

FINAL SCOPING DECISION DOCUMENT
Minnesota Valley Sand
FML Sand, LLC

Louisville Township
Scott County, Minnesota

September 24, 2015

**Responsible
Governmental Unit:** Scott County

Contact Person: Kate Sedlacek
Environmentalist II
200 Fourth Avenue West
Shakopee, Minnesota 55379
Email: ksedlacek@co.scott.mn.us
Phone: 952.596.8351
Fax: 952.496.8496

Proposer: FML Sand, LLC

Abstract: The Draft Scoping Decision Document (Draft SDD) is a companion document to the Scoping Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) prepared for the Project in accordance with Minn. R. 4410.4400, Subp 9B. The purpose of the Draft SDD is to facilitate the delineation of issues and analyses to be contained in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and to give the public and the government agencies a preliminary view of the intended scope of the EIS. This document identifies issues and alternatives that will be examined in depth in the EIS. This is a Draft SDD and the information presented here is subject to modification based on the comments received during the scoping process. The Draft SDD also presents a tentative schedule of the EIS process.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

FML Sand, LLC is proposing to develop a portion of the 273-acre property owned by Mid-America Festivals Corporation (the “Site”) for non-metallic mineral mining and processing operations (the “Project”). The Project is situated on property located in Louisville Township, Scott County, Minnesota. The purpose of the Project is to develop an industrial sand mining and processing operations on the Site. Mining operations and practices are proposed on approximately 156 acres and are proposed to be similar to current practices at existing non-metallic mines near the Site.

This Draft Scoping Decision Document (SDD) is a companion to the Draft Scoping EAW prepared for the project. The purpose of the Draft SDD is to give the public a preliminary view of the intended scope and identify the issues and alternatives that will be examined in depth in the EIS. The information in this Draft SDD should be considered preliminary and subject to revision based on the entire record of the scoping process. The Draft SDD also presents a tentative schedule of the environmental review process.

Following completion of the scoping process, the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared in accordance with a Final SDD. The EIS is proposer initiated. Scott County is the Responsible Governmental Unit (RGU) for the Project. The contact person for Scott County is:

Kate Sedlacek
Environmentalist II
200 Fourth Avenue West
Shakopee, Minnesota 55379
952.496.8351
ksedlacek@co.scott.mn.us

2.0 ALTERNATIVES

The EIS must evaluate the “economic, employment, and sociological impacts” as well as environmental effects of the Project and will compare the potentially significant impacts of the proposal (Preferred Alternative) with a No Action Alternative and other reasonable alternatives to the Project. The Minnesota Environmental Review Rules require the EIS to address at least one alternative of each of the following types of alternatives or provide an explanation of why no alternative of a particular type is included in the EIS (Minnesota Rule 4410.2300, Item G.):

1. No Action Alternative (No Build Alternative);
2. Alternative Sites;
3. Alternative Technologies;
4. Modified Designs or Layouts;
5. Modified Scale or Magnitude;
6. Alternatives incorporating reasonable mitigation measures identified through the EIS scoping and Draft EIS process.

Screening Criteria: An alternative may be excluded from analysis in the EIS if:

1. It does not meet the underlying need for or purpose of the Project;

2. It would likely not have any significant environmental benefit compared to the proposed Project;
3. It would likely not have any significant environmental benefit compared to another alternative that will be analyzed in the EIS that would likely have similar environmental benefits but substantially less adverse economic, employment, or sociological impacts.

2.1 Proposed Project Alternative

FML Sand, LLC, headquartered in Chesterland, Ohio, is proposing to mine and process silica sand in Louisville Township, Scott County, Minnesota owned by Mid-America Festivals Corporation.

The Project will include mining an area of approximately 156 acres. The majority of the proposed mining area (about 136 acres) was previously mined for construction aggregate (crushed limestone) in what was known as the Green Quarry. Past activities included stripping soil and overburden, blasting, extraction, processing, stockpiling, and trucking via trucks and rail.

