Record of Decision
University of Minnesota UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project

In accordance with the Minnesota Environmental Policy Act and the rules promulgated thereunder, the University of Minnesota has taken the following steps to comply with the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process:

- Obtained Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) designation (Appendix A)
- Conducted a Preliminary Scoping Meeting on November 6, 2008 (Appendix B)
- Published a Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document in the January 12, 2009 EQB Monitor (Appendix C)
- Distributed the Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document to the EQB Distribution List and others (Appendix D)
- Conducted a Public Scoping Meeting on February 5, 2009 (Appendix E)
- University of Minnesota Board of Regents Approves the Final Scoping Decision Document (Appendix F)
- Published Final Scoping Decision Document and Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in the June 29, 2009 EQB Monitor (Appendix G)
- Distributed Scoping Decision Document to the EQB Distribution List and others (Appendix H)
- University of Minnesota Board of Regents Facilities Committee reviewed and recommended for approval the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on June 10, 2010 (Appendix I)
- Published the notice of availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in the June 28, 2010 EQB Monitor (Appendix J)
- Distributed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to the EQB Distribution List and others (Appendix K)
- Conducted a Draft Environmental Impact Statement Public Hearing on July 22, 2010 (Appendix L)
- Published the notice of availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement in the October 4, 2010 edition of the EQB Monitor (Appendix M)
- Distributed the Final Environmental Impact Statement to the EQB Distribution List and others (Appendix N)
- Analyzed comments received during the 10-day Final Environmental Impact Statement Public Comment Period and prepared responses to those substantive comments (Appendix O).
• Prepared materials for use by the Board of Regents in their determination as to the adequacy of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (this document).

• The University of Minnesota Board of Regents Facilities Committee met on November 11, 2010 to review the response to comments on the Final EIS and the materials for determining the adequacy of the Final EIS. The Facilities Committee recommended approval of the Adequacy Determination to the Board of Regents.

• The University of Minnesota Board of Regents determined the Final EIS adequate in accordance with Minnesota Rules 4410.2800, subpart 4 on November 12, 2010 (Appendix P).
April 15, 2008

Kenneth A. Larson
Associate General Counsel and Director
Transactional Law Services Group
Office of the General Counsel
University of Minnesota
360 McNamara Alumni Center
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Dear Mr. Larson,

This letter is in response to your letter to Charles LeFevere dated March 24, 2008 relating to the University of Minnesota’s intent to proceed as the responsible governmental unit (RGU) for preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for nonmetallic mineral mining on property owned by the University within the City of Rosemount and Empire Township.

The City of Rosemount finds it acceptable for the University to act as the RGU for the required EIS in consideration that the EIS will address only the impacts associated with mining operations and the post-mining restoration and not address any potential environmental impacts of post-restoration land use for the property. The City’s acceptance of this action is for this particular environmental review only. Further, the City Council expects that the University will engage appropriate City staff throughout the preparation and review of the EIS.

The City Council anticipates that future environmental reviews relating to post mining development, most likely an Alternative Urban Area-wide Review (AUAR), should be carried out with the City being the RGU. Similar to the current situation, the City would expect that the University would be substantially involved in the development and review process for this future document.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at 651-322-2020.

Sincerely,

Kim Lindquist,
Acting City Administrator

Cc: Honorable Mayor and City Council
    Charlie LeFevere, City Attorney
RESOLUTION 2008-05

EMPIRE TOWNSHIP
DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND AGREEING THAT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SHALL ACT AS THE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENTAL UNIT FOR PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR NONMETALLIC MINERAL (GRAVEL AND SAND) MINING AND ACCESSORY USES WITHIN A PORTION OF UMORE PARK, EMPIRE TOWNSHIP, THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

WHEREAS, the University of Minnesota has owned approximately seven thousand acres of land in Dakota County since World War II, now generally known as UMore Park; and

WHEREAS, a portion of this land is in Empire Township; and

WHEREAS, in December 2006 the University of Minnesota’s Board of Regents voted unanimously to pursue concept master planning for UMore Park with the goal of transforming the property into a unique, vibrant, intellectually and culturally rich, sustainable community with attendant amenities; and

WHEREAS, Design Workshop, Inc. based in Aspen, Colorado, is the University of Minnesota’s planning consultant, and has commenced master planning specifically focused on the approximately 4,700 acres in the northern sectors of UMore Park, north of 170th Street; and

WHEREAS, as a part of the master planning, the University of Minnesota began an aggregate assessment in early September, 2007, to identify the location, quality, and quantity of sand and gravel resource on the site; and

WHEREAS, the preliminary results of the aggregate assessment indicate the presence of sand and gravel resources in commercially viable amounts; and

WHEREAS, the University of Minnesota wishes to explore the potentially significant environmental effects of proposed mining of sand and gravel and accessory uses; and

WHEREAS, the University of Minnesota intends to seek proposals for a consultant to perform environmental review under Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4410; and

WHEREAS, the University of Minnesota intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement with respect to its intent to mine the sand and gravel, and related accessory uses, contemplated for that portion of UMore Park which contains commercially viable amounts of the same; and...
WHEREAS, the University of Minnesota intends to perform the responsibilities of the Responsible Governmental Unit in connection with the Environmental Impact Statement; and

WHEREAS, the University of Minnesota intends to engage Empire Township with respect to scope and content during the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors of Empire Township acknowledges and agrees that the University of Minnesota, a state agency, shall prepare an Environmental Impact Statement assessing the potentially significant environmental effects of sand and gravel mining and accessory uses on portions of UMore Park, and perform the responsibilities of the Responsible Governmental Unit with respect to that Environmental Impact Statement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Empire Township encourages the University of Minnesota to engage units of local government, including Empire Township, during the course of the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement.

 Adopted by the Empire Board of Supervisors this 8th day of April, 2008.

ATTEST:

Kathleen B. Krippner, Clerk-Treasurer
Sand and Gravel Resources at UMore Park

Sand and Gravel Resources at UMore Park November 2008

A recent geotechnical assessment has confirmed deposits of a substantial amount of commercial quality sand and gravel across the 5,000 acres making up UMore Park. The deposits are concentrated in three areas, spread across roughly two-thirds of the property: the western valley, the eastern fan, and the southern shallow complexes.

The report concludes that over a period of several decades and as the local market demands, approximately 360 million tons of sand and gravel could be mined from the property. The Board of Regents will determine whether to pursue gravel mining on the property following the completion of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process which is expected to conclude in 2010.

Should the University proceed with mining, the revenue from the sale of mined sand and gravel would be used in support of academic research, education and public engagement opportunities not otherwise adequately funded by state, federal or tuition revenues.

Producing an Environmental Impact Statement to Inform Decision-making

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a legal, full disclosure document that identifies the anticipated environmental impacts and mitigation commitments of a proposed project. As the Responsible Government Unit (RGU), the University of Minnesota has initiated an EIS process to evaluate the possible environmental impact of commercial gravel mining on the UMore Park property in Rosemount. The University is committed to a full public, participatory process.

Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Open House</td>
<td>November 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish Scoping Environmental Worksheet</td>
<td>January 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Scoping Meeting</td>
<td>February 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare Draft EIS</td>
<td>June - November 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Draft EIS Meeting</td>
<td>January 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepare Final EIS</td>
<td>Early 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete EIS Process</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For More Information

Contact UMore Park Project Manager, Steven Lott at:
UMore Park Administration Building
1605 160th Street West
Rosemount, MN 55068

Phone: (651) 423-2455
E-mail: lottx020@umn.edu
UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources
Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet

Figure 3
Proposed UMore Mining Area

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.

November 2008
What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

- An EIS identifies, analyzes, and documents the potentially significant effects of an action on the environment.
- The environment includes all natural, socioeconomic, and community subjects that may be affected by the action.
- Public involvement is a crucial element of the process.

Why is an EIS Being Prepared?

- The land area of the proposed gravel activity exceeds the 160 acre threshold for an EIS review.
- The University has identified the environmental review process and the complementary public involvement activities as a means to facilitate stakeholder involvement.
EIS Study Subjects

- Scoping EAW will address a range of subject areas:
  - Traffic
  - Site Contamination
  - Air Quality/Dust
  - Groundwater
  - Storm Water/Water Quality
  - Community Effects
  - Cumulative Effects
  - Additional Potential Effects Identified Through Public Involvement

Subjects of potential significance will be carried into the EIS for further consideration (e.g. groundwater and site contamination).

- The level of technical analysis will be dependent on the magnitude of the issue.

- Mitigation needs will be defined when adverse impacts cannot be avoided.
Public Involvement

- The University is committed to an open and public planning process.
- The University will continue to engage the surrounding communities and agencies throughout the study process.
- Public involvement will play a critical role in the ultimate success of the project.

Public Involvement Tools and Techniques

- Public Meetings
- Web Site – www........
- Agency and Jurisdictional Coordination
- Media
Ongoing Public Input Opportunities

- Ongoing informal public input will be gathered throughout the EIS process.
- Formal comment periods will follow publication of the Scoping EAW and Draft EIS documents.
- While the University welcomes input throughout the process; only those comments submitted during the Scoping and Draft EIS comment periods become part of the official record.

Anticipated EIS Schedule

- Publish Scoping EAW – January 2009
- Conduct Public Scoping Meeting – Jan/Feb 2009
- Prepare Draft EIS – February through July 2009
- Conduct Draft EIS Public Meeting – August/September 2009
- Prepare Final EIS – Late 2009
- Complete EIS Process – Early 2010
Questions?
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS
EAW Comment Deadline: February 11, 2009

NOTICE: The EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2009 is included in this edition

Notice of Hearing on Proposed Amendment to Rules Governing the Environmental Review Program

(Editor’s note: The following Notice is an edited version of the official Notice of Hearing that will be published in the State Register on January 20, 2009.)

The Environmental Quality Board (EQB) intends to adopt amendments to the rules governing the Environmental Review Program after holding a public hearing according to state rulemaking procedures. The EQB will hold a public hearing on the proposed amendments at the following times and places:

- Wednesday, February 25, 2009, at the Alexandria Technical College, Room 208, 1601 Jefferson on Street, Alexandria, MN; one session beginning at 2:00 p.m. and a second beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, February 26, 2009, at the Fort Snelling History Center Auditorium, Fort Snelling, MN at the junction of state highways 5 & 55; one session beginning at 2:00 p.m. and a second session beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Monday, March 2, 2009, at the Hermantown Public Safety Training Facility, 5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN; one session beginning at 2:00 p.m. and a second session beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 4, 2009, at the Bemidji Public Library, 509 America Avenue NW, Bemidji, MN; one session beginning at 2:00 p.m. and a second session beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, March 5, 2009, Northland Arboretum, 14250 Conservation Drive, Baxter, MN; one session beginning at 2:00 p.m. and a second session beginning at 7:00 p.m.
To find out if a hearing has been postponed due to adverse weather conditions, please call the EQB contact person listed below.

Additional days of hearing will be scheduled if necessary. All interested or affected persons will have an opportunity to participate by submitting either oral or written data, statements, or arguments. Statements may be submitted without appearing at the hearing.

The hearing will be conducted by Administrative Law Judge Steve M. Mihalchick, who can be reached at the Office of Administrative Hearings, 600 North Robert Street, P.O. Box 64620, St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620, telephone 651-361-7844, and Fax 651-361-7936. The rule hearing procedure is governed by *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.131 to 14.20, and by the rules of the Office of Administrative Hearings, *Minnesota Rules*, parts 1400.2000 to 1400.2240. Questions concerning the rule hearing procedure should be directed to the Administrative Law Judge.

The proposed rules would amend or add 29 subparts in Chapter 4410 regarding the Environmental Review program. These amendments consist of five topical areas:

- New mandatory EAW, EIS, and Exemption categories that would apply to certain projects located in the shoreline areas of lakes and rivers;
- Amendments to how the rules handle treatment of “cumulative potential effects” in EAWs, EIS, and Alternative Urban Areawide Reviews (AUARs) in response to a 2006 Minnesota Supreme Court decision;
- Amendments to the Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) process with respect to how specific individual projects are treated or how they affect the review;
- A new mandatory EIS category for releases of genetically-engineered wild rice, in response to a legislative directive in the 2007 session; and
- Miscellaneous other amendments to clarify the meaning of certain rule provisions.

Minnesota Statutes, section 116D.04, subdivisions 2a(a), 4a, & 5a and section 116D.045 give the EQB authority adopt rules governing the Environmental Review program. One specific amendment, the creation of a mandatory EIS category for release of genetically engineered wild rice, is also authorized by *Laws of 2007*, chapter 57, article 1, section 140. A copy of the proposed rules will be published in the *State Register* on January 20, 2009. The proposed rule will also be available at the EQB website, [www.eqb.state.mn.us](http://www.eqb.state.mn.us). A free paper copy of the rules is available upon request from the agency contact person.

The agency contact person is: Gregg Downing, EQB Environmental Review Program, 300 Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155; phone, 651-201-2476; Fax, 651-296-3698; and email gregg.downing@state.mn.us. TTY users may call the Department of Administration at 800-627-3529.

A Statement of Need and Reasonableness is now available for review. This statement contains a summary of the justification for the proposed rules, including a description of who will be affected by the proposed rules and an estimate of the probable cost of the proposed rules. The document is available for review at the EQB website ([www.eqb.state.mn.us](http://www.eqb.state.mn.us)), EQB offices and at the Office of Administrative Hearings. Copies may be obtained at the cost of reproduction by contacting the agency contact person.

You and all interested or affected persons, including representatives of associations and other interested groups, will have an opportunity to participate. You may present your views either orally at the hearing or in writing at
any time before the close of the hearing record. You may also submit written material to the Administrative Law Judge to be recorded in the hearing record for five working days after the public hearing ends. This five-day comment period may be extended for a longer period not to exceed 20 calendar days if ordered by the Administrative Law Judge at the hearing. Following the comment period, there is a five-working-day rebuttal period during which the agency and any interested person may respond in writing to any new information submitted. No additional evidence may be submitted during the five-day rebuttal period. All comments and responses submitted to the Administrative Law Judge must be received at the Office of Administrative Hearings no later than 4:30 p.m. on the due date. All comments or responses received will be available for review at the Office of Administrative Hearings. The proposed rules may be modified as a result of the rule hearing process. If the proposed rules affect you in any way, you are encouraged to participate.

