

From: [Steinhauer, Suzanne \(PUC\)](#)
To: [Staff, CAO \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: FW: MPUC EA Blue Lake Battery Energy Storage Admin Review 23164-1
Date: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 9:38:36 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[MPUC EA Blue Lake Battery Energy Storage Admin Review 23164-1.pdf](#)

Can you please file the attached comment in docket 25-214? I wasn't expecting comments addressed to me and I inadvertently overlooked this.

From: Dingle, Sandi <sandi.dingle@metc.state.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 4:53 PM
To: Steinhauer, Suzanne (PUC) <suzanne.steinhauer@state.mn.us>
Cc: Sherman, Tod (DOT) <tod.sherman@state.mn.us>; Deb Barber <Deb.Barber@metc.state.mn.us>; Mackenzie Young-Walters <Mackenzie.Young-Walters@metc.state.mn.us>; ReviewsCoordinator <ReviewsCoordinator@metc.state.mn.us>
Subject: MPUC EA Blue Lake Battery Energy Storage Admin Review 23164-1

You don't often get email from sandi.dingle@metc.state.mn.us. [Learn why this is important](#)

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The attached letter is being sent to you electronically on 1/14/2026.



Sandi Dingle

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January 14, 2026

Suzanne Steinhauer, Commission Representative
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350
St. Paul, MN 55101-2147

RE: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission – Environmental Assessment (EA) – Blue Lake Battery Energy Storage EA
Metropolitan Council Review File No. 23164-1
Metropolitan Council District 4

Dear Suzanne Steinhauer:

The Metropolitan Council received the EA for the Blue Lake Battery Energy Storage project in Shakopee on December 23, 2025. The proposed project is located south of the Blue Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant, between CR 101 E and Hwy 169. The proposed project consists of an 11.9-acre site for a 135.5 MW battery energy storage system with associated infrastructure (inverters, transformers, electrical feeder lines, project substation, stormwater BMPs, fencing, etc.)

The staff review finds that the EA is complete and accurate with respect to regional concerns and does not raise major issues of consistency with Council policies.

We offer the following comments for your consideration.

Item 4.7.2 – Geology and Groundwater (Lila Franklin, 651-602-1179)

The project site falls on an area with a "very fast" infiltration rating as shown on the Scott County Atlas Map from 2006 (most recent map available.) It indicates that the estimated vertical travel time for water to move from the land surface to a depth of 10 feet would take hours to weeks. If that water is carrying pollutants, it could rapidly impact groundwater quality. Consider taking extra precautions on this side to avoid contamination, especially during the construction phase of this project when land is being disturbed and construction related pollutants could be rapidly introduced to groundwater.

Item 4.7.9 – Climate Change (MacKenzie Young-Walters, 651-602-1373)

Consider replacing areas where non-native vegetation is removed with native vegetation, which tends to be more resistant to the impacts of climate change and can assist with stormwater management.

This concludes the Council's review of the EA. The Council will not take formal action on the EA. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact MacKenzie Young-Walters, Principal Reviewer, at 651-602-1373 or via email at MacKenzie.Young-Walters@metc.state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela R. Torres for:", written in a cursive style.

Angela R. Torres, AICP, Senior Manager
Local Planning Assistance

CC: Tod Sherman, Development Reviews Coordinator, MnDOT - Metro Division
Deb Barber, Metropolitan Council District 4
MacKenzie Young-Walters, Sector Representative/Principal Reviewer
Reviews Coordinator

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