



STATE OF MINNESOTA



January 15, 2016

Mr. Will Seuffert, Executive Director
Minnesota Environmental Quality Board
520 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Report on Pilot Program for Alternative Form of Environmental Review - 2012 Session Laws,
Chapter 150, Art. 2, Sec. 4.

Dear Mr. Seuffert:

This letter serves as the report required by 2012 Session Laws, Chapter 150, Art. 2, Sec. 4, which authorized a pilot program for an alternative form of environmental review for up to three projects which met the criteria established by that law. Sec. 4(h) of the law requires the commissioners of the Pollution Control Agency and Department of Natural Resources to report to the Environmental Quality Board by January 15, 2016, on the outcomes of the pilot program and include any recommendations for statute or rule changes.

There were no project proposers who opted to use the pilot program outlined in the statute. The law required environmental review to commence before January 1, 2014; consequently, the pilot program has now expired.

The agencies do not recommend any statute or rule changes based on the outcome of the pilot program. No project proposers chose to use this alternative form of environmental review. Further, the environmental review rules, which already provide for alternative forms of environmental review (Minn. Stat. 116D.04, subd. 4a; Minn. Rules, pt. 4410.3600), appear to adequately meet the needs of project proposers.

Thank you for your consideration of this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Linc Stine".

John Linc Stine, Commissioner
Pollution Control Agency

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Landwehr".

Tom Landwehr, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources

JLS:TL:DB:cmbg

cc: Randall Doneen, DNR
Greta Gauthier, MPCA
Bill Sierks, MPCA

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