A detailed mine plan will be developed as part of the EIS that will elaborate on how the various mining activities will be coordinated throughout the Site, sequence of mining activity, and plant layout. Sandstone mining will commence in the northwestern area of the Site and generally progress outward in all directions, with primary mine progression to the east and south. Mining and processing operations include stripping, blasting, extraction, washing, pre-processing sand stockpiling, drying, screening, truck and railcar loading, and phased reclamation.

Mining activities will include clearing of trees and vegetation, removal and stockpiling of topsoil (if present) and overburden, dewatering, blasting, extraction, processing (washing, drying, screening), stockpiling, loading, and hauling of sandstone. Sand washing, drying and processing will be inside buildings located in the east central area of the Site. If it is determined that winter mining is not feasible, a portion of the sand that is mined and washed during spring through fall will be stockpiled for drying and processing during the winter. The stockpile height will be designed to a maximum of approximately 145 feet.

Groundwater modeling will be completed to evaluate the effect of potential dewatering on area resources. The modeling results will determine the efficacy of dewatering and anticipated dewatering scenario(s) implemented during the project. At this time, it is anticipated that mining will commence using an excavator or drag line creating a surface water body then continued wet mining methods using either a drag line or a floating dredge to slurry pump the sand to the plant where it will be washed and the water returned to the mine. The plant will be constructed adjacent to the UP rail line and will include a series of railroad spurs and finished product from silos will be transferred to trucks and railcars.

The majority of product is anticipated to be shipped by rail but truck transportation will also be needed to meet operational and customer needs. Rail and truck transportation are expected to occur 24 hours per day 7 days per week. The EIS will evaluate the anticipated average and peak truck traffic although the developer is proposing that the majority of the product will be shipped by rail. It is anticipated that the average daily truck traffic will be approximately 150 trucks per

day and average daily rail transport of 100 rail cars per day. Peak hour truck traffic is expected to be 15 trucks per hour.

The EIS will evaluate the potential impacts of employee traffic and trucking of finished product from the Site. The EIS will include an evaluation of the potential to utilize the existing access point and potential mitigation measures, such as limiting trucking during Renaissance Festival operations, or infrastructure improvements that may be needed. The traffic analysis will take into consideration the existing and proposed truck traffic from nearby mines, landfills, and industries.

It is anticipated that the majority of sand will be transported from the Site primarily by rail. Minnesota Valley Sand is proposing one switch off the mainline to be constructed along with rail spurs to accommodate empty and loaded rail cars. The proposed rail spur will not be designed to accommodate a unit train. Peak hour rail traffic may be 100 cars. The Project's impact to current and proposed train traffic will be described in the EIS.

Reclamation will begin after approximately 10 acres of mining are completed if variance is granted, opening up a large enough mining area to allow the placement of reclamation fill without interfering with continued mining operations. As sandstone mining is completed in an area, backfilling and final grading will be performed filling to the west and north as mining progresses. Backfilling below the water table will include sand, fines, and overburden. Reclamation materials will be placed as hydraulic fill below the water table, to stabilize slopes, and create upland areas.

Final contouring and establishment of native vegetation will be performed on upland areas. Portions of the Site will be reclaimed to allow future development of the land consistent with current land use policies. Areas suitable for future redevelopment will be detailed in the reclamation plan contained in the EIS.

The area associated with the processing facilities will be reclaimed last. The rail yard and rail loadout may remain as long-term uses on the property if an industrial use can be envisioned. A geotechnical report that describes stable restoration for the proposed reclamation plan to include a combination of upland and open water features end use will be provided in the EIS.

