

EQB Monitor

EQB announcements and Environmental review notices

Volume 45, Number 48

November 30, 2021

EQB announcements

Subcommittee on Pilot Program Implementation meetings

November 30, 2021

The first meeting of the Subcommittee for Pilot Program Implementation (SPPI) will be held virtually on [November 30, 2021 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm](#). This meeting is open to the public. Additional information about the SPPI, as well as meeting materials with links for virtual participation, can be found on the [Subcommittee's webpage](#).

December 9, 2021

The second meeting of the Subcommittee for Pilot Program Implementation (SPPI) will be held virtually on [December 9th, 2021 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm](#). This meeting is open to the public. Additional information about the SPPI, as well as meeting materials with links for virtual participation, can be found on the [Subcommittee's webpage](#).

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](#).

Former Mississippi Dunes Golf Course

Location: Cottage Grove, Washington County

Process: Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)

Step: EAW Available

End of Comment Period: December 30, 2021

Project Description: The Project is a new neighborhood in Cottage Grove that is planned for a mix of market rate single-family detached homes, senior living opportunities, parks and open space. Located adjacent and north of the Mississippi River corridor, the neighborhood will provide a maximum of 239 new detached single-family homes, 130 age-targeted active 55+ detached townhomes and an approximately 130-unit Senior Living Building. An extensive network of open spaces and trails is planned and will provide public access to the river and the surrounding community.

Link to Public Documents: [Former Mississippi Dunes Golf Course EAW](#)

Location of Public Documents: City of Cottage Grove, 12800 Ravine Parkway South, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

First Public Meeting Date, Time, Location: December 1, 2021, 7:00 p.m., City Hall, City of Cottage Grove, 12800 Ravine Parkway South, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

First Public Meeting Virtual Link: <https://www.cottagegrovemn.gov/>

Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) and Contact: City of Cottage Grove, [Emily Schmitz](#), 651-458-2800

Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project

Location: Golden Valley, Hennepin County

Process: EAW

Step: EAW Available

End of Comment Period: December 30, 2021

Project Description: The Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission's (BCWMC) current Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes project BC 7 "dredging of accumulated sediment in Main Stem of Bassett Creek just north of Highway 55, Theodore Wirth Regional Park" (Main Stem Lagoon Dredging Project; Project). The Project includes dredging accumulated sediment from three lagoons (D, E, and F) along the Main Stem of Bassett Creek to improve water quality, improve habitat, and alleviate flooding.

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

Location of Public Documents: Golden Valley City Hall, 7800 Golden Valley Rd, Golden Valley, MN 55427

RGU and Contact: City of Golden Valley, [Marc Nevinski](#), 763-593-8008

CSAH 35 Reconstruct (SAP 056-635-038)

Location: Sverdrup Township, Otter Tail County

Process: EAW

Step: EAW Available

End of Comment Period: December 30, 2021

Project Description: The OTC Highway Department proposes the 2.86-mile reconstruction of County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 35 from Underwood to CSAH 18 in southwest Otter Tail County. The overall goals of the reconstruction project are to improve traffic safety, correct geometric limitations, minimize property disruption, and minimize/mitigate environmental impacts.

Link to Public Documents: [CSAH 35 Reconstruct EAW \(SAP 056-635-038\)](#)

Location of Public Documents: Otter Tail County Highway Department, 505 South Court Street, Suite 1, Fergus Falls, MN 56537

RGU and Contact: Otter Tail County, [Craig Tschida](#), 218-998-8470

Redwood Falls Southeast Development

Location: Redwood Falls, Redwood County

Process: EAW

Step: Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: November 16, 2021

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

Location of Public Documents: Redwood Falls City Hall, 333 S. Washington Street, Redwood Falls, MN 56283

RGU and Contact: City of Redwood Falls, [Jim Doering](#), 507-616-7400

Upper South Branch Buffalo River Restoration Project

Location: Deerhorn, Atherton, and Manston Townships, Wilkin County

Process: EAW

Step: EIS Need Decision

RGU Decision: Negative (no EIS ordered)

Record of Decision Date: November 22, 2021

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

Location of Public Documents: Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, 1303 4th Ave NE, Barnesville, MN 56514

RGU and Contact: Buffalo-Red River Watershed District, [Kristine Altrichter](#), 218-789-3100

General Notices

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

Notice of Power Plant Siting Act Annual Hearing

Notice Description: The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission will hold the annual public hearing on the Power Plant Siting Act, pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 216E.07. The hearing will provide interested persons an opportunity to be heard regarding any matters relating to the siting of large electric generating power plants and routing of high-voltage transmission lines.

Please read before attending the hearing in-person: https://mn.gov/puc-stat/documents/pdf_files/Attending%20an%20Agenda%20Meeting.pdf.

Written comments will be accepted through January 10, 2022, by 4:30 p.m. Please include the PUC Docket Number (21-18) and OAH Docket Number (65-2500-37832) in all communications.

Comments may be submitted:

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

Public Hearing Date, Time, Location: December 20, 2021, 9:30 AM, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission's Large Hearing Room, 121 7th Place East, 3rd Floor, Saint Paul, MN 55101

Public Hearing Virtual Link: <https://mn.gov/puc/about-us/calendar/>

Public Hearing Additional Details: The link to the WebEx login information is available on the Commission's calendar at: <https://mn.gov/puc/about-us/calendar/>. Select the date of the hearing (December 20, 2021 and Viewing Instructions) and follow the instructions for joining the hearing using your computer, tablet, or smart phone. Call-in directions will also be provided for those who wish to attend by audio only using a standard telephone connection.

General information about attending a hearing using the WebEx platform can be found at: <https://mn.gov/puc/activities/meetings/webex/>.

Link to Additional Information: <https://mn.gov/puc/about-us/calendar/>

Contact: Public Utilities Commission, [Scott Ek](#), 651-201-2255

Notice of Permit Decision

Notice Description: Notice of Permit Decision in the Matter of the Application of Plum Creek Wind Farm, LLC for a Route Permit for a 345 kV Transmission Line Associated with the up to 414 MW Plum Creek Large Wind Energy Conversion System in Cottonwood, Murray, and Redwood Counties, Minnesota Docket No. IP-6997/TL-18-701 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in an order issued September 23, 2021, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission: (i) found that the final environmental impact statement prepared by the Department of Commerce was adequate pursuant to Minnesota Rules, part 7850.2500, subpart 10; and (ii) issued a route permit to Plum Creek Wind Farm, LLC for its 345 kV high-voltage transmission line in Cottonwood, Murray, and Redwood counties. Questions about this project may be directed to Scott Ek at scott.ek@state.mn.us or 651-201-2255.

Links to additional

information: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/ShowFile.do?DocNumber=20219-178198-02> and <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/ShowFile.do?DocNumber=20219-178198-05>

Contact: Public Utilities Commission, [Scott Ek](#), 651-201-2255

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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