



Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

520 Lafayette Road North | St. Paul, MN 55155-4194 | 651-296-6300 | 800-657-3864 | 651-282-5332 TTY | www.pca.state.mn.us

August 23, 2010

Mr. John F. Huls
Huls Bros Trucking, Inc.
13266 Collegeville Road
St. Joseph, MN 56374

Dear Mr Huls:

I have received your letter of August 9, 2010, requesting an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) on your proposal to expand the storage capacity for turkey litter on your business site. This letter will explain the process and point you to resources available to you in preparing the EAW.

The state's environmental review program is governed by Minn. R. ch. 4410, which can be found online at <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/?id=4410>. As you will note, these rules provide that EAWs are intended to be an information source for the public, permitting agencies, and project proposers that describes a project, its surrounding environment, and the potential for environmental effects, so that the involved parties can understand what is happening based on a common understanding of the facts surrounding a project. Based on what I see in your letter, this seems like a good fit for your situation. You can also find guidance documents to aid in EAW preparation at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/EnvRevGuidanceDocuments.htm>, as well as at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/topics/environmental-review/environmental-review.html#about>.

The EAW is a standard form containing 31 questions about the potential for a project to have significant environmental effects. The form can be found at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/documents/EAW%20August2008Revision2-forpdf.pdf>. Your basic job is to answer the questions as completely as you can, then send the completed form to me. I will then work with you to fill in whatever gaps remain. One qualifier: I recommend that you retain an experienced environmental review consulting firm to assist you in filling out the form. Almost no applicants fill out their own forms any more, and you will probably find that the time and effort you will save will be well worth it. One place you can look for experienced environmental review consultants is online, by doing a search for "environmental review consultants mn."

When the EAW is completed, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) will place it on public notice for 30 days. Anyone may comment on it during that time. When the comment period is over, we will work with you to respond to the comments and then decide, based on the project record, whether the proposed project has the potential for significant environmental effects. If it does, the rules require that we prepare a more detailed and comprehensive environmental impact statement on the project. If not, the environmental review process ends and the project can move on to permitting. The environmental review process must be completed before permits can be issued and the project begins. Please note the relevant provision at Minn. R. 4410.3100.

I appreciate the invitation to tour your site. I will contact you to set up a convenient time. Other MPCA staff may accompany me.

Mr. John F. Huls
August 23, 2010
Page 2

Please contact me at 651-757-2542 with any questions you may have. I look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,



William J. Lynott
Planner Principal
Environmental Review and Feedlot Section
Regional Division

WJL:mbo

cc: Becky Schlorf Von Holdt, Stearns County Environmental Services Department
Michael Roske, Petitioners Representative, St. Joseph
Robert Roche, Office of the Attorney General
Gregg Downing, Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
Craig Affeldt, MPCA – St. Paul
Kate Frantz, MPCA – St. Paul
Lisa Mojsiej, MPCA – St. Paul
Brian Schweiss, MPCA – St. Paul
Steven Gorg, MPCA – St. Paul
Elizabeth Gawrys, MPCA – St. Paul
Emily Schnick, MPCA – St. Paul
Brandon Smith, MPCA – St. Paul
Carolina Schutt, MPCA – St. Paul
Paula Connell, MPCA – St. Paul
John Pokorney, MPCA – Brainerd
Justin Barrick, MPCA – Brainerd
Mark Jacobs, MPCA – Marshall
George Schwint, MPCA – Willmar