

## **Appendix A – Public Involvement: EAW Comment Period**

**EQB Notice of Availability (November 18, 2025)**

**EQB Notice of Availability (November 25, 2025)**

**Newspaper Legal Notice and Affidavit of Publication**

**Newspaper Press Release**

# EQB Monitor

Weekly announcements and environmental review notices

Volume 49, Number 46

November 18, 2025

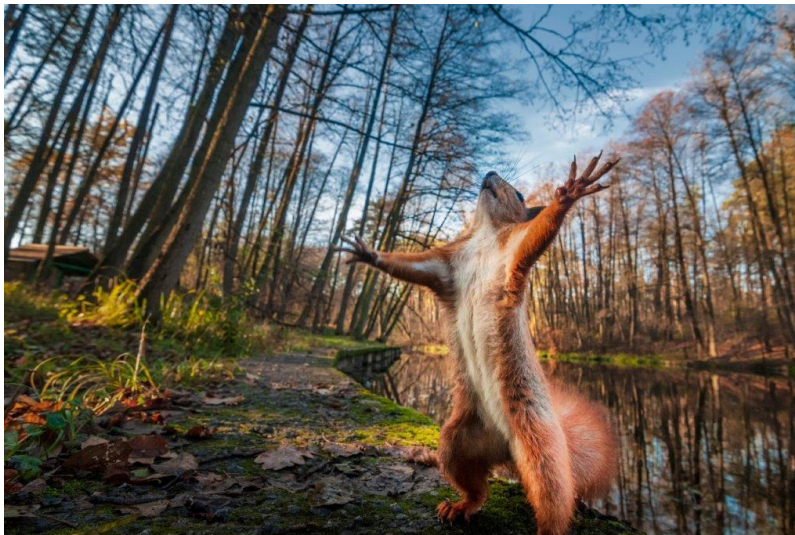
## Announcements

### Environmental Quality Board meeting

**Wednesday, November 19, 1 – 4:00 p.m.**

Join us in person or virtually for the November 2025 Environmental Quality Board meeting. At this meeting, the board will hear an overview and vote to accept the 2025 Annual Pollinator Report and will vote to approve an update on Continuous Improvement for the Environmental Review Program. The board will also hear the second installment of presentations on the basics of data centers, focusing on water.

More information, including the meeting packet and virtual meeting details, can be found on the [board meeting webpage](#).



## 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](#).

\*This project notice was previously published in the *EQB Monitor* with the end of comment period listed as November 13. The comment period has been extended per the below.

[Mississippi River Learning Center](#)

**Location (city/township; county):** Saint Paul; Ramsey

**Process:** EAW

**Step:** EAW available

**End of comment period:** December 12, 2025

**Project description:** The City of Saint Paul is proposing to construct the Mississippi River Learning Center, which would include a multi-use, river-focused space with the Welcome Station atop the bluff along Shepard Road next to Crosby Farm Regional Park. The center would provide year-round environmental learning opportunities and outdoor recreation experiences. The project is located within the City of Saint Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota.

[Mississippi River Learning Center project link provided by RGU](#)

**Location of public documents:** Planning and Economic Development Office,  
25 W. Fourth Street, Saint Paul, MN 55102

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Saint Paul, [Joshua Williams](#),  
651-266-6659

### **LEAR000946 Lease Expansion – Soring Pit Project**

**Location (city/township; county):** Grand Rapids; Itasca

**Process:** EAW

**Step:** EAW available

**End of comment period:** December 18, 2025

**Project description:** The Soring Pit is located on Minnesota Trust Land leased to Hawkinson by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The lease is for the removal of earth materials per cubic yard. Materials allowed to be extracted with the lease boundary include sand, gravel, boulders, and uncrushed rock. The lease will be in effect from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027, with an option to renew. Revenues generated from the lease go to support State of Minnesota's Permanent School Fund.