After the close of the hearing record, the Administrative Law Judge will issue a report on the proposed rules. You may ask to be notified of the date when the judge’s report will become available, and can make this request at the hearing or in writing to the Administrative Law Judge. You may also ask to be notified of the date on which the agency adopts the rules and the rules are filed with the Secretary of State, or ask to register with the agency to receive notice of future rule proceedings, and can make these requests at the hearing or in writing to the agency contact person stated above.

Upon request, this Notice can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, Braille, or cassette tape. To make such a request or if you need an accommodation to make this hearing accessible, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

SCOPING EAW AVAILABLE

**Project Title:** UMore Park & Sand Gravel Resources Project

**Description:** The Regents of the University of Minnesota are proposing to open new aggregate mine(s) and ancillary operations on approximately 1,711 acres of UMore Park property. The University’s UMore Park & Sand Gravel Resources Project is located both in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota. The plan is to locate the proposed mining area on the approximate western one-third of the UMore Park property.

The University of Minnesota has prepared a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document (Draft SDD) to identify issues and analyses to be contained in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The Scoping EAW and Draft SDD are preliminary documents based on information currently available. The SDD is subject to revision based on the entire record of the scoping process. Copies of the Scoping EAW and Draft SDD are available for public viewing during regular business hours at the following locations:

- Dakota County Library – Farmington Branch, 508 Third Street, Farmington, MN
- UMore Park Administration Building, 1605 160th Street, Rosemount, MN
- Rosemount City Hall, 2975 145th Street West, Rosemount, MN
- Empire Town Hall, 3385 West 197th Street, Farmington, MN

The Scoping EAW and Draft SDD are also available for review online at [http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/).
To afford an opportunity for all interested parties, agencies and groups to comment on the proposed action, a public scoping meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2009, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Rosemount Community Center located at 13885 South Robert Trail, Rosemount Minnesota. A project presentation will be held at 6:30 p.m. Staff will be available preceding and following the presentation to provide individual assistance. Comments may be submitted in writing or verbally to a court reporter. The comments received will be considered in determining the scope of the ensuing environmental document.

Copies of the Scoping EAW/Draft SDD are being distributed to agencies on the current MEQB list and others. The comment period will begin on Monday, January 12, 2009 and will be accepted through Monday, February 16, 2009. All comments should be directed to the contact person listed below.

**RGU:** Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota

**Contact Person:**
Steve Lott
UMore Park Project Manager
1605 West 160th Street
Rosemount, Minnesota 55068
651-423-1491

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS**

**Project Title:** Zavoral Property Mining and Reclamation

**Description:** The proposed Zavoral Property Mining and Reclamation project is the mining and reclamation of a dormant, un-reclaimed gravel mine. The operation is proposed to include extraction, crushing, washing, stockpiling, hauling, and reclamation operations.

The project area is approximately 64 acres, located on a parcel of property which encompasses 114 acres. The project area is located east of Highway 95 (St. Croix Trail), at the intersection of Highway 95 and Highway 97 (Scandia Trail).

A copy of the EAW is available for review at the City of Scandia office, Scandia Community and Senior Center, 14727 209th Street North, Scandia. City office hours are posted on the City’s website [http://ci.scandia.mn.us/](http://ci.scandia.mn.us/), or the City may be contacted at (651) 433-2274. Copies of the EAW are also available for review at Washington County Library Hardwood Creek Branch and Marine Branch.

Written comments will be accepted through February 11, 2009. Comments should be directed to Anne Hurlburt, City Administrator, City of Scandia, 14727 209th Street North, Scandia, MN 55073.

**RGU:** City of Scandia

**Contact Person:**
Sherri Buss
TKDA
444 Cedar Street
Project Title: Hustad Mixed Use Development – Maple Grove, MN

Description: United Properties and Trek Development propose to develop a 130 acre site for a mixed-use development project consisting of approximately 293,000 square feet of commercial and office uses and 460 attached and unattached residential units. The project is located in western Maple Grove, MN.

RGU: City of Maple Grove

Contact Person:
Peter Vickerman
City of Maple Grove
12800 Arbor Lakes Parkway
P.O. Box 1180
Maple Grove, MN 55369
Phone: 763-494-6046
Fax: 763-494-6425
Email: pvickerman@ci.maple-grove.mn.us

EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparation of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the EQB Monitor.

- Minnesota Department of Transportation, Trunk Highway 55 from Interstate 494 to the Crow River, December 12, 2008 (April 7, 2008)
- Grand Rapids City Council, Menards Store in Grand Rapids, December 17, 2008 (November 3, 2008)
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Randy Hein Swine Facility, December 24, 2008 (October 6, 2008)

SCOPING DOCUMENT and DRAFT SCOPING DECISION DOCUMENT AVAILABLE

The Scoping Document and Draft Scoping Decision Document (SD/DSDD) for the proposed roadway connection between the Cities of Hoyt Lakes and Babbitt is available. The purpose of the project is to improve connectivity and mobility across the broader East Iron Range Region. The project is located in St. Louis County, Minnesota. The SD/DSDD recommends which alternatives should be carried forward for further
review in the Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the degree of additional study needed to assess potential social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Copies of the Hoyt Lakes – Babbitt Connection Project SD/DSDD are being distributed to those agencies on the current MEQB document review list and others. The comment period will begin January 12, 2009 and will extend through February 11, 2009. Copies of the Hoyt Lakes – Babbitt Connection Project SD/DSDD have been made available for public review and are also located on the project website at www.hoytlakesetobabbitt.com. Local units of government and libraries that receive the document are asked to make it available for public review. All comments should be directed to:

Peter R. Eakman, P.E.
Project Manager
St. Louis County Public Works Dept.
4787 Midway Road
Duluth, MN 55811
Phone: 218.625.3841
eakmanp@co.st-louis.mn.us

To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies, and groups to comment on the project, two public open houses meeting will be held. The open houses will include the same content and follow the same format. The first open house will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at the Hoyt Lakes Community Center located at 101 Kennedy Memorial Drive in Hoyt Lakes, MN. The second open house will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at the Babbitt City Hall at 71 South Drive in Babbitt, MN.

The open houses will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with a brief presentation starting at 6:15 p.m. Copies of the Hoyt Lakes – Babbitt Connection Project SD/DSDD will be available for review and project representatives will be present to answer questions during the open house.

The Hoyt Lakes – Babbitt Connection Project SD/DSDD can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the Project Manager at (218) 625-3841 or to individuals who are hearing or speech impaired by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at (800) 627-3529. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meeting should contact the Project Manager at least five days before the public meeting or through the Minnesota Relay Service at (800) 627-3529.

NOTICES

State of Minnesota
Office of Energy Security

Issued: January 5, 2009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

In the Matter of the Certificate of Need and Route Permit Applications for a 161 kV Transmission Line and Associated Facilities in Jackson County, Minnesota.

PUC Docket Numbers: IP-6686/CN-08-944 and IP-6686/TL-08-1120
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security (OES) will conduct a public information and environmental assessment scoping meeting on the certificate of need and route permit applications by Northstar Transmission, LLC (Northstar) to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC or Commission) for the proposed 161 kilovolt (kV) transmission line and associated facilities in Jackson County, Minnesota. The purpose of the meeting is to provide information to the public about the project and to identify issues and alternatives to study in an environmental assessment that will be prepared by the OES Energy Facility Permitting (EFP) staff.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING
Thursday, January 29, 2009 - 6:00 P.M.
AmeriInn of Jackson
110 Belmont Lane
Jackson, Minnesota 56143

The public information meeting will follow an open house format until 6:30 P.M., when PUC and EFP staff will give presentations about the certificate of need and high voltage transmission line alternative permitting process, the proposed project, and how the public may be involved.

The applicant will have representatives at the public meeting who can answer general questions about the proposed project. Review copies of the certificate of need and route permit applications, a flow chart depicting the certificate of need and permitting processes, and comment forms will be available at the public information meeting.

Project Description. Northstar is proposing to construct a 10-mile 161 kV transmission line, a substation in Petersburg Township, and a switching station east of the city of Jackson, Minnesota. The transmission line would originate at a newly constructed substation (Tatman substation) located approximately one half mile north of the Minnesota-Iowa border in Petersburg Township.

The transmission line route would proceed north out of the Tatman substation along County Highway (CH) 25/560th Avenue for approximately five and one half miles to 558th Avenue and continue north two miles to CH 14 traveling one-quarter mile east. At this point the transmission line route would veer slightly north-northwest traveling across private agricultural land along property and section lines to a newly proposed switching station (see attached Figure).

The applicant indicates they have coordinated with private land owners, township and county officials and representatives of the REA Coop of Jackson County to minimize land use impacts. The proposed project would therefore, not result in displacement of existing residences or businesses.

Review Process. A certificate of need application and a route permit application for the project were filed by Northstar on October 28, 2008. The applications were accepted as complete by the Commission. The certificate of need and route permit applications will be reviewed jointly and an environmental assessment (EA) will be prepared in lieu of the environmental report required under Minnesota Rule 7849.7030.

EFP staff will prepare an EA prior to the Commission’s determination of the need for the project and consideration of a specific route for the transmission line. The EA will consider issues related to both the need for the project such as size, type, timing, voltage, and system configurations and issues related to routing, including construction impacts, environmental features, use of existing rights-of-way, and impacts to homes and businesses.
The PUC will hold a public hearing upon completion of the environmental assessment. The public will be afforded the opportunity to make oral presentation, present documentary evidence, and ask questions of the applicants and staff. Notice of the hearing will be published in local newspapers and mailed to persons who register their names on the project mailing list. A portion of the public hearing will be held in the counties where the proposed project would be located.

Minnesota statutes and rules governing the processes are available on the following website: http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/TransmissionLines.html.

**Project Documents.** A more detailed explanation of the proposed project is contained in the Northstar certificate of need and route permit applications. Electronic versions of the applications and other documents relevant to this matter are available on the PUC website or eDockets at:

- [http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19789](http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19789)
- [https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp](https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp)
  (enter Docket Number 08-1120 [route permit] or 08-944 [CN]).

Persons interested in adding their names to the Department of Commerce project mailing list should contact the EFP project manager, public advisor, or register online at:

- [http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Users/user_registration.htm](http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Users/user_registration.htm).

The PUC maintains a separate official service list for certificate of need proceedings. To be added to the list for this project contact: Robin Benson, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101-2147, fax: (651)-297-7073, email: robin.benson@state.mn.us. The list is public information, and persons on the list will receive all official documents related to the case.

**Public Comments.** Comments on the scope of the EA for this project will be accepted until 4:30 P.M., February 12, 2009. Please include Docket Number IP-6686/CN-08-944 and/or IP-6686/TL-08-1120 on your comments.

**Project Contacts.** To submit comments, ask questions, or seek further information about this project please contact:

**Department of Commerce**

Scott Ek, Project Manager
Energy Facility Permitting
Minnesota Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
Phone: 651-296-8813
Email: scott.ek@state.mn.us

Deborah Pile, Public Advisor
Energy Facility Permitting
Minnesota Office of Energy Security
85 7th Place East, Suite 500
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198
Phone: 651-297-2375
Email: deborah.pile@state.mn.us

**Public Utilities Commission**

Tricia DeBleeckere
Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
Office of Energy Security

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

In the Matter of the Route Permit Application for the Southdale to Scearcyville 115 kV Transmission Line and Breaker Station

PUC Docket No. ET2/TL-08-712

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Department of Commerce Office of Energy Security (OES) will hold a public hearing on behalf of the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC or Commission) on the route permit application by Great River Energy and Minnesota Power to construct a new 115 kV transmission line and breaker station in Cass and Crow Wing counties, Minnesota.

Thursday, January 22, 2009 - 6:00 P.M.
Cragun’s Conference Center
Shoreline Meeting Room
1000 Craguns Drive
Brainerd, Minnesota 56401

Project Description. The applicants propose to construct 9.3 miles of new 115 kV transmission line and build a new breaker station (Scearcyville Breaker Station). The proposed project would extend from the west side of Baxter to the north end of Sylvan Township and would parallel existing utility and county/state highway rights-of-way for approximately 95 percent of the project (see attached Figure).

Environmental Assessment. OES has completed an environmental assessment (EA) on the proposed project. The EA addresses the potential human and environmental impacts of the proposed project and evaluates six alternative route segments. Electronic versions of the EA including maps of the six alternative routes and other documents relevant to this matter are available for viewing and download on the PUC website or eDockets at:

http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19661

or

https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp (enter Docket Number 08-712).
**Conduct of Hearing.** The public hearing will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statutes 216E.04, and Minnesota Rule 7849.5710. The Honorable Steve Mihalchick, Administrative Law Judge will preside over the hearing.

OES staff will be present at the hearing and make a brief presentation about the project and introduce into the record a number of documents relating to the project. Representatives of the applicants (Great River Energy and Minnesota Power) will be present to offer evidence and to answer questions. Members of the public will have an opportunity to ask questions of OES staff and the applicants, to make statements, and to offer written comments and material into the record.

The record will remain open until **4:30 P.M., Friday, February 6, 2009**, for interested persons to submit written comments to the Administrative Law Judge. Comments must be submitted directly to Judge Mihalchick:

The Honorable Steve Mihalchick  
Office of Administrative Hearings  
P.O. Box 64620  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0620  
Steve.Mihalchick@state.mn.us

The Administrative Law Judge will provide OES staff a written summary of testimony given at the hearing. The Commission will make a final decision on the route permit application after receipt of the complete record.

**Additional Information.** For more information about the process, the project, or to place your name on the project mailing list, please contact:

Scott Ek, Project Manager  
Energy Facility Permitting  
Office of Energy Security  
85 7th Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
(651) 296-8813  
scott.ek@state.mn.us

Deborah Pile, Public Advisor  
Energy Facility Permitting  
Office of Energy Security  
85 7th Place East, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2198  
(651) 297-2375  
deborah.pile@state.mn.us

**Mailing List.** Any person may add his or her name to the mailing list maintained by OES for future mailings regarding this project. If you would like to receive notice of the Commission’s final decision in this matter please add your name to the mailing list. Names can be added to the list by contacting the project manager or by registering on the PUC website at: [http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19661](http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=19661).
### EQB Monitor Publication Calendar for 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume Number</th>
<th>Deadline for Submission</th>
<th>Publication Date</th>
<th>EAW Comment Deadline</th>
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January 12, 2009

Dear Colleague:

Attached please find a copy or copies of a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document (Draft SDD) for the University of Minnesota’s UMore Park Sand & Gravel Resources Project. The project site is located in both the City of Rosemount and Empire Township in Dakota County, Minnesota. The University of Minnesota is proposing to open a new aggregate mine(s) and ancillary operations on approximately 1,711 acres of the UMore Park property. The current plan is to locate the proposed mining area on the approximate western one-third of the UMore Park property.