2.2 No Build Alternative

The EIS must include a No-build Alternative. The No-build Alternative will be evaluated in the EIS as required by State of Minnesota and Environmental Quality Board (EQB) rules. The evaluation of the No-build Alternative will describe and analyze the potential impacts, outcomes, constraints, benefits and disadvantages, and economics if the existing land uses were to continue at the proposed Project area. The description will be based on Mid-America Festivals Corporation's existing use of the Site and will make projections or forecasts based on this use to identify No-Build Alternative effects and impacts.

2.3 Alternative Sites

No alternative sites will be evaluated in the EIS. The Site represents a significant resource that is well situated to cost effectively produce a significant quantity of industrial sand. The Project can

only be located where mineral deposits exist, are under control of the Proposer, and can economically be mined, processed, and sold. There are no Alternative Sites that meet this underlying need or purpose of the Project (screening criterion 1).

2.4 Alternative Technologies

Based on groundwater modeling results, alternative mining technologies will be studied within the EIS. Non-metallic mineral mining technologies typically consider either dry mining or wet mining technologies. When the resource is located below the water table, dewatering is required to dry mine the deposit for dry mining technologies. Otherwise, wet mining technologies, utilizing excavators, draglines, and/or dredges, mine the portion of the resources below the water table. At this time, we anticipate dewatering to at least to the top of sandstone then wet mining methods to remove the resource.

Where two separate technologies are utilized for specific activities, the impacts of both of these technologies will be considered. For example, both rail and trucks will be used to haul the industrial sand from the Site. The EIS will evaluate impacts that may be associated with both technologies assuming the maximum amount of use by either alternative that would be considered within the Project.

2.5 Modified Designs or Layouts

The EIS will identify a baseline project including more detail on the design, layout, and sizing of the components of the project. The EIS will assess the effect that alternative design elements or configurations would have on the project and whether they represent alternatives for more detailed analysis, which would then be completed. In addition, studies such as the geotechnical report, traffic, groundwater, noise, and air quality analysis will be prepared for the EIS. These studies may indicate that modifications are need to the proposed design or layout of the plant and mine to provide the most environmental benefit. If this initial review and technical analysis noted above concludes that modified design or layouts do not provide greater environmental protection, the EIS will present the basis for that determination and further analysis of modified design or layout will not be completed.

2.6 Modified Scale or Magnitude

The EIS will identify a baseline project including more detail on the scale or magnitude of the project. The EIS will assess the effect that alternative project scale of operations or annual production would have on the project and whether they represent alternatives for more detailed analysis, which would then be completed. If this initial review and technical analysis concludes that modification of the project does not provide greater environmental protection, the EIS will present the basis for that determination and further analysis of modified scale will not be completed.

2.7 Reasonable Mitigation Measures

Alternatives incorporating reasonable mitigation measures identified through the Scoping EAW or the Draft EIS will be further evaluated in the EIS. Mitigation measures will be identified to provide decision makers with a list of possible measures to reduce impacts. Mitigation will be

discussed in the impacts sections and listed as a separate chapter in the EIS to make it easier for decision makers to find and consider these measures as they develop permit conditions and issue Project permits.

3.0 ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE EIS

The Scoping EAW is intended to streamline the EIS processes by identifying only potentially significant issues. This section identifies issues that require further analysis in the EIS as defined by the Scoping EAW process. The general criteria used to select issues for further analysis in the EIS are as follows:

1. The potential for significant environmental effects;
2. Adequacy of information available;
3. Type, extent, and reversibility of environmental effects, and;
4. Extent to which environmental effects are subject to mitigation by ongoing public regulatory authority.

Table 3.1 identifies the issues that are not relevant and will not be addressed in the EIS and issues that will be addressed in detail in the EIS.

