



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Regulatory Services

Date: January 19, 2012

To: Council Member Elizabeth Glidden, Chair – Regulatory, Energy and Environment Committee

Referral to:
Subject:

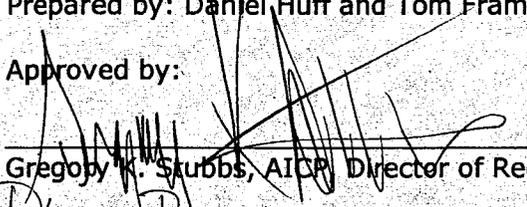
Recommendation: Receive and File

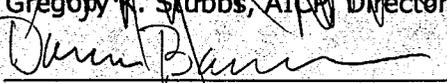
Previous Directives: 2011R-657 Directed staff to submit comments to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regarding Northern Metals LLC's application to amend its permit to operate a hammermill metal shredder at its Pacific Street scrapyard in Minneapolis.

Department Information

Prepared by: Daniel Huff and Tom Frame PE

Approved by:


Gregory K. Stubbs, AICP, Director of Regulatory Services


Dana Barwer, Director of Licenses and Environmental Services


Daniel Huff, Manager of Environmental Management and Safety

Presenters in Committee: Daniel Huff

Financial Impact

No financial impact

Community Impact

- City Goals

Supporting Information

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has issued a draft Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) and a Draft Air Emission Permit Major Amendments relating to proposed feedstock changes and increased emissions limits at Northern Metals LLC located at 2800 Pacific Street North, Minneapolis.

Staff submitted comments to the MPCA on December 14, 2011 regarding the EAW.

Upon further review of state statute relating to EAWs in the Mississippi River Area and under Council resolution 2011R-657 staff are sending the attached letter of comment regarding Draft Air Emission Permit No 05300480-003.

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Environmental Management & Safety
Environmental Services
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January 23, 2012

Kelsey E Suddard
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Draft Air Emission Permit No. 05300480-003 Major Amendments (Draft AQ Amendments)
Northern Metals LLC, 2800 Pacific Street North, Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota 55411
Public Comment Release November 17, 2011

Dear Ms. Suddard:

The City of Minneapolis has submitted comments to William Lynott regarding the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) that was prepared for the Northern Metals Draft AQ Amendments referenced in the subject line. The City of Minneapolis is concerned in regards to the timing of issuing the document for public comment prior to a decision on the document from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Citizens Board. The decision could dictate changes in the permit including proposed emissions limits.

The City of Minneapolis requests that the Draft AQ Amendments be withdrawn from consideration until such time that a formal decision has been made from the MPCA Citizens Board regarding the current EAW. This would be in line with the intent of Minnesota Statute 116G.151 Required Environmental Assessment Worksheet; Facilities in Mississippi River Area subpart (a) which states:

Until completion of an environmental assessment worksheet that complies with the rules of the Environmental Quality Board and this section, a state or local agency may not issue a permit for construction or operation of a metal materials shredding project with a processing capacity in excess of 20,000 tons per month that would be located in the Mississippi River critical area, as described in section 116G.15, upstream from United States Corps of Engineers Lock and Dam Number One.

The Draft AQ Amendments are a permit for the operation of a metal shredder in the Mississippi River Critical Area. When the Draft AQ Amendments are reissued for public comment after a decision on the EAW a Public Information meeting should be held with 15 days of the release. Notification should be provided too all parties that have submitted comments to the first and current EAWs.

Sincerely,


Daniel Huff
Manager, Environmental Management and Safety
City of Minneapolis
250 S. 4th St., Suite 414
Minneapolis, MN 55415