Copies of this letter, the Scoping EAW, and Draft SDD are being distributed to agencies on the current Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) document review list. It is also being distributed to additional recipients to inform the public and interested parties of the alternatives that will be carried forward for further review, and of analyses anticipated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The review and comment period required by the state of Minnesota will begin upon publication of the Scoping EAW and Draft SDD availability notice in the Monday, January 12, 2009 edition of the EQB Monitor. Comments will be accepted through Monday, February 16, 2009, and will be included in the official record. Comments – in writing – should be directed to:

Steven Lott
University of Minnesota
UMore Park
1605 West 160th Street
Rosemount, MN 55068
Phone: 651.423.2562
Fax: 651.423.1491
E-mail: lottx020@umn.edu

To afford an opportunity for all interested parties, agencies and groups to comment on the proposed action, a public scoping meeting will be held on Thursday, February 5, 2009, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Rosemount Community Center located at 13885 South Robert Trail in Rosemount, Minnesota. A project presentation will be held at 6:30 p.m. Members of the project team will be available preceding and following the presentation to provide individual assistance. Comments may be submitted in writing, or verbally on the evening of Feb. 5 to a court reporter. The comments received will be considered in determining the scope of the environmental document.

The above referenced documents are available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling Steven Lott. Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired should call the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meeting should call Steven Lott at the phone number listed above or the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 as soon as possible.

Thank you for your interest in the UMore Park Sand & Gravel Resources Project.

Sincerely,

Charles C. Muscoglot
Vice President

Driven to Discover SM
UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources
Scoping EAW/Draft Scoping Decision Document Distribution List

DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
CONTACT: BRIAN WATSON
4100 220 TH STREET WEST
FARMINGTON MN 55024

VERMILLION RIVER WATERSHED JOINT
POWERS ORGANIZATION
CONTACT: BILL OLSON
14955 GALAXIE AVENUE
APPLE VALLEY MN 55124

DAKOTA COUNTY
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
CONTACT: LYNN THOMPSON
14955 GALAXIE AVENUE
APPLE VALLEY MN 55124

CITY OF ROSEMOUNT
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPART
CONTACT: KIM LINDQUIST
2875 145 TH STREET WEST
ROSEMOOUNT MN 55068

EMPIRE TOWNSHIP TOWN HALL
CONTACT: TERRY HOMES
3385 WEST 197 TH STREET
FARMINGTON MN 55024

DAKOTA COUNTY--FARMINGTON
LIBRARY
508 THIRD STREET
FARMINGTON MN 55024

JENNIE ROSS
MN/DOT OES
MS 620
395 JOHN IRELAND BOULEVARD
ST PAUL MN 55155

HELEN BURKE
MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
300 NICOLLET MALL
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55401

UMP011050
U of M seeks public comments on proposed sand and gravel project at UMore Park; Open house scheduled for Feb. 5 in Rosemount

Contact: Carla Carlson, Assistant Vice President at 612-624-6252
See details at www.umorepark.umn.edu

MINNEAPOLIS / ST. PAUL (1/12/2009) – The University of Minnesota is hosting a public meeting on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009, to invite public comments on its proposed Sand & Gravel Resources Project, located on a portion of University property in Dakota County.

The University is undertaking a public process to evaluate a potential plan to open a new aggregate mine(s) and ancillary operations on the western third of its 5,000-acre UMore Park property. The property lies within both the City of Rosemount and Empire Township.

The public process entails preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Sand & Gravel Resources Project, consistent with the requirements of the state’s Environmental Quality Board. The first step in the EIS process is to invite the public to provide comments that will help determine the scope of the project. Two documents – a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and a Draft Scoping Decision Document (SDD) – have been written to define the project purpose and need, describe the alternatives considered, and detail the methodology for studying potential social, economic, and environmental impacts that could result from the proposed Sand & Gravel Resources Project.

The Feb. 5, 2009 public meeting will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Rosemount Community Center Ballroom located at 13885 South Robert Trail in Rosemount, Minnesota. A project presentation will be held at 6:30 p.m. Project team members will be available preceding and following the presentation for informal discussion. Formal comments, based on Environmental Quality Board guidelines, should be submitted in writing, or verbally to the on-site court reporter at the Feb. 5 meeting. Formal comments will be considered in determining the scope of the environmental document.

Copies of the Scoping EAW and the Draft SDD are available online at the UMore Park website: www.umorepark.umn.edu. Printed copies are available for review at the Empire Town Hall, the Farmington Public Library, the Rosemount City Hall, and the UMore Park Administration Building.

The public comment period on the Scoping EAW and Draft SDD will remain open until Monday, February 16, 2009. Formal comments -- in writing – can be submitted via the EIS comment box on the UMore Park website or to: Steven Lott, University of Minnesota-UMore Park, 1605 West 160th Street, Rosemount, MN 55068 or via e-mail at lottx020@umn.edu

A draft EIS document will be tentatively available for public review by early Fall 2009.
University of Minnesota
UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project

February 5, 2009 Public Scoping Meeting

Welcome to the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Mining Resources Project Public Scoping Meeting! The University of Minnesota has prepared a Scoping Environmental Assessment worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document (DSDD) for the proposed Sand and Gravel Resources Project at its UMore Park property located in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township. The University is proposing to pursue aggregate mining on approximately 1,711 acres located on the western one-third of the UMore Park property (see map on reverse side).

The purpose of this meeting is to provide information to the public regarding the combined Scoping EAW/DSDD. The meeting is also intended to provide an opportunity for the public to view the proposed mining area, to learn more about what will be assessed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and to submit official comments on the project. Your participation and input will be crucial in determining the best approach for assessing potential project effects.

A brief presentation will be given at 6:30 p.m. to provide an overview of the project scoping process and define the next steps in the overall project development process. Formal comments can be made by completing a comment sheet and dropping it in the comment box or by mailing the self-addressed sheets back to the University. Written comments can also be submitted by mail to Steven Lott, UMore Park 1605 West 160th Street, Rosemount MN 55068 or via e-mail to: lottx020@umn.edu. **The deadline for submitting comments on the Scoping EAW/DSDD is Monday, February 16, 2009.** An electronic copy of the Scoping EAW/DSDD and additional project information can be found on the project website at [www.umorepark.umn.edu](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu). The documents can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 or 651-296-9930 TTY.

Representatives from the University of Minnesota and their consultant Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc., (SEH) are available at this public scoping meeting to discuss the project and respond to questions. However, comments that are to be included in the official public record must be made in writing or to the court reporter. Again, we welcome you and appreciate your participation on this important transportation project.

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT?**

The purpose of the project is to make cost-effective and environmentally-sound usage of regionally significant aggregate resources located within the proposed mining area and to generate revenues to support the mission of the University of Minnesota. Therefore, the University is conducting initial exploratory, design, and assessment studies and preparing an EIS to assess the potential impacts related to proposed mining operations and ancillary activities at the site.
Sand and Gravel Resources - Environmental Impact Statement Process
Frequently Asked Questions

What is an Environmental Impact Statement?
An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a legal, full disclosure document that identifies the anticipated environmental impacts and mitigation commitments of a proposed project.

Why is an EIS being done?
For two reasons. First, the University is committed to the public, participatory process the results of which will inform the University of Minnesota Board of Regents through their decision-making on whether to pursue commercial mining on the property.

And, it is a technical requirement that anytime a proposed sand and gravel project exceeds the environmental threshold of 160+ acres, set by the State of Minnesota, an EIS must be done.

How does the process work?
The UMore Gravel Mining EIS will be written in two phases: a Draft EIS and a Final EIS. The Draft EIS presents the results of all studies, reviews, consultations and coordination conducted regarding the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts of the proposed project alternative(s). Following completion of the Draft EIS, a preferred alternative is identified based on the analysis presented in the Draft EIS and the comments received during the official public and agency review and comment period. The Final EIS further evaluates the preferred alternative and describes any mitigation commitments to avoid and minimize potential adverse affects of the project.

Who reviews and approves the EIS?
The University of Minnesota Board of Regents, as the Responsible Government Unit (RGU), will review and approve the publication and distribution of the Draft and Final EIS. A public and agency review and comment period -- aided by the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) -- will be held for both the Draft EIS and the Final EIS. Ultimately, the University of Minnesota Regents will make a determination whether or not to proceed with commercial mining.

When will the documents be completed?
The Draft EIS is anticipated to be completed in the Summer/Fall of 2009 and the Final EIS is scheduled to be completed by 2010.

Can I review the document when it is completed?
Yes. Notice of the Draft EIS will be made through government and public information channels and made available for public review at local libraries, Rosemount City Hall, Empire Township Office, and the UMore Park Administration Building in Rosemount.
What areas of environmental impact review are included in an EIS?

- Land Use
- Farmland
- Water Quality/Surface Water
- Groundwater
- Wetlands
- Soil and Water Contamination
- Vegetation
- Floodplains
- Fish and Wildlife
- Threatened/Endangered Species
- Social and Community
- Transportation/Public Infrastructure
- Noise/Vibrations
- Archeological and Historic Sites
- Visual/Aesthetics
- Cumulative/Indirect Impacts

What is the timeline for this EIS?

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<tr>
<td>Public Open House</td>
<td>Nov 08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publish Scoping EAW</td>
<td>Jan 09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Scoping Meeting</td>
<td>Jan/Feb 09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare Draft EIS</td>
<td>Feb-Jul 09</td>
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<td>Public Draft EIS Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare Final EIS</td>
<td>Late 09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Complete EIS Process</td>
<td>Early 10</td>
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Who can I contact for more information on the sand and gravel resources or the EIS?

UMore Park Project Manager, Steven Lott, will be happy to answer any questions you might have. Steven’s contact information is:

Steven Lott, UMore Park Project Manager
UMore Park Administration Building
1605 160th Street West
Rosemount, MN 55068

Phone: (651) 423-2455
E-mail: lottx020@umn.edu
UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project
University of Minnesota

Public Comment Forum and Open House

Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Rosemount Community Center

AGENDA

6 p.m. Informal viewing of display boards, maps and related information (project staff and consultants available for questions and conversation). Light meal and refreshments.

6:30 Welcome – Charles C. Muscoplat, Vice President for Statewide Strategic Resource Development and University Responsible Officer for UMore Park

Project staff introductions – Steven Lott, Co-project manager, UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project

6:40 The UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project – Chris Hiniker, Principal Project Manager, SEH
- Purpose of the scoping meeting
- The scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)
- Draft Scoping Decision
- Project schedule
- Process for providing public comments
- General questions from attendees

7:00 Informal viewing of display boards, maps and related information; opportunity to provide formal written and oral comments on the project

8:00 Adjourn
University of Minnesota
UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project

Key Documents for the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Process

**Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)**
Prior to governmental approval of a project with the potential for significant environmental effects, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared. An EIS identifies the potential environmental impacts of the project. The Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) is a mandatory step in the environmental review process. The Scoping EAW is a screening worksheet with a standardized list of questions that help determine the project’s potential for significant environmental effects and to define the methodology for assessing potential impacts during the preparation of the EIS.

**Draft Scoping Decision Document (Draft SDD)**
In conjunction with the Scoping EAW, the Draft Scoping Decision Document, defines the project, communicates the projects purpose and need, and identifies the alternatives considered. Most importantly it identifies the key potential project effects to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
What is an Environment Impact Statement?

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a legal, full disclosure document that identifies the anticipated environmental impacts and mitigation commitments of a proposed project.

Why is an EIS being done?

For two reasons. First, the University is committed to the public, participatory process that informs the University of Minnesota Board of Regents through their decision-making on whether to pursue commercial mining on the property.

Second, it is a State of Minnesota requirement anytime a proposed sand and gravel project exceeds 160 acres an EIS must be conducted.

How does the process work?

The UMore Park Gravel Mining EIS will be written in two phases: a Draft EIS and a Final EIS. The Draft EIS presents the results of all studies, reviews, consultations and coordination conducted regarding the potential social, economic, and environmental impacts of the proposed project alternative(s). Following completion of the Draft EIS, a preferred alternative is identified based on the analysis presented in the Draft EIS and the comments received during the official public and agency review and comment period. The Final EIS further evaluates the preferred alternative and describes any mitigation commitments to avoid and minimize potential adverse affects of the project.

Who reviews and approves the EIS?

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents, as the Responsible Government Unit (RGU), will review and approve the publication and distribution of the Draft and Final EIS. A public and agency review and comment period -- aided by the State’s Environmental Quality Board (EQB) -- will be held for both the Draft EIS and the Final EIS. Ultimately, the University of Minnesota Regents will make a determination whether to proceed with commercial mining.

When will the documents be completed?

The Draft EIS is anticipated to be completed in the Summer/Fall of 2009, and the Final EIS is scheduled to be completed by 2010.

Can I review the document when it is completed?

Yes. Notice of the Draft EIS will be made through government and public information channels and made available for public review at local libraries, the Rosemount City Hall, the Empire Township Office, and the UMore Park Administration Building in Rosemount.
University of Minnesota
UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project

Public Comment Process: Jan. 12 – Feb. 16, 2009

The University is committed to an engaged public process that better informs the proposed UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project. The public comment process follows guidelines provided by the state's Environmental Quality Board (EQB). It is important that individuals and organizations wishing to have their formal comments incorporated into the environmental review process adhere to the comment procedures outlined by the EQB.

The comment period associated with the publication of the *UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)* and *Draft Scoping Decision Document* is Jan. 12 through Feb. 16, 2009. During this time individuals can access the documents at http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/, or at the Empire Town Hall, the Dakota County Library in Farmington, the Rosemount City Hall and the UMore Park Administration Building.

