

6 MCAR 3

1-6-82

1 Environmental Quality Board

2

3 Adopted Amendments to Rules Relating to Siting Large Electric

4 Power Generating Plants

5

6 Rules as Adopted

7 6 MCAR S 3.072 Definitions.

8 H. "Large electric power generating plant study area" or

9 "study area" means a geographic area that meets inventory

10 criteria and standards for a LEPPG of a specified capacity, fuel

11 type and design.

12 P. "Developed portion of plant site" means the portion of

13 the LEPPG site, exclusive of make-up water storage reservoirs or

14 cooling ponds, where structures or other facilities or land uses

15 necessary for plant operation preclude crop production.

16 Q. "Technical assumptions" means the assumptions necessary

17 to evaluate resource requirements of a LEPPG of a specified

18 capacity, fuel type and design and to evaluate the availability

19 of resources to meet those requirements.

20 R. "Prime farmland" means those soils that meet the

21 specifications of 7.C.F.R. S 657.5 (a) (1980).

22 S. "Community benefits" means those benefits to the local

23 community, other than economic development, that result from

24 power plant design or location. Examples include use of

25 community solid waste as a supplemental fuel, joint water

26 supply, improving the economic viability of existing rail lines

27 and increased tax base.

28 6 MCAR S 3.074 H.1. Site selection criteria.

29 j. Preferred sites maximize opportunities for

30 significant conservation of energy, utilization of by-products

31 or biomass, cogeneration and development of waste-to-energy

32 systems.

33 n. [Repealed.]

34 6 MCAR S 3.074 H.1. o. and p. [Reletter as 6 MCAR S 3.074 H.1. n.

35 and o.]

1 p. Preferred sites maximize the opportunities for
2 community benefits and economic development.

3 6 MCAR S 3.074 H.3. Large electric power generating plant
4 avoidance areas.

5 d. When there exists a feasible and prudent
6 alternative with less adverse environmental and noncompensable
7 human effects, no LEPPG site shall be selected where the
8 developed portion of the plant site includes more than
9 ~~0.25-0.75~~ 0.5 acres of prime farmland per megawatt of net
10 generating capacity, and no make-up water storage reservoir or
11 cooling pond site shall be selected that includes more than
12 ~~0.25-0.75~~ 0.5 acres of prime farmland per megawatt of net
13 generating capacity. These provisions shall not apply to areas
14 located within home rule charter or statutory cities; areas
15 located within two miles of home rule charter or statutory
16 cities of the first, second and third class; or areas designated
17 for orderly annexation under Minn. Stat. S 414.0325.

18 6 MCAR S 3.083 Identification of large electric power generating
19 plant study areas.

20 A. Inventory criteria and standards. The following criteria
21 and standards shall be used by the board to prepare an inventory
22 of large electric power generating plant study areas and by the
23 utility and the board to evaluate any proposed site not located
24 within the appropriate study area.

25 1. Exclusion areas.

26 a. Criterion. Study areas shall be compatible with
27 board rules on exclusion criteria for LEPPG site selection.

28 b. Standard. Geographic areas identified in 6 MCAR S
29 3.074 H.2.b. shall not be part of any study area.

30 2. Air quality.

31 a. Criterion. Study areas for LEPPGs shall be
32 compatible with existing federal and state air quality
33 regulations and rules.

34 b. Standard. Study areas shall not include those
35 areas in which operation of a LEPPG would likely result in

1 violation of primary or secondary standards or exceedence of
2 prevention of significant deterioration increments for sulfur
3 dioxide or particulate matter as established under 42 U.S.C. SS
4 7401-7642 (1980), Minn. Stat. S 116.07 and Minn. Rule APC 1.

5
6 * Note: A range of numbers has been proposed for the allowable
7 amount of prime farmland per megawatt. Ultimately, one specific
8 number will be adopted for the developed portion of the plant
9 site and one specific number for the reservoir or cooling pond
10 site.

11

12 3. Transportation.

13 a. Criterion. Study areas for coal-fired LEPGPs shall
14 have reasonable access to existing transportation systems which
15 are or can be made capable of transporting the required
16 quantities of coal.

17 b. Standard. In identifying study areas for
18 coal-fired LEPGPs, "reasonable access" shall mean no more than
19 12 miles distant from the existing transportation system.

20 4. Water.

21 a. Criterion. Study areas for LEPGPs using
22 evaporative cooling systems shall have reasonable access to an
23 adequate water source.

24 b. Standards.

25 (1) In identifying study areas for LEPGPs using
26 evaporative cooling, rivers and lakes shall be considered
27 potential water sources.

28 (2) In identifying study areas for LEPGPs using
29 evaporative cooling, "reasonable access" shall mean no more than
30 25 miles distant from the water source.

31 (3) In identifying study areas for LEPGPs using
32 evaporative cooling, a water source shall be considered adequate
33 if it appears likely to allow LEPGP operation through periods of
34 historic low flows or historic low elevations, either by direct
35 withdrawal or by using supplemental stored water. This
36 evaluation shall be based on historic stream flows, cooling

1 water system technology and the environmental, economic and
2 engineering constraints of reservoir design related to size.

3 B. Application of inventory criteria and standards. The
4 board shall adopt an inventory of study areas for the LEPCP
5 capacities, fuel types and designs reasonably anticipated to be
6 subject to application for a certificate of site compatibility
7 in the near future. The inventory shall consist of the maps of
8 the study areas; discussion of specific inventory criteria and
9 standards and technical assumptions used to develop the maps;
10 and discussion of the LEPCP capacities, fuel types, and designs
11 for which the maps are developed. The board shall consult with
12 board member agencies, utilities and other agencies or persons
13 with applicable information as it develops the technical
14 assumptions necessary for application of inventory criteria and
15 standards.