

Projects that may require an EAW



Below is a general list of Mandatory EAW Categories from Minnesota Rules 4410.4300.

- Land use conversion
 - 80 acres of agricultural, prairie, forest, or naturally vegetated land in non-shoreland areas
 - 20 or 40 acres in the shoreland area (depends on lake class)
- Residential Development
 - 25 units on a Natural Environment (NE) Lake
 - 50 units on a General Development (GD) or Recreational Development (RD) Lake
 - 50 or more unattached or 75 or more attached units in an unsewered unincorporated area
 - 100 unattached units or 150 attached units in a sewerer unincorporated area
 - 100 unattached units or 150 attached units in cities without comprehensive plans on file with EQB
 - 250 unattached units or 375 attached units in large cities
- Municipal wastewater systems
- Solid waste facilities
- Hazardous waste facilities
- Paper mills
- Commercial, Industrial Projects over 100,000 square feet of gross floor space
- Feedlots over 1000 animal units (500 if in Shoreland or a flood plain)
- Historical places
- Projects encroaching on natural areas (such as state parks, state trails, etc.)
- Wetland projects with over 5 acres of impact
- Commercial forestry on public lands or clear cutting of over 80 acres in a shoreland area
- Marinas or harbor
- Stream / ditch projects involving over 500 feet of natural watercourse
- Water appropriation in excess of 30,000,000 gallons per month (or for irrigating more than 540 acres)
- Highway projects of over 1 mile in length
- Airport projects
- Campgrounds and RV parks with over 25 or 50 new sites (depending on lake class)
- Golf courses
- Communication Towers
- Transmission Lines
- Pipelines
- Recreational trails over 10 miles long
- Water diversion projects



Where can I get more information?

Note: The above list is a very general description of certain projects that may require an EAW or EIS. Specific criteria can be found in Minnesota Rules 4410.4300 or on the EQB's website at: www.eqb.state.mn.us. In addition to the list above, large projects such as power plants, refineries, transmission lines, pipelines, transfer facilities, coal storage facilities, mining activities, and ballparks usually require an EAW or EIS.