

Environmental Quality Board Meeting November 17, 2021 from 1-4 pm

We invite you to join the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) at their next meeting on November 17, 2021 from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the EQB will convene its November Board meeting virtually through the Webex platform. [Instructions for participating in the meeting via Webex](#) are available on the EQB's website.

[Access link to November 17, 2021 Board Meeting](#)

[November 2021, EQB Meeting Packet](#)

Accessibility: This material can be provided in different forms, like large print, braille, or on a recording. Please contact EQB staff at least one week prior to the event at info.eqb@state.mn.us to arrange an accommodation.

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

A [Pilot Program](#) that will assess the efficiency and effectiveness of climate information included on a draft revised Environmental Assessment Worksheet will begin in early 2022. Registration is open to all state and local responsible governmental units and consultants, regardless of whether you are actively reviewing a project. Registered participants will benefit from shared learning as well as training provided by technical experts and will receive email updates, as information is available. [Register now!](#)

Apply now to be a Board member at EQB!

The application is open for four EQB Public Board Member positions – one each representing Minnesota’s 1st, 2nd, 7th, and 8th congressional districts. 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.



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](#).

Proposed Heartland Greenway Project

Location: Southwest Minnesota

Process: Citizen Petition

Step: Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) Assigned

RGU and Contact: Public Utilities Commission, [Bret Eknes](#), 651-201-2236

Proposed Midwest Carbon Express Project

Location: Central and Southwest Minnesota

Process: Citizen Petition

Step: RGU Assigned

RGU and Contact: Public Utilities Commission, [Bret Eknes](#), 651-201-2236

Proposed Northshore Mining Company Milepost 7 Expansion Project

Location: Beaver Bay Township, Lake County

Process: Citizen Petition

Step: RGU Assigned

RGU and Contact: Department of Natural Resources, [Jill Townley](#), 651-259-5168

Knife River Bengtson Pit

Location: Haven Township, Sherburne County

Process: Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)

Step: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: November 2, 2021

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

Location of Public Documents: Sherburne County Government Center, 13880 Business Center Dr., Elk River, MN 55330

RGU and Contact: Sherburne County, [Mitch Glines](#), 763-765-4466

Livonia Sand and Gravel Mine: Tiller Corporation

Location: Livonia Township, Sherburne County

Process: EAW

Step: EIS Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: November 2, 2021

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

Location of Public Documents: Sherburne County Planning and Zoning, 13880 Business Center Dr., Elk River, MN 55330

RGU and Contact: Sherburne County, [Marc Schneider](#), 763-765-4454

Evanswood Residential Development

Location: Maple Grove, Hennepin County

Process: EAW

Step: EIS Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: November 1, 2021

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

Location of Public Documents: Maple Grove Government Center, 12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway N, Maple Grove, MN 55369

RGU and Contact: City of Maple Grove, [Peter Vickerman](#), 763-494-6046

Wozniak South Development

Location: Woodbury, Washington County

Process: EAW

Step: EIS Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: October 27, 2021

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

Location of Public Documents: Woodbury City Hall, 8301 Valley Creek Road, Woodbury, MN 55125

RGU and Contact: City of Woodbury, [Jennifer McLoughlin](#), 651-714-3522

2021 Village AUAR Update

Location: Lake Elmo, Washington County

Process: Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) Update

Step: AUAR Update Available

End of Comment Period: December 2, 2021

Project Description: Update to the Village AUAR in the City of Lake Elmo.

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

Location of Public Documents: City of Lake Elmo, 3800 Laverne Ave N, Lake Elmo, MN 55042

RGU and Contact: City of Lake Elmo, [Molly Just](mailto:Molly.Just@lakeelmo.org), 651-747-3912

Community Wind South Project

Location: Summit Lake and Larkin Townships, Nobles County

Process: Alternative Review

Notice Title: Notice of Public Meetings and Comment Period

Notice Description: On September 30, 2021, Zephyr Wind, LLC (Applicant) submitted an application to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to repower and operate a 33-megawatt (MW) Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Nobles County. In order to construct the Community Wind South Repower Project, the Applicant must be granted a site permit from the Commission. Community Wind South proposes repowering the existing MM92 turbines using Vestas V110 turbines. The applicant will not be moving or adding turbines to the project and the project boundary of about 3,111 acres will not be altered after the wind farm repower project is constructed but had indicated that minor facilities upgrades will be required for the Repower Project to comply with the requirements of the amended interconnection agreement with the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO).

Project Description: Repowering includes removal of the old nacelles and blades, installing an adapter on top of the existing towers, followed by placement of new nacelles and blades. The repowered 2.2 MW turbines will replace the existing 2.05 MW turbines resulting in a name plate capacity of 33 MW. The project will be governed at the Point of Interconnect (POI) to maintain power delivery to the grid at or below the existing 30.75 MW interconnection agreement. The applicant plans to utilize the existing foundations, towers and much of the electrical infrastructure and access roads. Minor upgrades to the electrical collection system may be needed to support the higher capacity turbines and the project substation/switchyard may require an expansion on one side to install new capacitor banks for each medium voltage circuit to meet voltage and power factor requirements as required by MISO.

Link to Public Documents: <https://apps.commerce.state.mn.us/eera/web/project/435>

Location of Public Documents: Nobles County Public Library, 407 12th St. #2, Worthington, MN 56187

First Public Meeting Date, Time, Location: November 29, 2021, 6:00 PM, Reading Community Center, 26991 200th St, Reading, MN 56165

Second Public Meeting Date, Time, Location: November 30, 2021 at 6:00 PM remotely

Second Public Meeting Virtual Link: minnesota.webex.com

Second Public Meeting Additional Details:

Telephone: 1-800-374-0221, Conference ID: 3081559

Event Number: 2483 866 2238, Password: MNPUC

The public meeting is an opportunity for the public to ask questions and submit recommendations for the Commission's consideration in reaching its decision. After the public meeting and comment period, the Commission will review all the information in the record, including comments submitted by the public and anticipates making a final decision on the application by spring of 2022.

The Public Comment Period for the project will remain open until December 17, 2021 at 4:30 PM. Comments may be submitted via:

Online: Visit mn.gov/puc select *Comment* and follow the prompts.

Email: publicadvisor.puc@state.mn.us

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

Information on the application review process and documents related to the proposed project including materials from the public meeting and the site permit amendment application are available on the Department of Commerce website or at the Commission's website at mn.gov/puc, select eDockets, enter the year (11) and the docket number (863), and select Search.

RGU and Contact: Public Utilities Commission, [Cezar Panait](mailto:Cezar.Panait@puc.state.mn.us), 651-201-2207

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.



Environmental Quality Board | eqb.state.mn.us

Email us: Env.review@state.mn.us | Call: 651-757-2873



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