**Location of public documents:** City of Cohasset, 305 NW 1st Ave, Cohasset, MN 55721

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Cohasset, [Anthony Valtinson](#),  
218-328-6225 x20

### **Nigon Development EAW**

**Location (city/township; county):** Rochester Township; Olmsted

**Process:** EAW

**Step:** EAW available

**End of comment period:** December 18, 2025

**Project description:** The proposed project is a residential development in Cascade and Rochester townships, Minnesota, on property proposed to be annexed into the City of Rochester. The development will be built on approximately 176 acres and will be developed with 317 single-family detached units, stormwater management areas, curvilinear roads, and open spaces. The Rochester City Council approved the annexation of 120 acres of the 176 acres into the Rochester city limits on September 8, 2025. The City of Rochester has been coordinating with Cascade and Rochester Townships to execute Joint Powers Agreements (JPAs) for administration of the EAW. These JPAs will delegate authority to the City of Rochester as the lead RGU for the EAW process.

[Nigon Development EAW project link provided by RGU](#)

**Location of public documents:** Development Services and Infrastructure Center,  
4001 W River Parkway NW, Rochester, MN 55901

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Rochester, [Elliot Mohler](#),  
507-328-2600

### **Owatonna East Side Corridor (29th Ave Corridor)**

**Location (city/township; county):** Owatonna; Steele

**Process:** EAW

**Step:** EAW available

**End of comment period:** December 18, 2025

**Project description:** Construct a new north-south, two-lane county highway between SE 18th St in Owatonna Township to Kenyon Road in Clinton Falls Township with a bridge

over Maple Creek. The Project will realign Claremont Road to the north to create more space between the new 29th Avenue/Claremont Road intersection and the Canadian Pacific railroad crossing. The Project includes American with Disabilities Act (ADA) elements, intersection control, and stormwater treatment. Trails for pedestrians and bicyclists will be constructed along the new highway between SE 18th St and 26th St NE and portions of SE 18th St and 26th Street NE, along with a connection to a trail on Rose St. Portions 26th St NE, Claremont Road, and SE 18th St will be reconstructed.

[Owatonna East Side Corridor \(29th Ave Corridor\) project link provided by RGU](#)

**Location of public documents:** Steele County Public Works Facility, 3000 Hoffman Drive NW, Owatonna, MN 55060

**Public meeting date, time, location:** December 11, 2025, 4:30 p.m., Owatonna City Hall, 540 W Hills Cir, Owatonna, MN 55060

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** Steele County, [Ronald Gaines](#), 507-444-7671

### **Nelson Mine Backwaters Project**

**Location (city/township; county):** Cottage Grove; Washington

**Process:** EIS

**Step:** EIS Adequacy Determination

**Responsible governmental unit decision:** Adequate

**Responsible governmental unit record of decision date:** November 5, 2025

**Project description:** Amrize (formerly known as "Holcim – MWR, Inc" and "Aggregate Industries") currently mines land leased from a private landowner on Lower Grey Cloud Island in Cottage Grove, Washington County, MN, and processes materials nearby. The existing facility will exhaust its current reserves in approximately four years. Amrize is proposing to shift mining operations over a 20 to 25-year period to adjacent private property located in the backwaters area of the Mississippi River between Lower Grey Cloud Island and barrier islands created by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The proposed project would allow Amrize to continue use of their mechanical dredge, processing facilities and barge system to supply the local Twin Cities market with construction quality natural aggregate.

[Nelson Mine Backwaters Project project link provided by RGU](#)

**Location of public documents:** Cottage Grove City Hall, 12800 Ravine Parkway South, Cottage Grove, MN 55016

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Cottage Grove, [Emily Schmitz](#), 651-458-2874

### **Monticello Industrial**

**Location (city/township; county):** Monticello Township; Wright

**Process:** Large AUAR

**Step:** Draft AUAR

**End of comment period:** December 18, 2025

**Project description:** This AUAR study area encompasses an area totaling approximately 550 acres on 16 parcels in Monticello Township, Wright County, Minnesota. The study is

# EQB Monitor

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Volume 49, Number 47

November 25, 2025

## Announcements

### EQB Public Board Member open positions

Applications are now open for Environmental Quality Board Public Board Member positions representing Minnesota's Congressional Districts 1, 2, 6, 7, and 8. Serving on our board provides 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 and apply, visit the EQB's [Open positions webpage](#). Applications are open through February 13, 2026.



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### MBE, Inc. Buffalo Pit

**Location:** Buffalo Township

**Process:** Petition

**Step:** RGU assignment

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** Wright County, [Barry Rhineberger](#).

