MINNEAPOLIS/ ST. PAUL (6/28/2010) – The University of Minnesota is hosting a public meeting on Thursday, July 22, 2010, to invite public comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for its proposed Sand & Gravel Resources Project on approximately 1,722 acres of its UMore Park property, located in the City Rosemount and Empire Township, Minnesota. The University of Minnesota is proposing to locate new aggregate mine(s) and ancillary operations on the approximate western one-third of the UMore Park property.

On June 11, the University of Minnesota’s Board of Regents approved the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project for distribution. This action follows the EIS process under the environmental review rules established by the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB).

A notice will be published in the June 28, 2010, issue of the EQB Monitor informing the public of the availability of and public comment period for the Draft EIS. The public comment period will begin on June 28, 2010 and is scheduled to conclude on August 5, 2010.

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 Thursday, July 22, 2010, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Rosemount Community Center, located at 13885 South Robert Trail, Rosemount Minnesota. A brief presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. Representatives from the University along with their consultants will be present to display information and answer questions during the meeting.

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

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