Table 3.1 – Final Scoping Decision Item Summary

Scoping EAW Item Number and EIS Content	Topic Not Relevant – Will Not be Addressed in EIS	Topic is Significant – Will be Addressed in EIS
6. Project Description		X
7. Cover Types	X	
9. Land Use		X
10. Geology, Soils, and Topography/Land Forms		X
11. Water Resources		X
12. Contamination/Hazardous Materials/Wastes		X
13. Fish, Wildlife, Plant Communities, and Sensitive Ecological Resources		X
14. Historic Properties		X

15. Visual		X
16. Air		X
17. Noise		X
18. Transportation		X
19. Cumulative Potential Effects		X
20. Other Potential Environmental Effects		X

4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF NECESSARY STUDIES

This section describes the topics that will be studied to varying degrees within the EIS that may include compilation and analysis of existing information or conducting studies that include the development of new data that can be generated with a reasonable amount of time and at a reasonable cost (Minnesota Rules 4410.2100, subpart 6G).

4.1 Project Description (EAW Item 6.)

- a) A detailed mine plan will be developed as part of the EIS that will elaborate on how the various mining activities will be coordinated throughout the Site, sequence of mining activity, setbacks, and plant layout.
- b) Natural gas source and routing will be evaluated and the number and size of propane storage tanks will be evaluated in the EIS.
- c) Future redevelopment will be detailed in the reclamation plan contained in the EIS. A geotechnical report that describes stable restoration for the proposed reclamation plan to include a combination of upland and open water features end use will be provided in the EIS (see section 4.3). In addition, the EIS will address financial security measures that will be taken should the proposed mine be abandoned prematurely.
- d) The water treatment system and associated chemicals will be described and any effects evaluated in the EIS (see section 4.5).
- e) The EIS will further describe stockpile locations and identify best management practices to control dust emissions (see section 4.9).
- f) The EIS will evaluate the current and potential impacts of employee traffic, truck/train traffic of finished product from the Site, utilization of the existing access, and potential mitigation

measures. A traffic analysis will take into consideration the existing truck traffic from nearby mines, landfills, and industries (see section 4.11).

4.2 Land Use (EAW Item 9.)

- a) The EIS will assess the impacts on the current land use in the areas adjacent to the Project, including USF&W and DNR land and trails.
- b) The EIS will provide a description of potential end use in a Reclamation Plan for the Site, which will include an assessment of its compatibility with existing and future (including future trail corridor) surrounding land uses. The End Use plans will show future internal roads.
- c) The EIS will evaluate impacts to the Louisville Swamp Unit access point and parking area and to the Renaissance Festival operations.

4.3 Geology, Soils, and Topography/Land Forms (EAW Item 10.)

- a) The EIS will describe the geology of the overburden and sandstone. A hydrogeologic investigation will be completed and presented in the EIS, which will include a description of the site geology and hydrogeology.
- b) Final topography, soil slopes, and stabilization measures above and below water table will be described in the EIS and will include an analysis to properly design mine walls and establish setbacks for safety.
- c) The use of imported soil to blend with existing soil for reclamation purposes will be considered in the EIS.

4.4 Water Resources (EAW Item 11.)

- a) The EIS will include a hydrogeological investigation and assess the potential impacts to the surface water or groundwater associated with grading, stormwater management, and mining below the groundwater table.
- b) The potential impact resulting from a leveling of the groundwater table across the former mine area will be evaluated including potential changes to flow after mining is completed and water withdrawal has ceased.
- c) The EIS will evaluate pre- and post-mining impacts to groundwater flow direction, nearby wetlands and surface water bodies, such as Sand Creek, Gifford Lake, and Louisville swamp.
- d) The potential impact to nearby wells will be evaluated in the EIS, including completion of a well survey.
- e) The EIS will address mitigation measures to reduce potential groundwater contamination. This will include items such as a spill prevention plan and response plan, evaluation of imported material to prevent aquifer contamination, and the development of a comprehensive

groundwater monitoring and mitigation plan that will continue beyond completion of final reclamation.

