

Urban Development Generic Environmental Impact Statement
Minnesota Session Laws 1999
Chapter 250, Article 1, Section 108

Sec. 108. [URBAN DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENTAL STEERING COMMITTEE.]

Subdivision 1. [COMMITTEE; DEFINITION.] (a) The environmental quality board shall establish an urban development environmental steering committee consisting of representatives of developers, environmental interests, agricultural landowners, and other stakeholders. The urban development environmental steering committee shall advise the environmental quality board on the scope and content of the generic environmental impact statement required in subdivision 2.

(b) Compensation of members and reimbursement of their expenses is governed by Minnesota Statutes, section 15.059.

The committee expires upon completion of the generic environmental impact statement required in subdivision 2 and presentation of the report to the legislature.

(c) For the purposes of this section, "urban development" means development in:

- (1) cities with more than 15,000 population; and
- (2) areas with densities greater than 200 people per square mile in proximity to cities with more than 15,000 population.

Subd. 2. [GENERIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.] A generic environmental impact statement must be prepared under the direction of the environmental quality board to examine the long-term effects of urban development, past, present, and future, upon the economy, environment, and way of life of the residents of this state. The study may address:

(1) the overall dimension of urban development in this state, including the past and current trends of settlement and population growth, the types and location of urban development, and the relationship of past and current development patterns

to existing land use policies;

(2) environmental quality issues associated with urban development such as the effects of urban development on air, groundwater, surface water, and land, including the impact of urban development on the loss of agricultural land in

urbanizing areas;

(3) economic issues such as the comparative economic impact of alternative means of urban development, including the economic efficiency of the alternatives;

(4) social issues such as the comparative social impact of alternative means of urban development; and

(5) the roles of various units of government in regulating various aspects of land use decisions.