Formal comments on the documents can be submitted via the following:
- An e-mail addressed to Steven Lott and emailed to lottx020@umn.edu.
- An electronic message submitted via the “message box” on project website (http://www.umorepark.umn.edu).
- In writing via US mail, fax, or hand delivered to Steven Lott at the UMore Park offices at 1605 West 160th Street, Rosemount, MN 55068. Fax number: 651-423-1491.

In addition, formal comments can be submitted at the Public Scoping Meeting being held on Feb. 5, 2009, between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., at the Rosemount Community Center located at 13885 South Robert Trail. The meeting will include information regarding the project and the ongoing public involvement opportunities. Formal comments during the meeting can be provided via two means:
- Comment sheets will be available. The comment sheets can be filled out at the meeting or mailed after the meeting anytime prior to the Feb. 16 deadline.
- Comments can be provided orally to a court reporter that will be present between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Comments MUST include the name, address, and organizational affiliation, if any, of the submitter.

**SPECIAL NOTE:**
- The deadline for comments is Feb. 16, 2009. Comments sent by US mail must be postmarked Feb. 16 to be accepted as part of the official record. Electronic submissions need to be sent before midnight on Feb. 16.
- Comments offered via telephone conversation, informal one-to-one discussion, or group meeting discussion will not be included in the formal public comment process. Please follow the formal comment options stated above to participate fully in this public process.
## FINAL PARTICIPANT LIST

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>John Adams</td>
<td>U of MN, Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jon Albinson</td>
<td></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Doug Asmus</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Robert Bierangel</td>
<td>Aggregate Industries</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Richard Brand</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Will Branning</td>
<td>Dakota County Commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>J. Brenberg</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Herman Brenkerg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Andy Brotzler</td>
<td>City of Rosemount Rosemount City Engineer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Keith Carlson</td>
<td>Homeowner</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Donald Chapdelaine</td>
<td>Chamber</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Kurt Chatfield</td>
<td>Dakota County Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Mary &amp; Guy Courteau</td>
<td>Land Owner adjacent to UMore</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Donald Cragoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Shawn Dahl</td>
<td>Ames Construction, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Janet Dalgleish</td>
<td>U of MN - Env, Health &amp; Safety</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Andrea Delsing</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Paul DeMuth</td>
<td>DCTC</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Jim Dockstaser</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Bill Droste</td>
<td>Mayor, Rosemount</td>
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<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Albert Dunker</td>
<td>Homeowner</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Fran Edelman</td>
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<td>Dee Ann Finley</td>
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<td>Sean Flaten</td>
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<td>Leonard Fowler</td>
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<td>Nathan Hanson</td>
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<td>Jessica Harper</td>
<td>This Week newspaper</td>
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<td>Joe Harris</td>
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<td>Cheryl Hoiosen</td>
<td>Gasser Property Manager</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Gene Illg</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>Dwight Johnson</td>
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<td>Ken Juhn</td>
<td>Cemstone Products Company</td>
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<td>36</td>
<td>Trudy Kelberg</td>
<td>School of Environmental Studies Student</td>
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<td>37</td>
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<td>Mary Korthauer</td>
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<td>Floyd Lindemuth</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Gravel Resources Project
Public Comment Forum and Open House
Rosemont Community Center
February 5, 2009: 6-8 p.m.

FINAL PARTICIPANT LIST
41 Kim Lindquist City of Rosemount
42 Patrick Mason Ames Construction, Inc.
43 Gloria McMorran
44 Katie Mintz Sun Newspapers
45 Paul Purman DNR Parks and Trails
46 Mike Rorter
47 Jon Steadland Office of the Board of Regents
48 Ron Thomas DCTC
49 Ken Tyra U of MN, OGC
50 David Wachter
51 Bret Weiss WSB & Associates
52 Jonathan Wilmshurst

STAFF & PARTNERS
1 Patti Backes UMore Park
2 Dallas Bohnsack University Regent
3 Kathy Boudreau UMore Park
4 Carla Carlson U of M - SSRD
5 Lorri Chapman U of M - SSRD
6 Chris Hiniker S.E.H
7 Forrest Izuno UMore Park
8 Emily Kissane U of M - SSRD
9 Mark Koegler HKGI
10 Steven Lott UMore Park
11 Deb Miller Slipek Consultant - SSRD
12 Charles Muscoplat U of M - SSRD
13 Bob Rogers S.E.H
UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project

Public Scoping Meeting
February 5, 2009

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover

Presentation Agenda
• Welcome
• Introductions
• Sand and Gravel Resources Project
• Purpose of Scoping Meeting
• Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)
• Draft Scoping Decision Document
• Project Schedule
• Ongoing Public Involvement and Input

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover
Sand & Gravel Resources Project

- The University is proposing to open new aggregate mines and ancillary operations on approximately 1,711-acres of the UMore Park property.
- The proposed UMore Mining Area is located on the western one-third of the UMore Park property.
Sand & Gravel Resources Project

- The project will make cost-effective and environmentally-sound use of regionally significant aggregate resources.

- The magnitude (acreage) of the project requires the completion of a State Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Purpose of Scoping Meeting

- Provide information to the public regarding the UMore Park Sand & Gravel Resources Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document.
- Receive comments on the documents.
- Provide an update on the status of the project.
Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW)

- Defines the proposed project and the alternatives being considered.
- Considers the full range of potential social, economic, and environmental (SEE) topics.
- Defines the study methodologies for analyzing the potential SEE impacts.

Draft Scoping Decision Document

- Identifies the Alternatives to be considered in the EIS.
- Identifies the social, economic, and environmental (SEE) topics which will be further analyzed in the EIS.
- Identifies the SEE topics not requiring further analysis in the EIS.
The Draft Scoping Decision – What Alternatives Will Be Retained?

• Build Alternative
  – The specific layout of the project will be refined during the EIS process.

• No-Build Alternative

The Draft Scoping Decision - What Topics will be Analyzed in the EIS?

• Land Use Compatibility
• Potentially Impacted Soils/Groundwater
• Wetlands
• Traffic
• Water Use
• Floodplains
• Erosion/Sedimentation
• Surface Water Quality
• Infrastructure/Public Services
• Cumulative Effects
• Groundwater
• Threatened/Endangered Species
• Air Emissions
• Odors, Noise, and Dust
• Cultural Resources
• Farmlands
• Visual Impacts
The Draft Scoping Decision - What Topics do not Require Further Analysis in the EIS

- Vehicle-Related Air Emissions
- Designated Parks, Recreational Areas, Trails, and/or Scenic Views or Vistas
- Water Surface Use

What is an EIS?

- An EIS is a full disclosure document that identifies and analyzes the potentially significant effects of an action on the environment.
- The environment is defined as all natural, socioeconomic, and community subjects that may be affected by the action.
- Public involvement is a crucial element of the environmental review process.
Project Schedule

- Published Scoping EAW – January 12, 2009
- Public Scoping Meeting – February 5, 2009
- Final Scoping Decision Document – Mar./Apr. 2009
- Prepare Draft EIS – March through August 2009
- Prepare Final EIS – Late 2009
- Complete EIS Process – Early 2010

Ongoing Public Input Opportunities

- Ongoing public input will be gathered throughout the EIS process.
- The project website provides project updates, including documents made available for public review: www.umorepark.umn.edu
- While the University welcomes input throughout the process, only comments submitted during the official comment periods become part of the official record.
Commenting on the Scoping EAW and Draft Scoping Decision Document

- The official comment period will remain open until **Monday, February 16, 2009**.
- Written comments can be made tonight on the comment sheets or verbal comments can be stated to the certified court reporter.
- Written comments can also be submitted:
  - on the UMore Park website; [www.umorepark.umn.edu](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu)
  - mailed to: Steven Lott, University of Minnesota-UMore Park, 1605 West 160th Street, Rosemount, MN 55068; or
  - via e-mail at lottx020@umn.edu

**Questions?**
WHEREAS, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota is the Responsible Governmental Unit for the purpose of conducting the environmental review related to the proposed mining of sand and gravel at UMore Park, located in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, in fulfillment of its responsibilities as the Responsible Governmental Unit, University staff, with the assistance of expert consultants, prepared and made available for public review and comment during the period between January 12, 2009 and February 16, 2009 a Draft Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document (SDD); and

WHEREAS, on February 5, 2009 University staff held a public meeting for the purpose of receiving public comments regarding the Draft EAW and Draft SDD; and

WHEREAS, University staff with assistance from the expert consultants analyzed each of the public comments, prepared a written response to each, and revised the Draft SDD, where appropriate, consistent with the responses to the comments;

WHEREAS, the Facilities Committee of the Board of Regents has conducted a review of the SDD, as revised, and the related documents and has made its recommendations; and

June 2009
WHEREAS, the Board of Regents has reviewed the public comments to the Draft EAW and the Draft SDD, the response to each of the comments, and the revised SDD and has found that (i) based on the advice of legal counsel, the University complied with all legal requirements in preparing the Scoping Decision Document, including those governing public participation, and (ii) the proposed scope for the environmental review set out in the revised Scoping Decision Document is a proper and adequate scope for the EIS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents hereby approves the revised Scoping Decision Document.
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: July 29, 2009

EQB Adopts Rule Amendments

At their regular meeting on June 18, 2009 the Environmental Quality Board adopted the finalized version of rule amendments that have been in the rulemaking process since mid-2008. See items on the EQB web site for the Administrative Law Judge’s report, the corrected version of the rule from the State Revisor, and the Statement of Need and Reasonableness (SONAR). All comments made during the public review process are also available on the web site, but are also summarized in the ALJ’s report.

The adopted rule amendments are expected to go into affect some time in July or August. The adopted rules must be reviewed by the Governor’s Office and the Office of Administrative Hearings before being submitted to the Secretary of State and posted in the Office of the Revisor’s web site.

Project Title: Strobel Farms – Jungbloet Site & Buecksler Site

Description: Greg Strobel is proposing to construct two swine finishing facilities, one in Section 34 and the other in Section 36 of McPherson Township in Blue Earth County. The proposed facilities will consist of the construction of two identical barns at each site with a maximum physical capacity of 2,400 finishing hogs, or 720 animal units, housed in each barn. After construction, the maximum physical capacity of the entire operation will be 9,600 finishing swine (2,880 animal units). The proposed barns will be total confinement, power-ventilated buildings. Manure will be stored in the reinforced concrete pits located beneath each of the barns.
A copy of the Environment Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following: http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html

**RGU:** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**Contact Person:**
Charles Peterson  
Planner Principal  
Environmental Review and Feedlot Section  
Regional Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194  
Phone: 651-757-2856

**Project Title:** Princeton Wastewater Treatment Facility Expansion

**Description:** The city of Princeton (City or Proposer) is proposing to expand their existing wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) and add a discharge pipe to discharge treated effluent to the Rum River. The City’s existing WWTF is a mechanical treatment plant, designed for an influent average wet weather design flow (AWWF) of 0.635 million gallons per day (mgd), that discharges to seepage pond cells. The City proposes to construct additional treatment units, including filtration that would treat a 30-day AWWF of 1.905 mgd. The treated wastewater will be required to meet restrictive effluent limits, including a 0.3 milligram per liter total phosphorus level from May through September.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following: http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html

**RGU:** Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

**Contact Person:**
Nancy Drach  
Planner Principal  
Environmental Review and Feedlot Section  
Regional Division  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road North  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4196  
Phone: 651-757-2317

**EIS NEED DECISIONS**

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparation of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the *EQB Monitor.*
SCOPING DECISION DOCUMENT
AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT UMore Park

Description: The University of Minnesota intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project. The plan is to allow new aggregate mine(s) and ancillary operations on approximately 1,608 acres of the UMore Park property owned by the University and located in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota.

On June 12, 2009, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota has approved the Final Scoping Decision Document (SDD) for the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This decision followed the EIS scoping process, which included preparation and public review of the Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document (Draft SDD) under the environmental review rules established by the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB). A notice was published in the January 12, 2009 issue of the EQB Monitor informing the public of the availability of and public comment period for the Scoping EAW and Draft SDD. The 30-day public comment period began on January 12, 2009 and concluded on February 16, 2009 during which a Public Scoping Meeting was held on February 5, 2009. Public comments were received during the comment period and at the Public Scoping Meeting.

In addition to describing the project purpose, the Final SDD identifies two project alternatives that will be evaluated in the EIS; the No-Build Alternative and the Build Alternative. The No-Build Alternative will evaluate the scenario that the University maintain the 1,608 acres on the UMore Park property under it’s current land uses (agricultural and open space). The Build Alternative will evaluate the operation of aggregate mining and ancillary operations on the proposed site.

The Final SDD also describes the subjects that will be evaluated in the EIS, and identifies those subjects that were adequately addressed in the Scoping EAW and will not require additional evaluation in the EIS. The EIS study subjects and the degree to which they will be assessed are described in the Final SDD.

As a result of public comments and additional information, some amendments were made to the Draft SDD prior to publication of the Final SDD. The amendments included adding the following subject to be evaluated in further detail in the EIS:

• Designated Parks, Recreational Areas, and/or Trails

The Final SDD also includes information supporting the Regents’ approval of the Final SDD, including copies of and responses to comments provided during the Public Scoping Period and information from the Public
Scoping Meeting. The Final SDD and Response to Comments are available on the University of Minnesota website at: http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/

RGU: Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota

Contact Person:
Steven Lott
University Project Manager
UMore Park Administration Building
1605 West 160th Street
Rosemount, MN 55068
Phone: 651-423-1491
Email: lottx020@umn.edu

FINAL AUAR ADOPTED

On behalf of the City of North Branch, please be advised that the City Council adopted the ESSBY AUAR update dated May 1, 2009; no comments were received within the comment period. This AUAR will remain valid as the environmental review for the study area through June 2014.

If you have questions, please contact Alan Cottingham 651-674-8113 or Andrea Moffatt, PWS, Environmental Scientist, WSB & Associates, Inc. at 763-287-7196.

FINAL EIS AVAILABLE

Project Title: Concrete Products of New London, Minnesota Hwy 23 Aggregate Mining Expansion

Abstract of EIS: This final EIS was prepared to analyze the impact of mining for sand and gravel on approximately 248 acres in section 28 of Roseville Township, Kandiyohi County. The proposed expansion would take approximately 30 years. The issues identified in the Final Scoping Decision Document for detailed analysis in the EIS included: ecologically sensitive resources, groundwater resources, physical impacts on water resources, and reclamation.