- f) The EIS will evaluate the existing groundwater quality impacts associated with Louisville Landfill and assess if this projects dewatering and extraction of sandstone will affect the landfill plume.
- g) The EIS will include an evaluation of the projects impact on water quality and anticipated future public water supply wells and future municipal wells needed to serve future growth in surrounding communities.
- h) The EIS will evaluate the quantities of domestic wastewater to be generated. A preliminary design will be developed for the EIS and the final design will meet state and county requirements.
- i) The EIS will describe the quantities of industrial wastewater generated and how the water will be managed. The EIS will describe the quantities and contaminants that may need to be addressed.
- j) The EIS will include a groundwater monitoring plan to describe appropriate monitoring procedures and parameters.
- k) The EIS will evaluate the management of water discharges from the Site, including an evaluation of potential impacts to receiving waters, and the volume, treatment, quality, and location of water discharges.
- l) The EIS will evaluate any changes to stormwater runoff and the potential impacts to surface water.
- m) The EIS will describe a stormwater management system design to treat stormwater runoff from impervious surfaces and will show the proposed locations of any drainage ditches and diversion swales.
- n) The EIS will evaluate the Project's impact on the quality of receiving waters.
- o) The EIS will include a Resource Management Plan that will include hydrologic assessment and stormwater management plan, and evaluate pre-settlement, existing, and mining conditions in accordance with the Scott County Zoning Code.
- p) The EIS will address Project magnitude data including the approximate acreage and cubic yards of overburden and rock to be excavated, erosion and sedimentation control measures to be used, an analysis of the local watersheds, hydrologic modeling for the stormwater management plan and the associated BMPs, and a description of potential erosion and sedimentation impacts to Sand Creek and the Minnesota River.
- q) The EIS will describe BMPs developed for each phase of the Project including stripping, mining, dewatering, and reclamation. The BMPs will be of a type and caliber sufficient to protect the wetlands and surface water where the project may discharge.

- r) The EIS will include a hydrogeologic assessment of potential impacts to groundwater resources from mining activities. This assessment will include the use of monitoring wells, soil and bedrock borings, aquifer pumping tests and development of a comprehensive geologic and hydrogeologic conceptual model.
- s) A well survey will be completed including a review of wells within the county well index and well locations determined by field observations to determine the locations of water supply wells that may be impacted by mining operations.
- t) The impact resulting from a leveling of the groundwater table in the mine will be evaluated, including potential changes to flow into wetlands and nearby surface water. Impacts to lateral or upgradient wetlands will also be evaluated. The analysis will assume maximum open groundwater pond areas as proposed.
- u) The EIS will include a groundwater monitoring plan that provides an evaluation of water level and water quality impacts to adjacent water supply wells and groundwater dependent surface waters throughout the life of the Project.
- v) The impact of surface water and groundwater flow alterations on nearby wetlands will be evaluated in the EIS.
- w) Processes will be evaluated during that EIS that could minimize impact to surface water features.
- x) A wetland delineation will be reviewed and updated as necessary during the EIS process in accordance with the Corps Manual, DNR, and WCA standards.

4.5 Contamination/Hazardous Materials/Wastes (EAW Item 12.)

- a) The EIS will address generation rates of solid and hazardous waste and the locations and sizes of storage tanks.
- b) The EIS will include a plan for the minimization of waste and containment of contamination.
- c) Potential impacts to groundwater and surface water from agents introduced through the mining process will be discussed in the EIS.

4.6 Threatened and Endangered Species (EAW Item 13.)

- a) An updated query to the Minnesota Natural Heritage Information System will be conducted, including a field study and the EIS will re-evaluate the Site for the occurrence of any state listed species, and potential impacts to rare features.
- b) Indirect impacts to on-Site or adjacent native plant communities including the introduction or spread of invasive species will be addressed in the EIS.

- c) The EIS will include an evaluation of the potential for securing a permit from the Minnesota DNR for the taking of a state threatened plant Kitten-tails (*Besseyia bullii*) present in the southeastern area of the Project.
- d) The EIS will describe measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate direct or indirect impacts to listed species on the Site and surrounding area, if determined to be potentially significant.
- e) The reclamation plan will consider the development of wildlife habitat.