### **Owatonna East Side Corridor (29th Ave Corridor)**

\*This project notice was previously published in the November 18, 2025 *EQB Monitor* with the end of comment period listed as December 18. The comment period has been extended per the below.

**Location (city/township; county):** Owatonna; Steele

**Process:** EAW

**Step:** EAW available

**End of comment period:** December 31, 2025

**Project description:** Construct a new north-south, two-lane county highway between SE 18th St in Owatonna Township to Kenyon Road in Clinton Falls Township with a bridge over Maple Creek. The Project will realign Claremont Road to the north to create more space between the new 29th Avenue/Claremont Road intersection and the Canadian Pacific railroad crossing. The Project includes American with Disabilities Act (ADA) elements, intersection control, and stormwater treatment. Trails for pedestrians and bicyclists will be constructed along the new highway between SE 18th St and 26th St NE and portions of SE 18th St and 26th Street NE, along with a connection to a trail on Rose St. Portions 26th St NE, Claremont Road, and SE 18th St will be reconstructed.

[Owatonna East Side Corridor \(29th Ave Corridor\) project link provided by RGU](#)

**Location of public documents:** Steele County Public Works Facility, 3000 Hoffman Drive NW, Owatonna, MN 55060

**Public meeting date, time, location:** December 11, 2025, 4:30 p.m., Owatonna City Hall, 540 W Hills Cir, Owatonna, MN 55060

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** Steele County, [Ronald Gaines](#), 507-444-7671

### **Minnesota Power, Duluth Service Center**

**Location (city/township; county):** Rice Lake; St. Louis

**Process:** EAW

**Step:** EAW available

**End of comment period:** December 26, 2025

**Project description:** The project is a new utility service center to replace Minnesota Power's existing Herbert Service Center (HSC) in Duluth and provide more material storage space, more space to accommodate service vehicles, more space for employees, and address safety and security concerns at the existing site.

**Location of public documents:** Rice Lake City Hall, 4107 W Beyer Rd, Rice Lake, MN 55803

**Responsible governmental unit and contact:** City of Rice Lake, [Carley Hungerford](#), 218-249-0947

### **Minnesota Riverbank Protection and Parks Integration**

**Location (city/township; county):** Shakopee; Scott

**Process:** EAW

# AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA ) ss  
COUNTY OF

I do solemnly swear that the notice, as per the proof, was published in the edition of the

Owatonna People's Press

with the known office of issue being located in the county of:

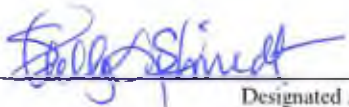
with additional circulation in the counties of:  
Steele

and has full knowledge of the facts stated below:

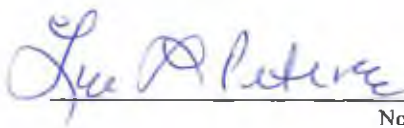
- (A) The newspaper has complied with all of the requirements constituting qualification as a qualified newspaper as provided by Minn. Stat. §331A.02.
- (B) This Public Notice was printed and published in said newspaper(s) once each week, for 1 successive week(s); the first insertion being on 11/18/2025 and the last insertion being on 11/18/2025.

## MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICES

Pursuant to Minnesota Stat. §580.033 relating to the publication of mortgage foreclosure notices: The newspaper complies with the conditions described in §580.033, subd. 1, clause (1) or (2). If the newspaper's known office of issue is located in a county adjoining the county where the mortgaged premises or some part of the mortgaged premises described in the notice are located, a substantial portion of the newspaper's circulation is in the latter county.

By:   
Designated Agent

Subscribed and sworn to or affirmed before me on 11/18/2025.

  
Notary Public



### Rate Information:

(1) Lowest classified rate paid by commercial users for comparable space:  
\$27.40 per column inch

Ad ID 1503387

## STEELE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

### PUBLIC NOTICE: 29<sup>TH</sup> AVE / EAST SIDE CORRIDOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET AVAILABLE AND OPEN HOUSE

The Steele County Highway Department hereby notifies all interested parties of the public comment period for the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and an Open House for the proposed 29<sup>th</sup> Ave / East Side Corridor Project.