The proposed mine expansion is located in Roseville Township, Kandiyohi County.

Proposer: Concrete Products of New London, Inc.

Contact Person:
Kelly Morrell
Vice President
17550 Highway 23 NE
New London, MN 56273
Phone: 320-354-2311

RGU: Kandiyohi County
Contact Person:
Gary Geer
Kandiyohi County Zoning Administrator
400 SW Benson Ave.
Willmar, MN 56201
320-231-6229

FINAL EIS AVAILABLE

Project Title: Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit System

Description: The Metropolitan Council and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) have issued a Final Environmental Impact Statement / Final Section 4(f) Evaluation (FEIS) for the Central Corridor LRT project. The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (LRT) project proposes construction of a light rail system between Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota. Based on findings from the Alternatives Analysis/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (AA/DEIS) and public and agency input received, the Metropolitan Council adopted a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for the Central Corridor on June 28, 2006. Following publication of a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) in June 2008, the Metropolitan Council selected a Preferred Alternative in September 2008. The FEIS documents the purpose and need for the project, alternatives considered, addresses the anticipated social, economic, and environmental effects that might result from implementing the Preferred Alternative, and responds to comments received during the AA/DEIS and SDEIS public comment periods.

Comments on the FEIS are being accepted through July 27, 2009. Written comments can be addressed to the contact person listed below. Following the review period and consideration of the comments received on the Final EIS, a Federal Record of Decision and Minnesota State Adequacy Determination are anticipated. The Record of Decision and Adequacy Determination will document Metropolitan Council and FTA’s final decision regarding the environmental phase of the project.

Document Availability: The Final EIS and Section 4(f) Evaluation, including all appendices, is available online at http://www.metrocouncil.org/transportation/ccorridor/centralcorridor.htm

The Final EIS is also available at the following area libraries and resource centers.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Council Library</td>
<td>390 N. Robert St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Corridor Project Office</td>
<td>540 Fairview Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55101</td>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mn/DOT Library</td>
<td>Transportation Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Corridor Resource Center</td>
<td>395 John Ireland Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55155</td>
<td>1080 University Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Paul Central Library</td>
<td>St. Paul, MN 55014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rondo Community Library</td>
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For people with special needs, please contact community outreach coordinator Jessica Hill for reasonable accommodations. Her contact information is jessica.hill@metc.state.mn.us or 651-602-1840.

RGU: Metropolitan Council

Contact Person:
Ms. Kathryn L. O’Brien, Environmental Services Project Manager
Central Corridor Project Office
540 Fairview Ave. North, Suite 200S
St. Paul, MN 55104
Phone: 651-602-1927
Email: Kathryn.Obrien@metc.state.mn.us

FEDERAL CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TH 23 Pedestrian Underpass Categorical Exclusion and De Minimus Impact Evaluation
Public Review and Comment Period

Project Title: TH 23 Pedestrian Underpass
Description: The purpose of the proposed project is to enhance the pedestrian activities of Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU) students, Marshall High School students, and pedestrians attending activities at the proposed athletic fields by providing a safe crossing alternative and improve connectivity of the campus with other community destinations. The selected location of the underpass is the most prudent and reasonable relative to desired destinations on both sides of TH 23. The planned improvement will connect to the
SMSU campus in an area that is well suited for pedestrian activities and will be integrated with the campus sidewalk and trail system. This project allows for a pedestrian underpass to be constructed in conjunction with MnDOT’s scheduled overlay on TH 23 in 2010.

In accordance with SAFETEA-LU Section 6009(a) amending existing section 4(f) legislation to allow the US Department of Transportation (DOT) to determine that certain uses of 4(f) land, which includes publicly owned recreational land, will have no adverse effect on the protected resource. As the NEPA delegated federal agency, FHWA must conduct the evaluation of potential 4(f) impacts under the proposed project. The FHWA has stated the 4(f) impacts fall under the De Minimus impact evaluation category.

This project will impact a section of land on Southwest Minnesota State University site that may be used as a recreational area and therefore is being reviewed as a 4(f) property. The section of land serves as a buffer between the A Parking Lot and the B Parking Lot. FHWA has agreed and SMSU has concurred with the De Minimus finding as they feel that the project will not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the property for protection under Section 4(f). The public has an opportunity to comment on the following project.

**Comments:** City of Marshall will accept written comments on the Categorical Exclusion and / or the De Minimus impact evaluation during the public review and comment period, which will begin on June 26th, 2009 and conclude on July 27th, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.

Written comments should be submitted to Glenn Olson at:
Glenn Olson – City Engineer / Public Works Director
City Hall -Administration Office
344 West Main Street
Marshall, MN 56258

Comments can also be emailed to Mr. Olson at:
glenno@marshallmn.com

**Document Review:** Public review copies of the Categorical Exclusion are available at the following locations:

City of Marshall - City Hall
Administration Office
344 West Main Street
Marshall, MN 56258

Marshall-Lyon County Library
301 West Lyon Street
Marshall, MN 56258

City of Marshall Website
http://www.marshall-mn.org/
PETITION FILED

The following petitions have been filed with the EQB requesting preparation of an EAW. The EQB has assigned the indicated unit of government to review the petition and decide on the need for an EAW.

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Bituminous Roadways asphalt plant project
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, La Crescent Township Wastewater Treatment Facility

NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE: AERIAL APPLICATION OF HERBICIDES
MN Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry

The MN Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry is planning to aerially apply herbicides on state lands. Herbicide applications will occur on approximately 1145 acres and involve 30 individual sites. These applications will be used to prepare sites for the planting of trees as well as for the release of planted trees from overtopping and competing vegetation. Aerial application will begin on approximately August 15 and end on approximately September 12, 2009.

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<td>Accord, Oust</td>
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</table>

TOTALS 30 1145

For further information regarding this project, please contact:

Bill Schnell, Forest Management Aerial Program Leader
MN DNR Forestry
1201 E. Hwy 2
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
Phone: 218-999-7842
June 26, 2009

TO:EQB Distribution List Members, Local Agencies, and TAC Members

FROM:Charles C. Muscoplat, Vice President

SUBJECT:UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Scoping Decision Document

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents approved the Final Scoping Decision Document (Final SDD) for the proposed UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project on Friday, June 12, 2009. This decision follows the EIS scoping process, which included preparation and public review of a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document (Draft SDD) under the environmental review rules established by the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB). A notice was published in the January 12, 2009 issue of the EQB Monitor informing the public of the availability of and public comment period for the Scoping EAW and Draft SDD. The 30-day public comment period began on January 12, 2009 and concluded on February 16, 2009 during which a public scoping meeting was held on February 5, 2009. Public comments were received during the comment period and at the public scoping meeting.

A copy(ies) of the Final SDD for the proposed UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project is enclosed. The proposed project is located on the western third of the UMore Park property (approximately 1,608-acres) in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County.

The SDD recommends the alternatives that should be carried forward for further review in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the degree of additional study needed to assess potential social, economic, and environmental impacts. The Final SDD also includes University responses to comments submitted on the Scoping EAW/Draft SDD.

Local units of government and libraries are asked to make the Final SDD available for public review during regular business hours. The Final SDD can also be accessed through the project website at www.umorepark.umn.edu. Questions and comments regarding the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project and the Final SDD should be directed to Steven Lott, UMore Park Project Manager, at (651) 423-2562.

Driven to Discover™
June 26, 2009

TO: Interested Persons and Organizations

FROM: Charles C. Muscoplat, Vice President

SUBJECT: UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Scoping Decision Document

The University of Minnesota Board of Regents approved the Final Scoping Decision Document (Final SDD) for the proposed UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project on Friday, June 12, 2009. This decision follows the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) scoping process, which includes preparation and public review of a Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document (Draft SDD) under the environmental review rules established by the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB). A notice was published in the January 12, 2009 issue of the EQB Monitor informing the public of the availability of and public comment period for the Scoping EAW and Draft SDD. The 30-day public comment period began on January 12, 2009 and concluded on February 16, 2009 during which a public scoping meeting was held on February 5, 2009. Public comments were received during the comment period and at the public scoping meeting.

In addition to describing the project purpose, the Final SDD identifies two project alternatives that will be evaluated in the EIS; the No-Build Alternative and the Preferred Alternative. The No-Build Alternative will evaluate the scenario that 1,608-acres located on the western third of the UMore Park property would remain under its current land use. The Preferred Alternative will evaluate the operation of sand and gravel mining operations and associated ancillary uses on the 1,608-acre site identified in the Final SDD as the UMore Mining Area.

The Final SDD defines the subjects that will be evaluated in the EIS and identifies those subjects that were adequately addressed in the Scoping EAW and will not require additional evaluation in the EIS. As a result of public and agency comments and additional information, some amendments were made to the Draft SDD prior to publication of the Final SDD. The Final SDD also includes copies of and responses to comments provided during the public scoping period and information from the public scoping meeting.

The Final SDD, which includes the Response to Comments, is available on the University of Minnesota UMore Park website at www.umorepark.umn.edu/. The complete Final Scoping Decision Document and the related supporting documentation are available for review during business hours at the following locations:

- Dakota County Library – Farmington Branch, 508 Third Street, Farmington, MN
- UMore Park Administration Building, 1605 160th Street, Rosemount, MN
- Rosemount City Hall, 2975 145th Street West, Rosemount, MN
- Empire Town Hall, 3385 West 197th Street, Farmington, MN

To request copies of the Final SDD please contact: Steven Lott, University Project Manager, UMore Park Administration Building, 1605 West 160th Street, Rosemount, MN 55068, (651) 423-2562.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| DAkota County Soil & Water Conservation District | Contact: Brian Watson  
4100 220th Street West  
Farmington MN 55024 |
| Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization | Contact: Bill Olson  
14955 Galaxie Avenue  
Apple Valley MN 55124 |
| Dakota County Physical Development Division | Contact: Lynn Thompson  
14955 Galaxie Avenue  
Apple Valley MN 55124 |
| City of Rosemount Community Development Depart | Contact: Kim Lindquist  
2875 145th Street West  
Rosemount MN 55068 |
| Empire Township Town Hall     | Contact: Terry Homes  
3385 West 197th Street  
Farmington MN 55024 |
| Dakota County--Farmington Library |  
508 Third Street  
Farmington MN 55024 |
| Jennie Ross                  | Contact:  
MN/Dot OES  
MS 620  
395 John Ireland Boulevard  
St Paul MN 55155 |
| Helen Burke                  | Contact:  
Minneapolis Public Library  
300 Nicollet Mall  
Minneapolis MN 55401 |
DAVID SWENSON
DAKOTA COUNTY
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
14955 GALAXIE AVENUE
APPLE VALLEY MN 55124

DEAN JOHNSON
EMPIRE TOWNSHIP
3385 WEST 197TH STREET
FARMINGTON MN 55024

STEVEN LOTT
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
UMORE PARK
1605 160TH STREET WEST
ROSEMOUNT MN 55068
<table>
<thead>
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<td>CARL JOHNSON</td>
<td>14918 BITTERSWEET COURT</td>
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A meeting of the Facilities Committee of the Board of Regents was held on Thursday, June 10, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in the West Committee Room, 600 McNamara Alumni Center.

Regents present: Steven Hunter presiding; Clyde Allen, Anthony Baraga, Dallas Bohnsack, Venora Hung, and Dean Johnson.

Staff present: Chancellor Charles Casey; Vice Presidents Kathleen O’Brien, Charles Muscoplat, Richard Pfutzenreuter, and Steven Rosenstone; General Counsel Mark Rotenberg; and Associate Vice Presidents Michael Berthelsen, Terry Bock, Michael Perkins, and Donna Peterson.

Student Representatives present: Chelsey Doepner and Lauren Snively.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDINANCES

Regent Hunter opened the Public Hearing on Amendments to Regents of the University of Minnesota Traffic Regulation Ordinances. He invited Michael Ramolae, Assistant Director, Parking and Transportation Services, to present the proposed changes to the University of Minnesota Traffic Regulation Ordinances. Ramolae summarized the proposed amendments that introduce system-wide moped policies with specific moped provisions on the Twin Cities campus.

Hunter observed that the Board of Regents Office received no comments on the proposed amendments by mail, telephone, or email, and he invited all those who wished to comment at the public hearing to come forward. No one requested to speak regarding the proposed amendments.

A motion was made and seconded to close the public hearing. The motion was unanimously approved and the public hearing was closed at 1:40 p.m.

The regular Facilities Committee meeting resumed.

AMENDMENTS TO REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDINANCES

Vice President O’Brien invited Associate General Counsel Shelley Carthen Watson and Michael Ramolae, Assistant Director, Parking and Transportation Services, to present for action proposed amendments to the Regents of the University of Minnesota Traffic Regulations Ordinances as detailed in the docket and associated materials distributed at the meeting and on file in the Board Office.
In response to questions from the committee, Ramolae stated that changes to the ordinance will be broadly publicized, and that it is likely during the first month the policy goes into effect that officers will educate offenders rather than issue a ticket.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Amendments to *Regents of the University of Minnesota Traffic Regulation Ordinances*.

**RESOLUTION RELATED TO CAMPUS MASTER PLAN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA CROOKSTON**

Vice President O'Brien invited Chancellor Casey and Orlyn Miller, Director, Capital Planning & Project Management, to present for action amendments to the University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC) Campus Master Plan (Plan), as detailed in the docket and associated materials distributed at the meeting and on file in the Board Office. O'Brien noted that the amendments had been reviewed at the May 2010 committee meeting.

Casey briefly outlined Plan changes and how they will help support the UMC vision, which includes: providing access to world-renowned teaching and research; serving as a regional hub for undergraduate education; enhanced technology applications in higher education; innovation, entrepreneurism and regional sustainability; leadership development; and global and diverse cultural experiences.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Resolution Related to Campus Master Plan for the University of Minnesota Crookston.

**SCHEMATIC PLANS**

**A. Biomedical Facilities Program – Cancer/Cardiovascular Projects, Twin Cities Campus**

A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of the following action:

The schematic plans for the Biomedical Facilities Program – Cancer/Cardiovascular Projects, Twin Cities campus, are approved and the appropriate administrative officers are authorized to proceed with the award of contracts, the development of construction documents, and construction.