4.7 Historical properties (EAW Item 14)

- a) A Phase I archaeological survey will be completed as a part of the EIS. A field investigation will be conducted to determine if mounds are still intact or they have been disturbed by past mining or agricultural activity.
- b) The EIS will identify any impacts or mitigation to archeological, historical or architectural properties.

4.8 Visual (EAW Item 15.)

- a) The effect of lighting will be addressed in the EIS, including potential impacts to scenic views and vistas as mentioned above.
- b) A viewshed analysis will be performed that addresses key view areas. The analysis will include the development of a model of Site-specific conditions such as topography, vegetation, equipment, stockpiles and proposed Site structures.
- c) The EIS will identify the strategies to avoid, minimize, or mitigate visual impacts to key viewing areas.

4.9 Air (EAW Item 16.)

- a) Mitigation measures to control wind erosion from stockpiled materials will be evaluated in the EIS.
- b) The EIS will include an assessment of the Site and surrounding area that may be impacted by air emissions from the proposed project.
- c) The EIS will identify the quantity, the type, sources, composition of emissions, and pollution prevention techniques and controls on the processing operations.
- d) The EIS will identify fugitive dust prevention and control measures.
- e) The EIS will provide an overview of the components of the air permit application to be submitted to the MPCA.

4.10 Noise (EAW Item 17.)

- a) The EIS will include an evaluation of anticipated noise impacts to residential, public lands, surrounding industrial uses, wildlife, and Refuge visitors
- b) The EIS will include an evaluation of impulse and nuisance noise emission resulting from blasting, back up alarms, and other mining related sources. Impulse and nuisance noises specific to the processing plant and rail yard will be included
- c) The EIS will address mitigation measures to reduce or minimize noise as needed to comply with State noise standards.
- d) The EIS will include a blast monitoring plan.

4.11 Transportation (EAW Item 18.)

- a) The EIS will include a traffic impact analysis that will provide an estimate of proposed Project activities and take into consideration traffic generated from adjacent existing and proposed mining operations, the Renaissance Festival, and the Trail of Terror event traffic. The analysis will describe impacts to key intersections and necessary road improvements. The analysis will describe how trucks will access US169 from 145th St and mitigation measures for safe access. The analysis will describe haul routes when seasonal flooding prevents crossing the MN River basin.
- b) The EIS traffic impact analysis will provide an analysis on rail car impacts from existing and proposed mining operations. The analysis will describe impacts to area traffic, such as motorist wait time for rail traffic to pass, from the additional rail car traffic at key rail intersections, including impacts on TH41, within Scott County.
- c) The EIS will identify potential roadway/rail improvements and/or other mitigation measures which may be necessary to mitigate adverse traffic conditions that may be created by the Project as identified in the traffic analysis.
- d) The EIS will investigate potential truck/rail conflicts with existing and future trails (such as the Minnesota River Bluff Extension). A plan will be prepared to ensure trail safety during and post mining activity.

4.12 Cumulative Potential Effects (EAW Item 19.)

- a) The EIS will identify the potential direct and indirect cumulative impacts associated with the existing mining operations on the Project.
- b) The EIS will identify and evaluate adjacent land uses that may contribute to a cumulative impact related to air emissions, air quality, noise, groundwater, and traffic (road and rail).
- c) The EIS will identify and evaluate potential cumulative impacts associated with the proposed Project and Merriam Junction Sands, including potential cumulative impacts associated with air quality, noise, groundwater and surface water resources as well as those that may result from the additional rail or truck traffic.

4.13 Other Potential Environmental Effects (EAW Item 20.)

- a) The EIS will consider potential economic and social impacts of the proposed Project not presented elsewhere in the EAW.
- b) The EIS will address how the project will affect employment, direct and indirect economic impacts, and sustainable development.

