

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road • St. Paul, MN • 55155-40



Date: June 20, 2011

To: Parties on the EAW Distribution List
Other Interested Parties

From: Randall Doneen, Environmental Review Planning Director
Environmental Policy and Review Section
DNR – Division of Ecological and Water Resources

Re: Minnesota Falls Dam Removal Environmental Assessment Worksheet

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has prepared the attached Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) to describe the environmental effects associated with a proposed project called the Minnesota Falls Dam Removal located on the Minnesota River in both Yellow Medicine County and Chippewa County, Minnesota. This document has been prepared as a Mandatory EAW pursuant to Minnesota Rules Part 4410.1000, subpart 27. The DNR is the Responsible Government Unit for the environmental review of this project.

A 30-day public review and comment period will begin on June 27, 2011, with the publication of the notice of availability of this EAW in the EQB Monitor. The DNR invites public comments on the EAW during the public review period from June 27 to July 27, 2011. A copy of the EAW is available for public review at:

- MDNR Library, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155;
- MDNR Southern Regional Headquarters 261 Highway 15 South New Ulm, MN 56073;
- Minneapolis Public Library, Government Documents, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55401;
- Montevideo/Chippewa County Library, 224 So. First St., Montevideo, MN; and
- Granite Falls Public Library, 155 7th Avenue, Granite Falls, MN 56241-1505.

The EAW is also posted on the DNR's website at mndnr.gov. (Click on "Public Input", then under the "Environmental Review" scroll-down list select "Minnesota Falls Dam Removal EAW"). Additional copies may be requested by calling (651) 259-5156.

Written comments on the EAW must be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2011 to the attention of Randall Doneen, EAW Project Manager, Environmental Policy and Review Unit, Division of Ecological and Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55155-4025. Electronic or



e-mail comments may be sent to Environmentalrev.dnr@state.mn.us with "Minnesota Falls Dam Removal EAW" in the subject line. If submitting comments electronically, please include your name and mailing address. Written comments may also be sent by fax to (651) 297-1500.

For additional information, or copies of the EAW, please call (651) 259-5156.

Sincerely,



Randall Doneen, Environmental Review Planning Director
Environmental Policy and Review Unit
DNR - Division of Ecological and Water Resources
500 Lafayette Rd.
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025

Attachment: Minnesota Falls Dam Removal EAW