Vice President O'Brien noted that the schematic plans were being submitted for both review and action, and she invited Associate Vice President Terry Bock and Richard Johnson, Program Director for the Biomedical Discovery District (BDD), to present the schematic plans as detailed in the docket and associated materials distributed at the meeting and on file in the Board Office.

O'Brien described the vision for the four bioscience programs within the BDD, including the Center for Magnetic Resonance Research, which is currently under construction. Bock outlined the project rationale for the Cancer/Cardiovascular building, including:
• Maintain world leadership in cancer and cardiovascular research by attracting and retaining top research talent and providing technologically sophisticated research space;
• Provide increased space for researchers whose current facilities are limited;
• Enhance the programmatic synergies between academic programs; and
• Improve efficiencies through building consolidation.

Bock described the enthusiasm that the new buildings have engendered in the public and private sector. The Minnesota Medical Foundation is working with the BDD to identify private funding to help offset the University’s funding.

Johnson described the Cancer/Cardiovascular building as a gateway to the BDD, and he explained that the 280,000 square feet will be used to: 1) increased “wet lab” research space; 2) co-locate academic programs to enhance interdisciplinary research; 3) create a shared research commons area for research support facilities and instrumentation; and 4) provide public common areas.

In response to questions from the committee, Johnson stated the building will be certified State of Minnesota B3 Sustainable Building Guidelines. Bock explained that the estimated 44,000 square feet of lab space that will be vacated by existing faculty who move into the Cancer/Cardiovascular building would be renovated for other purposes. O’Brien stated that there is area for additional growth between the planned BDD buildings and Granary Road, which is the University’s northern boundary. Bock indicated the labs under construction would be open labs, which allow for economical future modifications to the space, should the need arise.

Johnson observed that the BDD is generating interest from private businesses and may spur private partnerships and buildings in the area adjacent to the BDD.

In response to a question from Regent Hung, Bock described the sources of revenue that would support the operating costs of the new building, including: 1) growth in research funding (indirect cost recovery); 2) prioritizing the programs with some reallocation of operating and maintenance funds; 3) technology commercialization funds; and 4) clinical enterprise.

The committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of schematic plans for the Biomedical Facilities Program – Cancer/Cardiovascular Projects, Twin Cities Campus.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND PROJECT BOUNDARIES AND DISTRIBUTE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE UMORE PARK SAND AND GRAVEL RESOURCES PROJECT

Vice President O’Brien invited Vice President Muscoplat and Associate General Counsel Kenneth Larson to present for review and action a Resolution to Amend Project Boundaries and Distribute the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project, as detailed in the docket and additional materials distributed at the meeting and on file in the Board Office.

Larson explained that the Board of Regents is the responsible governmental unit to oversee the environmental review process. He indicated that the draft EIS will likely be the final document that will return for approval unless there are significant questions raised during the public review of the document. The impact of the gravel mining on research taking place at UMore Park resulted in an amendment of the study.
area. The action requested today is to approve a change in the scope of the study that includes a change in the boundaries and to proceed with the next steps.

Muscoplat reviewed the new boundaries and described the 40-year plan for sand and gravel mining at UMore Park (Park). By changing the boundary area the research within the Park will be protected for at least 30 years. Muscoplat described other environmental issues in selected areas within the Park, including concrete, buried underground pipes, and chemical residue in the soil from World War II in selected areas. These will require an environmental impact study and delay mining in those areas to later in 40-year plan.

Muscoplat described the current use of land within the Park, indicating that the biggest financial impact of the mining will be the eventual loss of rental income from local farmers. However, he noted that income from the sand and gravel excavation is estimated at $5 million per year for the next 40 years.

In response to a question from Regent Bohnsack, Muscoplat explained that the excavation project will span 40 years, and he added that only 15 percent of the 5,000 acres currently set aside for research are used by faculty and graduate students. Future use of the land following excavation will foster research on wind energy, housing design, ground water heat pumps, geology studies, health care delivery, kinesiology, and local food and nutrition.

A motion was made and seconded and the committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of the Resolution Related to Amend Project Boundaries and Distribute Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project.

**RESOLUTION TO NOMINATE THE NORTHROP MALL DISTRICT FOR THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**

Vice President O'Brien invited Orlyn Miller, Director, Capital Planning & Project Management, to present for review a Resolution to Nominate the Northrop Mall District (District) for the National Register of Historic Places (Register), as detailed in the docket and additional materials distributed at the meeting and on file in the Board Office.

Miller described Northrop Mall as one of the premiere campus spaces in the country that is intact to its original design. In 1997 Northrop Mall was designated as a Regents Campus Historical District. The Minnesota State Historical Preservation Office listed the District as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 2007, however there has been no official nomination. Miller clarified that buildings and landscapes eligible for the Register must be treated as if they were already on the Register. Listing in the Register would provide a formal recognition of the District’s historical, architectural, and archeological significance based on national standards.

Nomination for the Register supports the guiding principles of Board of Regents Policy: *Historic Preservation* and the Twin Cities Campus Master Plan. Miller noted that listing the District on the Register would have limited additional financial and operational impact since the University already treats eligible and listed properties the same. He commented that the official listing is largely symbolic and does not restrict the use of, or guarantee permanent protection to, the District.

In response to questions from the committee, Miller explained that the designation does not prohibit decommissioning of buildings in the District, if necessary.

This item will return for action at a future committee meeting.
REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION

A. Five-Year Lease for Soudan Underground Laboratory, Soudan Underground Mine State Park, St. Louis County, Minnesota

The committee reviewed a proposal for a Five-Year Lease for Soudan Underground Laboratory, Soudan Underground Mine State Park, St. Louis County, Minnesota.

Susan Carlson Weinberg, Director of Real Estate, summarized the location and description of the leased property, as detailed in the docket materials. She explained the research facilities have been rented by the University since 1980 and used by the Institute of Technology, the School of Physics and Astronomy, and its collaborators.

In response to questions from the committee, Weinberg clarified that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources owns the mine and that the rent has increased every year. Professor Marvin Marshak, Physics and Astronomy, stated that the majority of the rent pays for electricity, and that much of the research currently housed in the mine would end by 2013.

The item will return for action at a future meeting of the committee.

CONSENT REPORT

There were no Consent items for approval.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Vice President O'Brien referred committee members to the Information Items, including:

- Final Project Review for the Folwell Hall Interior Renovation Project, Twin Cities Campus;
- Final Project Review for the Griggs Hall Addition Project, Duluth Campus; and
- Wind Energy Research Project, UMore Park.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

ANN D. CIESLAK
Executive Director and Corporate Secretary

Facilities Committee
June 10, 2010
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

EAW Comment Deadline: July 28th, 2010

Project Title: The Enclave

Description: A proposed Residential Development (THE ENCLAVE) located on a 109 acre site in Medina, Minnesota. The proposed development consists of 140 single-family detached homes, 42 attached townhomes, and an association owned Community Park with a pool and pool house. Site construction is proposed to begin during the 2010 construction season, with construction completion to occur over the next 3-6 years.

RGU: City of Medina

Contact Person:
Dusty Finke
City Planner
2052 County Road 24
Medina, MN 55340
Phone: 763-473-4643
Fax: 763-473-9359
E-mail: dusty.finke@ci.medina.mn.us
**Project Title: SMC Kasota Quarry**

**Description:** Oldcastle Material Group (OMG) Midwest dba Southern Minnesota Construction Company, Inc. proposes a 50-acre expansion to the existing Kasota Quarry located in Lime Township, Blue Earth County, to continue mining dolomitic limestone producing aggregates & dimensional stone and eventually sub-lease mining of the underlying sandstone producing industrial sand. Approximately 2.48 acres of the 50.0-acre parcel was previously mined from 2005 to 2008 prior to obtaining a Le Sueur County Conditional Use Permit. Open-pit quarrying methods will continue to be utilized which include blasting, crushing, and size classification. Additional activities proposed with the expansion include future dewatering and reclamation activities. The site is located in the SE ¼ of SE ¼ Section 18, and the W ¼ of SW ¼ of SW ¼ Section 17, Kasota Township (T!09N, R26W), Le Sueur County, Minnesota

**RGU:** Le Sueur County

**Contact Person:**
Kathy Brockway, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Le Sueur County
88 South Park Ave
Le Center, MN 56057
Phone: 507-357-2251
Fax: 507-357-8541
Email: kbrockway@co.le-sueur.mn.us

**DRAFT EIS AVAILABLE**

**Project Title: UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project**

**Project Description:** On June 11, 2010, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota approved the distribution of the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Copies of the Draft EIS are being distributed to those agencies on the current Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (MEQB) document review list and others. The Draft EIS comment period will begin on June 28, 2010 and will extend through August 5, 2010. The UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project, which involves new aggregate mining and ancillary operations on approximately 1,722 acres of the UMore Park property owned by the University of Minnesota in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota.

Copies of the Draft EIS are available for public review at the following locations and on the project website at: [http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/Gravel_Resources_and_Assessment.html](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/Gravel_Resources_and_Assessment.html)

- UMore Park Administration Building, 1605 160th Street, Rosemount, MN
- Dakota County Library – Farmington Branch, 508 Third Street, Farmington, MN
- Rosemount City Hall, 2875 145th Street West, Rosemount, MN
- Empire Town Hall, 3385 West 197th Street, Farmington, MN
To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies, and groups to comment on the Draft EIS, a public informational meeting has been scheduled for **July 22, 2010** at the Rosemount Community Center, located at 13885 South Robert Trail, Rosemount Minnesota. An open house style meeting will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. A presentation will be held beginning at 6:30 p.m. Representatives from the University along with their consultants will be present to answer questions during the meeting.

The Draft EIS can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Project Manager (see contact information below) or to individuals who are hearing or speech impaired by calling the Minnesota Relay Service at (800) 627-3529 or (651) 296-9930 TTY. Individuals with a disability, who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the informational meeting, are asked to please contact the Project Manager or the Minnesota Relay Service, as soon as possible.

Comments received will be considered by the University in preparation of the Final EIS.

**Contact Information:** All comments or requests for additional project information should be directed to: Steven Lott, UMore Park Project Manager, University of Minnesota, 1605 160th Street, Rosemount, MN 55068 or lottx020@umn.edu.

**Summary of Study Area Boundary Amendment:** Since publication of the Scoping Decision Document in June 2009, the University of Minnesota has modified the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project Study Boundary to include additional acreage of the UMore Park property. The additional land is located adjacent to the eastern boundary of the original study area and immediately north of Dakota County Road 46 (160th Street) extending to Akron Avenue. Other areas of the study boundary have been reduced resulting in a total gain of 114 acres. The added land area near County Road 46 and Akron Avenue is proposed to accommodate a more efficient layout for the ancillary use facility. No changes in the scope and scale of the overall operations are proposed. Based on this change, the preferred alternative has been revised to include a slightly larger study boundary. The No-Build Alternative remains unchanged.

**RGU:** University of Minnesota

**EIS NEED DECISIONS**

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparations of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the *EQB Monitor*.

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Mar-Kit Sanitary Landfill Expansion, June 18, 2010 (April 5, 2010)
PETITION FILED

The following petitions have been filed with the EQB requesting preparation of an EAW. The EQB has assigned the indicated unit of government to review the petition and decide on the need for an EAW.

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Huls Brothers Trucking project

NOTICES

Public Review and Comment Meeting: Amendment to the Northern Regional Landscape Plan – Minnesota Forest Resources Council

The Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) is requesting review and comment on the proposed amendments to the forest resource management plan for the Northern Landscape Region (see map below) as developed by the Northern Regional Landscape Committee.

The original plan was approved by the MFRC in 2004. As a part of their approval, the MFRC requested that the Northern Regional Landscape Committee “give high priority to Ecological Goal 4”, which called for the improving of information sources for forest management decision making through the development of a potential native plant community (NPC) study. This study has been completed and the proposed amendments to the original plan are based on this research.

For more information or to obtain a copy of the proposed amendment to the Northern Landscape Plan visit the Minnesota Forest Resources Council Internet site (www.frc.state.mn.us) and click on Landscape Program, Northern Landscape. Hardcopies are available by contacting Lindberg Ekola, MFRC, 434 E 7th St N, Melrose, MN 56352; 320-256-8300; ekola.mfrc@charter.net

Comments must be received no later than: July 28th, 2010

[Map of Minnesota indicating regions]
State of Minnesota
Office of Energy Security

Issued: June 16, 2010

In the Matter of Paynesville Wind, LLC, for a
Large Wind Energy Conversion System Site Permit
for the 95 MW Paynesville Wind Farm in Stearns County

PUC Docket Number: IP-6830/WS-10-49

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in an Order dated June 4, 2010, issued a Draft Site Permit for public review and comment for the Paynesville Wind Farm (Project).

Project Description
Paynesville Wind, LLC (Applicant) proposes a Large Wind Energy Conversion System (LWECS) of 95 megawatts (MW). Depending on which turbines are selected, the wind turbine layout will consist of 42 to 63 turbines with a hub height of 80 meters (263 feet) and a rotor diameter of 82.5 meters (270 feet) if the General Electric 1.5 MW wind turbines are selected, 90 meters (295 feet) if the Vestas 1.8 MW wind turbines are selected, or 101 meters (331 feet) if the Siemens 2.3 MW wind turbines are selected. In addition to the wind turbines, the Project would include access roads, a meteorological tower, a Sonic Detection and Ranging unit or Light Detection and Ranging unit, an electrical collection system, one substation, one transmission line, and an operations and maintenance building. Power will ultimately be delivered to the existing Paynesville substation.

Proposed Site Location
The Project area (shown in the accompanying map) consists of approximately 15,000 acres located in Stearns County in Zion, Paynesville, Spring Hill, and Lake Henry townships. The Project area is located north of Paynesville and southeast of Lake Henry. Approximately 11,500 acres are under the Applicant’s control via wind easements.

Eminent Domain for Paynesville Wind Farm
The Applicant does not have the power of eminent domain to acquire the land or wind rights for the Project. Wind and land rights necessary to build the facility must be in the form of voluntary easements or lease agreements between individual landowners and the Applicant.

