

From: [Roos, Stephan \(MDA\)](#)
To: [Sullivan, Jim \(PUC\)](#)
Subject: RE: Agricultural Impact Management Plan for the Midwater BESS in Freeborn County, Minnesota
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 10:51:53 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[MDA Approach to Assessing Impacts to Agriculture from Battery Energy Storage Systems - Final.docx](#)

Hi Jim,

Thanks for reaching out to me about Midwater.

A number of months ago I drafted memo on MDA's approach to BESS projects and the need for an AIMP (attached) which I shared with Ray and Bret. Generally, we view stand-alone BESS projects as likely being permanent additions to the grid infrastructure, directly adjacent to an interconnect, and small in terms of acreage impacted. Additionally, the potential external impacts are covered in standard permit conditions. So we won't require an AIMP in most cases. However, we reserve the power to require one if we feel it provides additional protection to agricultural infrastructure and operations. When a BESS component is proposed as part of another project type, e.g., solar, wind, transmission line etc., the AIMP for the larger project would cover the BESS component as well.

I have looked at this project closely and determined that it wouldn't require an AIMP

Thanks again,
Steve

Steve Roos

Environmental Review Program Manager, Energy and Environment Section
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From: Sullivan, Jim (PUC) <Jim.Sullivan@state.mn.us>

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2026 3:29 PM

To: Roos, Stephan (MDA) <stephan.roos@state.mn.us>

Subject: RE: Agricultural Impact Management Plan for the Midwater BESS in Freeborn County, Minnesota

Quick post script: Here is the link to the project information -

<https://puc.eip.mn.gov/web/project/15971>

From: Sullivan, Jim (PUC)

Sent: Friday, March 13, 2026 3:27 PM

To: Roos, Stephan (MDA) <stephan.roos@state.mn.us>

Cc: Agnew, Lauren (She/Her/Hers) (PUC) <Lauren.Agnew@state.mn.us>; Livingston, Jessica (She/Her/Hers) (PUC) <jessica.livingston@state.mn.us>

Subject: Agricultural Impact Management Plan for the Midwater BESS in Freeborn County, Minnesota

Good afternoon, Stephan,

I am the Environmental Review Manager for the Midwater BESS project, in Glenville, Minnesota. I believe you may have had contact with the parent company, Spearmint Energy. We currently have draft permit language that would require an AIMP for the project. Was hoping to touch base with you on whether you think an AIMP is needed for the project.

Very best,



James E. Sullivan, Ed.D

Environmental Review Manager

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