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December 1, 2003

Scott Wiggins Governor's Office Capitol Building 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard Saint Paul, MN 55155

As required in M.S. 14.05, subdivision 5, following is the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)'s rules report. Please note that as part of our legislative strategy in the coming session, DEED intends to propose repeals through session law, rather than the administrative rulemaking process. These proposed repeals will be in our housekeeping bill, alongside many other changes necessary to complete the merger and remove obsolete statutes.

Rule 3300.050: Fees for rehabilitation services. Rehabilitation Services adopted this rule when it included the VR Worker's Compensation Unit. Those responsibilities have long since been transferred by the Legislature to the Department of Labor and Industry.

Chapter 3301 (includes Rules 3301.0180, 3301.0190, 3301.0200, 3301.0210, 3301.0220, and 3301.0230): Community investment programs. These programs no longer exist.

Rules 3315.0510, 3315.0535, and 3315.0545 within Unemployment Insurance (UI). All of these rules relate to outdated or updated federal UI regulations. The best avenue for keeping pace with those changes is repeal of the three rules.

Chapter 3320 (includes Rules 3320.0010, 3320.0020, and 3320.0030): Federal Jobs Tax Credit. This tax credit no longer exists. Its successor (the Work Opportunities Tax Credit) differs significantly from the previous program, rendering these rules obsolete. We will also recommend repeal of the corresponding statutory authority for this non-existent program (M.S. 176.1041)

Rules 7380.0200, 7380.0210, 7380.0220, 7380.0230, and 7380.0240: Health Care Equipment Loan Program. The corresponding statute (M.S. 446A.08) was repealed.

Rules 7530.0500 through 7380.0582: Various Public Facilities Authority grants. The grants under these rules – State Independent Grants, Capital Cost Component Grants, Individual On-Site Treatment System Grants, and Corrective Action Grants – are defunct. DEED will recommend repeal of corresponding statutes (M.S. 116.16 through 116.181).

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Rules 7380.0600 through 7380.0650: District Heating Loan Program. This program is defunct, and the corresponding statute (M.S. 216C.36) has been repealed.

Rules 7380.0780 through 7380.0840: Once-Through Cooling System Loans. The corresponding statute (M.S. 446A.21) was repealed.

In addition to repeal of these obsolete rules, DEED will propose in its bill appropriate name changes where mention is made to the Department of Economic Security or Department of Trade and Economic Development.

Finally, DEED is taking steps to amend some of its other administrative rules. Rules Chapter 3321 pertaining to State Services for the Blind and Chapter 7380 regarding the Public Facilities Authority may benefit from changes in the coming calendar year. The agency will follow all required steps under M.S. 14.05 in this regard, and we will inform the Governor's Office, Legislature, and all other interested parties as we generate specific proposals.

If you have any questions, you may reach me at (651) 282-5185.

Respectfully submitted,

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Rules Coordinator

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