Authority and Statement of Issues to Be Decided
To proceed with this Project, the Applicant must obtain both a certificate of need (CN) and a site permit from the Commission. The Commission is authorized by Minnesota Statute section 216B.243, subdivision 2, to issue a CN for a large energy facility if the Applicant can demonstrate there is a need for the Project. As part of the CN proceeding, the Commission will hold a public hearing on the CN application and environmental report, presided over by an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) from the Office of Administrative Hearings.
The Commission is authorized by Minnesota Statutes sections 216E.02, subdivision 2, and 216F.04(a), to designate sites and issue site permits for LWECS. When the Commission designates a site, it issues a site permit for the construction of a project specifying the design, location, preparation, and operation of the facility, along with any other appropriate conditions it deems necessary.

The Commission is required by Minnesota Statutes sections 216B.243, subdivision 4, and 216F.05(3) to hold public meetings and hearings on the permit applications. It is anticipated that the public meeting for the Draft Site Permit will be combined with the public hearing on the CN proceeding in Docket No. IP-6830/CN-09-1110. A date has not been scheduled. Notice of the public hearing will be published in local newspapers and mailed to people who register on the Office of Energy Security, Energy Facility Permitting (OES EFP) Project Mailing List.

The record that is developed through the public participation and hearing process will be presented to the Commission for a final decision.

Public Comment Period

Public comment on the Draft Site Permit will be accepted through the end of the public hearing comment period, which will be announced in the separate Notice of Public Hearing and will run at least through July 2010. This hearing also fulfills the public information meeting requirements of Minnesota Rule 7854.0900.

Comments on the Draft Site Permit may be mailed, emailed, or faxed to Ingrid Bjorklund (see contact information below). All comments received will be submitted to the ALJ for inclusion in the record of this proceeding. If you would like to offer comments directly to the ALJ, this can be done at the hearing or when the hearing notice becomes available.

Contested Case Hearing Request

Any person may request a more formal contested case hearing on the site permit proceeding for this project pursuant to Minnesota Rule 7854.0900. All contested case hearing requests must be filed in writing with OES EFP or the ALJ by the close of the public hearing comment period. Persons requesting the contested case hearing must list the issues to be addressed in the hearing and the reason why a contested case hearing is required to resolve those issues. The Commission shall order a contested case hearing if it finds that a material issue of fact has been raised and that the contested case hearing will aid it in making a final decision on whether to authorize construction of the project.

Project Contacts and Information

The Draft Site Permit, site permit application, and other documents relevant to the proposed project are available on the Commission’s website: http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=25836, and on the Department of Commerce’s eDocket website: https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp (enter the docket number 10-49 for the Site Permit documents or 09-1110 for the CN documents).

Copies of the applications are also available for review at the: Auditor's Offices in Stearns County; City Offices in Paynesville and Lake Henry; Township Clerks of Paynesville, Zion, Spring Hill, and Lake Henry; and the Paynesville Public Library in Stearns County.

Questions about the Project and the Public Utilities Commission’s permitting process may be directed to:

Ingrid Bjorklund, State Permit Manager
Larry Hartman, Public Advisor
People interested in adding their names to the EFP Project Mailing List for this Project should contact the state permit manager, public advisor, or register online at:
http://energyfacilities.puc.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=25836

Questions about the Paynesville Wind Farm and its permit applications can also be directed to the Applicant by contacting Justin Pickar by email at justin@geronimowind.com or Patrick Smith at patrick@geronimowind.com or by calling 952-988-9000. The address for Geronimo Wind Energy is 7650 Edinborough Way, Suite 725, Edina, MN 55435.

This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio tape) by calling 651-201-2202 (Voice) or 1-800-627-3529 (TTY relay service).
June 25, 2010

Dear Colleague:

Attached please find a copy or copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) for the University of Minnesota’s UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project. The project site is located in both the City of Rosemount and Empire Township in Dakota County, Minnesota. The University of Minnesota is proposing to open a new aggregate mine(s) and ancillary operations on approximately 1,722 acres of the UMore Park property. The current plan is to locate the proposed mining area on the approximate western one-third of the UMore Park property.

Copies of this letter and the Draft EIS are being distributed to agencies on the current Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) document review list. It is also being distributed to other agencies that have been involved in the study process to date. The review and comment period required by the state of Minnesota will begin upon publication of the Draft EIS availability notice in the Monday, June 28, 2010 edition of the EQB Monitor. Comments will be accepted through Friday, August 5, 2010, and will be included in the official record. Comments - in writing – should be directed to:

Steven Lott
University of Minnesota
UMore Park
1605 West 160th Street
Rosemount, MN 55068
Phone: 651.423.2562
Fax: 651.423.1491
E-mail: lottx020@umn.edu

To afford an opportunity for all interested persons, agencies, and groups to comment on the Draft EIS, a public informational meeting has been scheduled for July 22, 2010 at the Rosemount Community Center, located at 13885 South Robert Trail, Rosemount Minnesota. An open house style meeting will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. A presentation will be held beginning at 6:30 p.m. Representatives from the University along with their consultants will be present to answer questions during the meeting. Comments may be submitted in writing, or verbally at the July 22, 2010 public meeting to a court reporter.

The above referenced documents are available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling Steven Lott. Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired should call the Minnesota Relay Service at 1.800.627.3529. Individuals with a disability who need a reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meeting should call Steven Lott or the Minnesota Relay Service at the phone numbers listed above as soon as possible.

Thank you for your interest in the UMore Park Sand & Gravel Resources Project.

Sincerely,

Charles C. Muscoplat
Vice President
DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
CONTACT: BRIAN WATSON
4100 220TH STREET WEST
FARMINGTON MN 55024

DAKOTA COUNTY
PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
CONTACT: LYNN THOMPSON
14955 GALAXIE AVENUE
APPLE VALLEY MN 55124

EMPIRE TOWNSHIP TOWN HALL
CONTACT: TERRY HOMES
3385 WEST 197TH STREET
FARMINGTON MN 55024

JENNIE ROSS
MN/DOT OES
MS 620
395 JOHN IRELAND BOULEVARD
ST PAUL MN 55155

VERMILLION RIVER WATERSHED JOINT POWERS ORGANIZATION
CONTACT: BILL OLSON
14955 GALAXIE AVENUE
APPLE VALLEY MN 55124

CITY OF ROSEMOUNT
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPART
CONTACT: KIM LINDQUIST
2875 145TH STREET WEST
ROSEMOUNT MN 55068

DAKOTA COUNTY--FARMINGTON LIBRARY
508 THIRD STREET
FARMINGTON MN 55024

HELEN BURKE
MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
300 NICOLET MALL
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55401
STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST
FORT SNELLING HISTORY CENTER
ST PAUL MN 55111

1 HC

TRAVIS GERMUNDSON
BOARD OF WATER & SOIL RESOURCES
520 LAFAYETTE ROAD
ST PAUL MN 55155

1 HC

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION
625 NORTH ROBERT STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

1 HC

STEVE COLVIN
MN DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UNIT
500 LAFAYETTE ROAD
ST PAUL MN 55155

1 HC

2 CD

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY BOARD
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROGRAM
ROOM 300
658 CEDAR STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

1 HC

BECKY BALK
MN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
625 NORTH ROBERT STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

1 HC

SUSAN MEDHAUG
MN DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
85 SEVENTH PLACE E, SUITE 500
ST PAUL MN 55101

1 HC

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
345 KELLOGG BLVD W
ST PAUL MN 55102

1 HC
CRAIG AFFELDT  
MN POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UNIT  
520 LAFAYETTE RD  
ST PAUL MN 55155

KENNETH WESTLAKE  
EPA  
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND EVALUATION UNIT  
77 W JACKSON BLVD  
CHICAGO IL 60604-3590

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ST PAUL MN 55103

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METROPOLITAN COUNCIL  
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SAINT PAUL MN 55101

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US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
REGULATORY FUNCTIONS BRANCH  
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ST PAUL MN 55101

US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
TWIN CITIES FIELD OFFICE E S  
4101 E 80TH ST  
BLOOMINGTON MN 55425-1665

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REVIEW COORDINATOR LOCAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE  
390 ROBERT STREET N  
ST PAUL MN 55101

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MPCA 520 LAFAYETTE ROAD NORTH  
SAINT PAUL MN 55155
AFFIDAVIT OF PROOF OF PUBLICATION

The following newspaper ROSEMOUNT TOWNPAGE agrees the scheduled ROP advertisement was published in accordance with the insertion order instructions.

Client: UNIVERSITY OF MN – UMORE PARK

Day/Date of publication:
Thursday, July 8, 2010

AFFIDAVIT COMPLETED:

Date: _07/16/10_ By: [Signature]
Title: Credit and Collections Manager

NOTARY INFORMATION:

Affirmed before me this 19th day of July, 2010

(Signature)

My commission expires: Jan. 31, 2013

Notary Stamp

MICHTELLE M LEONARD
NOTARY PUBLIC
MINNESOTA

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UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project
University of Minnesota

Public Comment Forum and Open House

Thursday, July 22, 2010
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Rosemount Community Center

AGENDA

6 p.m. Informal viewing of display boards, maps and related information (project staff and consultants available for questions and conversation). Light refreshments.

6:30 Welcome – Charles C. Muscoplat, President, UMore Development LLC, and Senior Academic Adviser, Office for UMore Park Academic Initiatives

Project staff introductions and process for providing public comments – Steven Lott, Project Manager, UMore Development LLC

6:40 The UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project – Chris Hiniker, Principal Project Manager, Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH)
  • Purpose of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Informational Meeting
  • Summary of Draft EIS Findings
  • Project schedule
  • Reminder of process for providing public comments
  • General questions from attendees

7:00 Informal viewing of display boards, maps and related information; opportunity to provide formal written and oral comments on the project

8:00 Adjourn
UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project

Draft EIS Public Meeting
July 22, 2010

University of Minnesota
Driven to Discover

Presentation Agenda

• Introductions
• Sand and Gravel Resources Project
• Purpose of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Informational Meeting
• Summary of Draft EIS Findings
• Project Schedule
• Ongoing Public Involvement and Input

University of Minnesota
Driven to Discover
Sand and Gravel Resources Project

- The University is proposing to open new aggregate mines and ancillary operations on approximately 1,722-acres of the UMore Park property.
- The proposed UMore Mining Area is located on the western one-third of the UMore Park property.
Sand and Gravel Resources Project

- The project will make cost-effective and environmentally-sound use of regionally significant aggregate resources
- The scale (acreage) of the project requires the completion of a State Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Purpose of Draft EIS Informational Meeting

- Provide information to the public regarding the assessments completed for the UMore Park Sand & Gravel Resources Draft EIS
- Provide an update on the status of the project
- Receive comments on the Draft EIS
What is an EIS?

• An EIS is a full disclosure document that identifies the anticipated environmental impacts and mitigation commitments of a proposed project.
• The environment is defined as all natural, socioeconomic and community subjects that may be affected by the action.
• Public involvement is a crucial element of the environmental review process.

Major Phases of the EIS Process

• Scoping Phase – Completed June 2009
• Draft EIS Phase – Underway
• Final EIS Phase – Next step
• U of M Board of Regents determines the adequacy of the EIS – Concludes the process.
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS)

- Addresses the social, economic and environmental subjects identified in the Scoping Decision Document
- Identifies the impacts of the proposed project on the subjects and discusses potential mitigation strategies to address any adverse effects

What Subjects are Analyzed in the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Draft EIS?

- Land Use
- Environmental Impacts
- Cover Types
- Fish and Wildlife
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Wetlands
- Surface Water Drainage
- Groundwater/Water Use
- Traffic
- Noise
- Air Quality/Dust
- Infrastructure & Utilities
- Farmland
- Social and Community Effects
- Economic Effects
- Compatibility with Local Plans
- Visual Impacts
- Archaeological & Historic Sites
- Cumulative Potential Effects
Draft EIS Findings – Environmental Impacts

• Analysis methodology and results approved by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
• Very few former Gopher Ordnance Works operations within the mining project area
• No areas of widespread environmental impacts, few isolated areas targeted for clean up
• Additional investigation and clean up will occur prior to mining in the identified areas

Draft EIS Findings – Surface Water Drainage

• Rate and volume of runoff from the proposed site is decreased
• Water quality of runoff will meet all standards
• Slight decrease in overall volume of runoff to the Vermillion River
• Runoff quality to Vermillion River is unchanged
Draft EIS Findings – Groundwater

- Conducted comprehensive groundwater assessment of UMore Park and surrounding area
- Much of the project area is underlain by dense clay till
- Field data and computer models show that groundwater under UMore Park flows northeast toward the Mississippi River and not toward the Vermillion River

Draft EIS Findings – Groundwater (cont.)

- The mining plan includes measures to protect the future lake and prevent impacts to groundwater
- Used a computer model to optimize location for operations
- The computer model predicts no impacts from either pumping or potential spills related to mining operations
- Long term: mining and future lake will have no negative impact on groundwater
Draft EIS Findings – Traffic

- The project is expected to generate about 1,600 truck trips per day during the peak of operations
- Various transportation improvements will likely be needed to accommodate anticipated “background” development
- The proposed mining site is not forecast to have a substantial impact on traffic operations in the area

Draft EIS Findings – Traffic (cont.)

- The main traffic improvements needed to accommodate the proposed project will be turn lanes at the roadway intersections serving the site
- A new traffic signal at County Road 46 and Akron Avenue may be required by the year 2030
- Access points to the proposed operations will be coordinated with local agencies
Draft EIS Findings – Noise

• Mining truck traffic will represent a small fraction of the total traffic noise
• 10-foot berm will be constructed at actively mined areas adjacent to public roadways
• Over time mining will progress to lower elevations
• On average site-generated noise levels will be lower than background traffic noise levels
• Ancillary operations will be approximately one mile from existing residences

Draft EIS Findings – Air Quality/Dust

• The following measures will be employed to control dust emissions:
  • Use conveyers to transport aggregate rather than trucks to the extent practical
  • Stabilize and seed expended areas at time of reclamation
  • Use water to minimize dust
Draft EIS Findings – Social and Community/Visual Effects

• 2008 appraisal study concluded residences adjacent to mining operations are similar in value and quality to nonadjacent residences
• Mining operations will be setback a minimum of 350 feet from residential properties
• 10-foot berm will be constructed to screen operations

Draft EIS Findings – Economic Effects

• Regional study concluded additional aggregate resources are needed to meet future demand
• The proposed project may temporarily reduce aggregate tax collections for Empire Township
• The proposed project will likely increase the aggregate tax collections for Rosemount
Project Schedule

• Published Draft EIS – June 28, 2010
• Draft EIS Public Meeting – July 22, 2010
• Draft EIS Public Comment Period Ends – August 5, 2010
• Respond to Draft EIS Comments and Prepare Final EIS – August through November 2010
• Complete EIS Process – January 2011

Public and Agency Involvement

• Public Meetings
  – November 6, 2008 Kick-off Open House
  – February 5, 2009 Public Scoping Meeting
• Technical Advisory Committee (met five times to date)
  – Advises the University on potential impacts and opportunities associated with the proposed mining project
  – State, County and Local Representatives
• Project Web Site – www.umorepark.umn.edu
• Media Outreach
Ongoing Public Input Opportunities

• Public input has been and will continue to gathered throughout the EIS process.
• The project website provides project updates, including documents made available for public review: www.umorepark.umn.edu
• While the University welcomes input throughout the process, only comments submitted during the official comment periods become part of the official record.

