

EQB Monitor

Weekly announcements and environmental review notices

Volume 46, Number 22

May 31, 2022

Announcements

Considerations for Responsible Governmental Units when creating an administrative record

Climate change and environmental review speaker series

Thursday, June 23, 10 – 11 a.m.

[Join online](#)

Join a panel discussion of experienced legal practitioners that will share their perspectives on historic legal challenges, lessons learned from the administrative records of recent legal challenges and considerations when creating an effective administrative record. Featuring:

- Robert Roche - Assistant Ramsey County Attorney and former Assistant Attorney General for Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
- Colin O'Donovan - Assistant Attorney General, Office of Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison
- Jean Coleman - Senior Attorney, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Throughout the [Climate Change and Environmental Review Pilot Program](#), EQB is hosting a monthly speaker series open to anyone that will feature presentations by technical

experts about incorporating climate information into environmental assessment worksheets.

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

EQB is seeking local responsible governmental units (RGUs) and consultants interested in participating in a pilot program that will assess the efficiency and effectiveness of climate information by testing a draft revised environmental assessment worksheet. Participants will benefit from shared learning as well as training provided by technical experts. Registration is open to all RGUs and consultants, regardless of whether you are actively reviewing a project. This cohort-based program will begin in early 2022. [Register now!](#)

If you are not eligible to register, but would like to receive updates about the Pilot Program, please [sign-up here](#).

Required public 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 Great River Energy Project

Location: Cambridge, Isanti County

Process: Petition

Step: Responsible governmental unit assigned

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, [Bret Eknes](#), 651-201-2236

Minnesota State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) – Blaine, MN

Location: Blaine, Anoka County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet available

End of comment period: June 30, 2022

Project description: The Minnesota State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) project is proposed on approximately 21.75 acres of land in the southeast portion of the City of Blaine, Anoka County. The project will include the new State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) government facility and parking lots. Site development will include installation of municipal utilities, mass grading and stormwater management practices.

Link to public documents: [Minnesota State Emergency Operations Center - Blaine, MN environmental assessment worksheet](#)

Location of public documents: Office of State Procurement front desk counter window in the lobby of the Administration Building, 50 Sherburne Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55155

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Minnesota Department of Administration, [Wayne Waslaski](#), 651-201-2548

Dale Properties Lakeville Residential Development

Location: Lakeville, Dakota County

Process: Environmental assessment worksheet

Step: Environmental assessment worksheet available

End of comment period: June 30, 2022

Project description: The EAW for the Dale Properties Lakeville Residential Development includes review of approximately 132.6 acres of land in Lakeville, northwest of I-35E and 205th Street West. The project will include development of 805 multiple family residential units on 32.3 acres, 117 single family residential units on 32.9 acres, 118 medium density residential units on 33.4 acres, and over 9 units/acre of neighborhood commercial and senior housing on approximately 16.3 acres. The remaining acreage will be wetlands, grasslands, and stormwater areas. Site development will include grading and installation of municipal sewer and water, streets, and stormwater systems.

Link to public documents: [Dale Properties Lakeville Residential Development environmental assessment worksheet](#)

Location of public documents: Lakeville City Hall, 20195 Holyoke Avenue, Lakeville, MN 55044

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Lakeville, [Daryl Morey](#), 952-985-4422

South Loop District

Location: Bloomington, Hennepin County

Process: Alternative urban areawide review update

Step: Alternative urban areawide review update adoption

Responsible governmental unit decision: Adequate

Responsible governmental unit decision date: May 16, 2022

Link to public documents: [South Loop District alternative urban areawide review update adoption](#)

Location of public documents: Community Development Dept. City of Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431

Responsible governmental unit and contact: City of Bloomington, [Julie Farnham](#), 952-563-4739

Byron Solar Project

Location: Canisteo and Mantorville Townships in Dodge County, and Kalmar Township in Olmsted County

Process: Alternative review

Notice title: Notice of Environmental Assessment Scoping Decision

Notice description: The Minnesota Department of Commerce has issued the scope for the environmental assessment to be prepared for the proposed Byron Solar Project in Dodge and Olmsted counties. In addition to the applicant's proposed site and route, the EA will evaluate one additional route alternative for the proposed 345 kV transmission line. The Department anticipates the EA will be available for review in late September 2022.

Project description: Byron Solar, LLC (Byron Solar) proposes to construct a 200 megawatt (MW) solar generating facility on approximately 1,800 acres in Canisteo and Mantorville townships in Dodge County. The project also includes construction of approximately 3-4 miles of 345 kV high voltage transmission line in Dodge and Olmsted counties to connect the solar facility to the transmission grid at the Byron Substation, located just west of the city of Byron in Olmsted County.

Link to public documents: [Byron Solar Project alternative review](#)

Location of public documents: Kasson Public Library, 607 First St NW, Kasson, MN 55944

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Department of Commerce, [Suzanne Steinhauer](#), 651-539-1843

Proposed Change in Spent Fuel Storage Technology at the Prairie Island Nuclear Plant

Location: Red Wing, Goodhue County

Process: Supplemental environmental impact statement

Step: Supplemental environmental impact statement adequacy determination

Responsible governmental unit decision: Adequate

Record of decision date: May 26, 2022

Link to public documents: [Proposed Change in Spent Fuel Storage Technology at the Prairie Island Nuclear Plant supplemental environmental impact statement adequacy determination](#)

Location of public documents: Red Wing Public Library, 225 East Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066

Responsible governmental unit and contact: Department of Commerce, [Ray Kirsch](#), 651-539-1841

Submit an environmental review notice to the *EQB Monitor*

The *EQB Monitor* is published every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m. Submissions to the [EQB Monitor](#) are due by 4:00 p.m. 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.