5.0 IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL IMPACT AREAS RESULTING FROM RELATED ACTIONS

There are no phased elements or connected actions associated with the Project. The Cumulative Impacts section for the EIS will address potential cumulative impacts from other projects in the same geographical area.

6.0 PERMITS AND APPROVALS

This section identifies permits and approvals anticipated to be required for this Project. If during the scoping process, it is found that additional permits are required; this table will be modified accordingly in the EIS. Information will be gathered concurrently with EIS preparation of all permits listed. Some permit application review is expected to occur concurrently with EIS preparation in an attempt to facilitate the permit review process and reduce review time after the final EIS decision is made and environmental review is completed. However, the EIS will not contain permit application materials or all material required for a decision for all permits. No permits require the preparation of a record of decision.

The Scoping EAW and Draft SDD are sent to all coordinating agencies for review and comment. Coordination with multiple government agencies is required as part of the permitting process as listed below:

Unit of Government	Type of application	Status
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)	Discharge Permit (Water Quality Permit)	To be submitted if required
	Air Emissions Permit	To be submitted
	Nonmetallic Mineral Mining & Associated Activities (NPDES/SDS General Permit)	To be submitted if required
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources	Water Appropriations Permit	To be submitted
	MDNR Endangered Species Act Takings Permit	To be submitted if required
	Public Waters Work Permit	To be submitted if required
Minnesota Department of Health	Drilling/Sealing Wells	To be submitted
Scott County	Interim Use Permit (IUP)	To be submitted
	Variance for Building Height and Reclamation	To be submitted
	Septic System, Building Permits etc.	To be submitted

	Runoff and Erosion	To be submitted
Scott County Board, Three Rivers Park District, and Metropolitan Council	Easement or agreements for crossing portion of former railroad corridor	To be submitted if required
Louisville Township	IUP Review Wetland Conservation Act	To be submitted
	Road Access Permit	

In order to streamline the permitting process, coordination with Scott County, MDNR, MPCA, COE, and other appropriate jurisdictions have already begun.

7.0 TIMELINE

The anticipated schedule for completion of project activities is as follows:

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Activity	Date	Information
Scoping EAW and DSDD notice sent to EQB	July 13, 2015	Scott County will provide a copy of the Scoping EAW and Draft SDD to the EQB within 5 days of approval of the EAW.
Start EIS Scoping Period	July 20, 2015	30-day scoping period begins after the notice of availability of the EAW is published in the EQB Monitor.
Public Scoping Meeting	August 12, 2015	The RGU will provide at least one scoping meeting during the scoping period held not less than 15 days after publication of the notice of the EAW.
End Scoping Period	August 19, 2015	Close the 30-day public comment period.
Scoping Decision	October 6, 2015	The final scoping decision will be issued within 15 days after the close of the 30-day scoping period.
Final SDD Published	October 15, 2015	EQB Monitor Publication and distribution of SDD
EIS Preparation Notice in EQB Monitor	October 15, 2015	EIS preparation notice published in the EQB monitor and a press release sent to a local paper, maximum 280-day EIS process starts.
Scott County Approval of DEIS	January 2016	Scott County will provide a copy of the DEIS to the EQB within 5 days of approval of the DEIS.
Publish DEIS, Start Public Comment Period	January 2016	EQB Monitor Publication.
Public Meeting	January 2016	At least 15 working days after EQB Monitor publication.

End DEIS Comment Period	February, 2016	At least 10 working days after public meeting.
Scott County Approval of FEIS	March, 2016	Scott County will provide a copy of the FEIS to the EQB within 5 days of approval of the FEIS.
FEIS Notice, begin 10 day comment period	March, 2016	EQB Monitor Publication.
FEIS Comment Period Ends	March, 2016	At least 10 working days after EQB Monitor Publication.
EIS Adequacy Decision	March, 2016	At least 5 working days after the end of the public comment period.
Notice of EIS Decision	March, 2016	Final notice in the EQB Monitor.