Commenting on the Draft EIS

• The official comment period will remain open until Thursday, August 5, 2010.
• Written comments can be made tonight on the comment sheets or verbal comments can be given to the court reporter.
• Written comments can also be submitted:
  – on the UMore Park website: www.umorepark.umn.edu
  – mailed to: Steven Lott, University of Minnesota-UMore Park, 1605 West 160th Street, Rosemount, MN 55068; or
  – via e-mail at: lottx020@umn.edu
Questions?
Assignment of RGU

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 16, 2010 the Environmental Quality Board, using the authority granted in Minnesota Rules, chapter 4410.0500, subpart 6, designated the Department of Natural Resources as the Responsible Government Unit to prepare an Environmental Assessment Worksheet for the Xcel Energy Minnesota Falls dam removal project. The project is located on a reach of the Minnesota River between Chippewa and Yellow Medicine Counties.

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Project Title: UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources

Description: The UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project, which involves new aggregate mining and ancillary operations on approximately 1,722 acres of the UMore Park property owned by the University of Minnesota in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota. Copies of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are being distributed to those agencies on the current Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (MEQB) document review list and others. The period for submitting comments on the adequacy of the Final EIS will begin on October 4, 2010 and extend through October 19, 2010.

Copies of the Final EIS are available for public review at the following locations and on the project website at: http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/Gravel_Resources_and_Assessment.html

- UMore Park Administration Building, 1605 160th Street, Rosemount, MN
- Dakota County Library – Farmington Branch, 508 Third Street, Farmington, MN
- Rosemount City Hall, 2875 145th Street West, Rosemount, MN
- Empire Town Hall, 3385 West 197th Street, Farmington, MN

The Final EIS can be made available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting the Project Manager (see contact information below) or to individuals who are hearing or speech impaired by calling the Minnesota Relay at (800) 627-3529 or (651) 296-9930 TTY.

RGU: University of Minnesota

Comments received will be considered by the University in determining the adequacy of the Final EIS.

Contact Person
Steven Lott
UMore Park Project Manager
University of Minnesota
1605 160th Street
Rosemount, MN 55068
Email: lottx020@umn.edu
October 3, 2010

Dear property owner/interested individual:

Our records indicate you provided a comment on the June 2010 UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resource Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The purpose of this correspondence is to inform you that the University has completed the Final EIS and that the document will be available for review beginning October 4th at the following locations and on the project website at: http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/Gravel_Resources_and_Assessment.html

- UMore Park Administration Building, 1605 160th Street, Rosemount, MN
- Dakota County Library – Farmington Branch, 508 Third Street, Farmington, MN
- Rosemount City Hall, 2875 145th Street West, Rosemount, MN
- Empire Town Hall, 3385 West 197th Street, Farmington, MN

Comments on the adequacy of the Final EIS document are being requested from individuals and/or agencies to whom the proposed project may be of interest. The comment period will begin on October 4, 2010 and will extend through October 19, 2010. All comments should be directed to:

Steven Lott
University of Minnesota
UMore Park
1605 West 160th Street
Rosemount, MN 55068
Phone: 651.423.2562
Fax: 651.423.1491
E-mail: lottx020@umn.edu

The above referenced documents are available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by calling Steven Lott. Individuals who are hearing or speech impaired should call the Minnesota Relay Service at 1.800.627.3529.

Thank you for your interest in the UMore Park Sand & Gravel Resources Project.

Sincerely,

Charles C. Muscopiaf
President
UMore Development LLC

Driven to Discover™
October 3, 2010

Dear Colleague:

Attached please find a copy or copies of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the University of Minnesota’s UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project. The project site is located in both the City of Rosemount and Empire Township in Dakota County, Minnesota. The University of Minnesota is proposing to open a new aggregate mine(s) and ancillary operations on approximately 1,722 acres of the UMore Park property. The current plan is to locate the proposed mining area on the approximate western one-third of the UMore Park property.

Copies of this letter and the Final EIS are being distributed to agencies on the current Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) document review list. It is also being distributed to other agencies and stakeholders that have been involved in the study process to date. The 10-day comment period on the adequacy of the Final EIS as required by the State of Minnesota Environmental Review Rules will begin upon publication of the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project Final EIS availability notice in the Monday, October 4, 2010 edition of the EQB Monitor. Comment on the adequacy of the Final EIS will be accepted through Tuesday, October 19, 2010. Written comments should be directed to:

Steven Lott
University of Minnesota
UMore Park
1605 West 160th Street
Rosemount, MN 55068
Phone: 651.423.2562
Fax: 651.423.1491
E-mail: lottx020@umn.edu

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Thank you for your interest in the UMore Park Sand & Gravel Resources Project.

Sincerely,

Charles C. Muscoplat
President
UMore Development LLC
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<td>Fred Hrbek, Terrance Yoorchuck, and Scott Welch</td>
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<td>DONALD EISCHENS</td>
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<td>SALLY NOLL</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA</td>
<td>ST PAUL MN 55108</td>
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<td>ALFREDO DICOSTANZO</td>
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UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Final EIS to be published October 4

Contact: Julie Bodurtha, External Relations Coordinator, at jgb@umn.edu or 612-626-8431
See details at www.umorepark.umn.edu

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL (10/01/2010) – The University of Minnesota will publish the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project for public review and comment on October 4, 2010. The UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project proposes to locate new aggregate mine(s) and ancillary businesses on approximately 1,722 acres on the western edge of its UMore Park property in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Minnesota.

An important step in the process, the Final EIS describes the preferred alternative identified through the analysis in the Draft EIS and responds to the public and agency comments received in the formal comment period for the Draft EIS. The Final EIS also identifies any mitigation commitments to avoid and minimize potential adverse affects of the project. Following the close of the Final EIS comment period, the University’s Board of Regents will determine if all potential issues and concerns raised in the EIS process have been addressed.

A notice will be published in the October 4, 2010 edition of the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Monitor informing the public of the availability of and public comment period for the Final EIS. This action follows the State EIS process under the environmental review rules established by the Minnesota EQB. The comment period on the Final EIS will conclude on October 19, 2010.

Copies of the Final EIS are available for review at the Rosemount City Hall, Empire Town Hall, Farmington Public Library and UMore Park Administration Building. The Final EIS can also be accessed through the project website at: http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/planning/sand/.

Question and comments regarding the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project and the Final EIS should be directed to Steven Lott, UMore Park Project Manager, 1605 160th Street, Rosemount, MN 55068 or lottx020@umn.edu.
Comments and Responses on the Final EIS

The Final EIS for the UMore Sand and Gravel Resources Project was distributed in October 2010 to agencies and organizations on the official EQB distribution list, as well as additional agencies/organizations that had requested a copy of the document. The comment period for the Final EIS closed on October 19, 2010.

Individuals and agencies were encouraged to provide written comments by either sending a comment letter to the University’s Project Manager or by submitting electronic comments via e-mail or through the project website.

A total of 4 comments were received during the comment period. Consistent with state environmental review rules, substantive comments have been responded to and are included on the following pages. A response was not provided for comments agreeing/opposing with the project information, general opinions, statements of fact, or statements of preference.

Comments were received from the following:

- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Twin Cities Metropolitan Council
- Carl and Ronell Johnson, 14918 Bittersweet Ct., Rosemount MN
- Rosie Pethel, 19940 Chevelle Ave., Farmington MN
Response 1: Comments noted. No response necessary.
Response 1: Comments noted. No response necessary.
Response 1: The UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources EIS is a full disclosure document that identifies anticipated social, economic, and environmental effects. The Final EIS has identified numerous measures to mitigate potential impacts (e.g. noise dust, traffic, etc.) resulting from the proposed mining operation. With regards to property values, as stated in Section 3.15 of the Final EIS, a 2008 study completed by Hosch Appraisal & Consulting, LLC, identified seven gravel mining sites in Dakota County and assessed their potential impact to adjacent residential property values. Comparative appraisals of property values within these areas suggest that residences adjacent to mining operations are similar in both value and quality, to non-adjacent residences.
Response 1: The sections of the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Final EIS referenced in the comment letter occur within pages 24 to 43, not 43 to 59 as noted in the comment letter.

Section 3.2 of the Final EIS contained a summary of the detailed assessment of environmental hazards associated with the UMA located on the UMore Park property. Sections 3.2.3 and 4.2 of the Final EIS summarize the mitigation measures that have been identified for addressing any potential adverse groundwater and/or site contamination impacts resulting from the proposed mining operation.
(VOCs), semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), asbestos containing materials (ACMs), pesticides, herbicides, metals, and explosive constituents.

Summary of Presumed Response Actions
The investigation results indicated that a few isolated areas of the UMA exhibit evidence of a release of petroleum products or hazardous substances. These areas may require additional investigation and specific MRCA-approved RAPs where targeted soil clean up is needed. The actions are described below.

SOCG 1-3 and 8-8
No additional investigation or remediation is required in these areas. Future mining operations in these areas will be performed in accordance with an ECP. The slightly elevated PAH concentrations found in the former rail bed portion of SOC 1 suggest that management of soil during mining operations that intersect the former rail bed may be necessary. The northwestern arm of the rail line transects Phases 2 and 2 of the mining operation. This area will require a RAP to ensure the proper management of overburden soils.

The portion of the former rail bed that extends toward along the eastern edge of the UMA is located within tilled areas where the soil has been well mixed with topsoil over the years and therefore is not likely to be impacted or pose an exposure risk. These areas will likely not require additional Response Action Plans.

SOC 4
Additional investigation will be needed to document the extent of the debris and characterize the debris material for off-site disposal at a permitted solid waste disposal facility prior to the start of mining operations. The debris is not considered a significant threat to groundwater.

SOC 5
Additional soil and groundwater sampling within SOC 5 will be conducted prior to mining. Each of the areas within SOC 5 where soil sample results were above a Tier I SUW will be subjected to additional soil sampling so that appropriate response actions can be planned. The response actions in these areas will be addressed in a specific RAP for each area and approved by the MRCA. Mercury soils above Tier I SUWs that remain in soil after the Interim Corrective Action will be further investigated and removed as appropriate, prior to initiation of mining activities in these areas.

3.2.4 No-Build Alternative
Because future investigation and response action is driven by the proposed mining operations, the No-Build Alternative would likely result in no further investigation and little remediation of the affected areas. With the exception of a small area of SOC 5, the conditions would not likely warrant additional investigation or response action under current land use.

It looks like you are suggesting no building in areas around your mining operations.

Thanks and good luck in your new business.
Rosie Peeters!
RESOLUTION RELATED TO THE ADEQUACY OF THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE UMORE PARK SAND AND GRAVEL RESOURCES PROJECT

WHEREAS, The Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota is the Responsible Governmental Unit for the purpose of conducting the environmental review related to the proposed mining of sand and gravel at UMore Park, located in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, in fulfillment of its responsibilities as the Responsible Governmental Unit, University staff, with the assistance of expert consultants, prepared and made available for public review and comment during the period between January 12, 2009 and February 16, 2009 a Draft Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and Draft Scoping Decision Document (SDD); and

WHEREAS, University staff with assistance from the expert consultants analyzed each of the public comments, prepared a written response to each, and revised the Draft SDD, where appropriate, consistent with the responses to the comments; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota approved the Scoping Decision Document (“SDD”) on June 12, 2009 identifying the alternatives and subject areas to be examined in depth in the environmental impact statement; and

WHEREAS, University staff, with assistance from expert consultants, prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement analyzing the environmental effects of the issues and alternatives identified in the SDD; and

WHEREAS, in the course of preparing the draft Environmental Impact Statement the Administration concluded that it was appropriate to modify the study area to include an additional 120 acres of land located adjacent to the eastern boundary of the original study area and immediately north of Dakota County Road 46 (160th Street) extending to Akron Avenue and the draft Environmental Impact Statement covers the additional acreage; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota approved on June 10, 2010 a Resolution amending the project boundaries, and authorizing distribution of the draft Environmental Impact Statement, the holding of a public informational meeting and the acceptance of comments in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, during the thirty day comment period and at the public meeting conducted by the University on July 22, 2010 comments were received on the draft Environmental Impact Statement; and

WHEREAS, University staff and expert consultants analyzed each of the public comments on the draft Environmental Impact Statement, prepared written responses as required by law and, where appropriate, revised the draft Environmental Impact Statement consistent with the response to the public comments; and

WHEREAS, the revised draft Environmental Impact Statement was then designated the final Environmental Impact Statement for purposes of a ten day public comment period required by law; and

WHEREAS, (i) the final Environmental Impact Statement appropriately addresses the potentially significant issues and alternatives raised in the SDD; (ii) the final Environmental Impact Statement properly responds to the substantive public comments to the draft Environmental Impact Statement and final Environmental Impact Statement; and (iii) the University complied with all legal requirements in preparing the final Environmental Impact Statement, including those governing public participation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota has reviewed the final Environmental Impact Statement;

WHEREAS, the University has prepared a Record of Decision which documents compliance by the University with the Rules of the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board in the course of preparation of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Project, which Record of Decision is herein incorporated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota, does hereby affirm and determine that the final Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed mining of sand and gravel at UMore Park, located in the City of Rosemount and Empire Township, Dakota County, Minnesota, is adequate in accordance with Minnesota law governing its preparation and dissemination.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS – November 12, 2010