Steele County will construct a new north-south, two-lane county highway between SE 18<sup>th</sup> St in Owatonna Township to Kenyon Rd in Clinton Falls Township with a bridge over Maple Creek. The Project will realign Claremont Rd to the north to create more space between the new 29<sup>th</sup> Ave / Claremont Rd intersection and the Canadian Pacific railroad crossing. The Project includes American with Disabilities Act (ADA) elements, intersection control, and stormwater treatment. Trails for pedestrians and bicyclists will be constructed along the new highway between SE 18<sup>th</sup> St and 26<sup>th</sup> St NE and portions of SE 18<sup>th</sup> St and 26<sup>th</sup> St NE, along with a connection to a trail on Rose St. Portions 26<sup>th</sup> St NE, Claremont Rd, and SE 18<sup>th</sup> St will be reconstructed.

The Project will also reconstruct CSAH 34 (26<sup>th</sup> St NE) from the new 29<sup>th</sup> Ave to Kenyon Rd/NE 24<sup>th</sup> Ave in the city of Owatonna. Reconstruction will include building a trail, making the roadway three lanes (one travel lane in each direction and a center left-turn lane), and making intersection improvements.

The EAW, which assesses the potential environmental impacts of the Project, will be available to view electronically at [www.eastsidecorridor.com](http://www.eastsidecorridor.com) or in person during business hours at the following locations:

- Steele County Public Works Facility, 3000 Hoffman Dr NW, Owatonna, MN 55060
- Owatonna City Hall, 540 W Hills Cir, Owatonna, MN 55060
- Owatonna Public Library, 105 N Elm Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060

A public comment period for the EAW opens Tuesday, November 18, 2025, and closes Wednesday, December 31, 2025. Comments may be submitted online using the comment form available on the Project website noted above, or by mail to the Steele County Public Works Facility, 3000 Hoffman Dr NW, Owatonna, MN 55060.

An in-person Open House for the Project will be held Thursday, December 11, 2025, at Owatonna City Hall from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Project information will be displayed, and attendees will have the

opportunity to ask questions and provide comments.

All other inquiries may be directed to [info@eastsidecorridor.com](mailto:info@eastsidecorridor.com).

Published in the  
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1503387

[https://www.southernminn.com/owatonna\\_peoples\\_press/community/public-invited-to-comment-on-east-side-corridor-eaw-virtually-in-person/article\\_1e920638-00d3-4560-9968-be41d5b13dd2.html](https://www.southernminn.com/owatonna_peoples_press/community/public-invited-to-comment-on-east-side-corridor-eaw-virtually-in-person/article_1e920638-00d3-4560-9968-be41d5b13dd2.html)

## Public Invited to comment on East Side Corridor EAW virtually, in person

Nov 17, 2025

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**T**he Steele County Highway Department reports that the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the 29th Avenue / East Side Corridor Project is now available for public review.

The proposed project includes the construction of a new north-south, two-lane county highway (29th Avenue) extending from SE 18th Street in Owatonna Township to Kenyon Road in Clinton Falls Township with a bridge over Maple Creek. The Project will also realign Claremont Rd to the north to create more spacing between the new 29th Avenue/Claremont Road intersection and the Canadian Pacific railroad crossing.

Additional improvements include Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) elements, intersection control, and stormwater treatment. Trails for pedestrians and bicyclists will be constructed along the new highway between SE 18th St and 26th St NE, as well as along portions of SE 18th St and 26th St NE, with a connection trail on Rose St. Portions of 26th St NE, Claremont Rd, and SE 18th St will be reconstructed.

The Project will also reconstruct CSAH 34 (26th Street NE) from the new 29th Avenue to Kenyon Road/NE 24th Avenue in the city of Owatonna. Reconstruction will include building a trail, making the roadway three lanes (one travel lane in each direction and a center left-turn lane), and making intersection improvements.

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- Owatonna City Hall, 540 W Hills Circle in Owatonna
- Owatonna Public Library, 105 N Elm Ave. in Owatonna

The public comment period begins Tuesday, Nov. 18, and closes Wednesday, Dec. 31. Comments may be submitted online using the comment form available on the Project website noted above or by mail to the Steele County Public Works Facility, 3000 Hoffman Drive NW in Owatonna.

An in-person Open House will be held 4:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11, at Owatonna City Hall. Project information will be displayed, and attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments.

All other inquiries may be directed to [info@eastsidecorridor.com](mailto:info@eastsidecorridor.com).