State of Minnesota

State Register



Rules, Executive Orders, Appointments,
Commissioners' Orders, Revenue Notices, Official Notices, Grants,
State Contracts & Loans, Non-State Bids, Contracts & Grants
Published every Monday (Tuesday when Monday is a holiday)

Monday 24 March 2008 Volume 32, Number 39 Pages 1771 - 1800

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- · rules of state agencies
- commissioners' orders
- executive orders of the governor revenue notices
- appointments

- · official notices
- · contracts for professional, technical and consulting services state grants and loans
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# 39 # 40 # 41 # 42	Monday 24 March Monday 31 March Monday 7 April Monday 14 April	Noon Tuesday 18 March Noon Tuesday 25 March Noon Tuesday 1 April Noon Tuesday 8 April Noon Wednesday 2 April				

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NOTICE: How to Follow State Agency Rulemaking in the State Register

The *State Register* is the official source, and only complete listing, for all state agency rulemaking in its various stages. State agencies are required to publish notice of their rulemaking action in the *State Register*. Published every Monday, the *State Register* makes it easy to follow and participate in the important rulemaking process. Approximately 80 state agencies have the authority to issue rules. Each agency is assigned specific **Minnesota Rule** chapter numbers. Every odd-numbered year the **Minnesota Rules** are published. The current 1999 set is a 13-volume bound collection of all adopted rules in effect at the time. Supplements are published to update this set of rules. Generally speaking, proposed and adopted exempt rules do not appear in this set because of their short-term nature, but are published in the *State Register*.

An agency must first solicit **Comments on Planned Rules** or **Comments on Planned Rule Amendments** from the public on the subject matter of a possible rulemaking proposal under active consideration within the agency (*Minnesota Statutes* §§ 14.101). It does this by publishing a notice in the *State Register* at least 60 days before publication of a notice to adopt or a notice of hearing, or within 60 days of the effective date of any new statutory grant of required rulemaking.

When rules are first drafted, state agencies publish them as **Proposed Rules**, along with a notice of hearing, or a notice of intent to adopt rules without a hearing in the case of noncontroversial rules. This notice asks for comment on the rules as proposed. Proposed emergency rules and withdrawn proposed rules are also published in the *State Register*. After proposed rules have gone through the comment period, and have been rewritten into their final form, they again appear in the *State Register* as **Adopted Rules**. These final adopted rules are not printed in their entirety in the *State Register*, only the changes made since their publication as Proposed Rules. To see the full rule, as adopted and in effect, a person simply needs two issues of the *State Register*, the issue the rule appeared in as proposed, and later as adopted. For a more detailed description of the rulemaking process, see the most current edition of the *Minnesota Guidebook to State Agency Services*.

The *State Register* features partial and cumulative listings of rules in this section on the following schedule: issues #1-13 inclusive; issues #14-25 inclusive; issue #26 cumulative for issues #1-26; issues #27-38 inclusive; issue #39, cumulative for issues #1-39; issues #40-51 inclusive; and issues #1-52 (or 53 in some years), cumulative for issues #1-52 (or 53). An annual subject matter index for rules was separately printed usually in August, but starting with Volume 19 now appears in the final issue of each volume. For copies or subscriptions to the *State Register*, contact Minnesota's Bookstore, 660 Olive Street (one block east of I-35E and one block north of University Ave), St. Paul, MN 55155 (612) 297-3000, or toll-free 1-800-657-3757.

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Proposed Rules

Comments on Planned Rules or Rule Amendments. An agency must first solicit Comments on Planned Rules or Comments on Planned Rule Amendments from the public on the subject matter of a possible rulemaking proposal under active consideration within the agency (Minnesota Statutes §§ 14.101). It does this by publishing a notice in the State Register at least 60 days before publication of a notice to adopt or a notice of hearing, and within 60 days of the effective date of any new statutory grant of required rulemaking.

Rules to be Adopted After a Hearing. After receiving comments and deciding to hold a public hearing on the rule, an agency drafts its rule. It then publishes its rules with a notice of hearing. All persons wishing to make a statement must register at the hearing. Anyone who wishes to submit written comments may do so at the hearing, or within five working days of the close of the hearing. Administrative law judges may, during the hearing, extend the period for receiving comments up to 20 calendar days. For five business days after the submission period the agency and interested persons may respond to any new information submitted during the written submission period and the record then is closed. The administrative law judge prepares a report within 30 days, stating findings of fact, conclusions and recommendations. After receiving the report, the agency decides whether to adopt, withdraw or modify the proposed rule based on consideration of the comments made during the rule hearing procedure and the report of the administrative law judge. The agency must wait five days after receiving the report before taking any action.

Rules to be Adopted Without a Hearing. Pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* § 14.22, an agency may propose to adopt, amend, suspend or repeal rules without first holding a public hearing. An agency must first solicit Comments on Planned Rules or Comments on Planned Rule Amendments from the public. The agency then publishes a notice of intent to adopt rules without a public hearing, together with the proposed rules, in the *State Register*. If, during the 30-day comment period, 25 or more persons submit to the agency a written request for a hearing of the proposed rules, the agency must proceed under the provisions of §§ 14.14-14.20, which state that if an agency decides to hold a public hearing, it must publish a notice of intent in the *State Register*.

KEY: Proposed Rules - <u>Underlining</u> indicates additions to existing rule language. <u>Strikeouts</u> indicate deletions from existing rule language. If a proposed rule is totally new, it is designated "all new material." **Adopted Rules** - <u>Underlining</u> indicates additions to proposed rule language. <u>Strikeout</u> indicates deletions from proposed rule language.

Minnesota Office of Higher Education

Proposed Permanent Rules Relating to SELF Program
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT RULES WITHOUT A PUBLIC HEARING RE-PUBLICATION
Proposed Amendment to Rules Governing Supplemental Student Loan SELF Program, *Minnesota Rules*,
4850.0010 to 4850.0018

Introduction. The Minnesota Office of Higher Education intends to adopt rules without a public hearing following the procedures set forth in the rules of the Office of Administrative Hearings, *Minnesota Rules*, parts 1400.2300 to 1400.2310, and the Administrative Procedure Act, *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.22 to 14.28. This is a re-publication, or second notice, of the Notice of Intent to Adopt Rules Without a Public Hearing made to correct the defects in its August 20, 2007 Statement of Need and Reasonableness that were identified by the Administrative Law Judge in the March 4, 2008 Order on Review of Rules. Copies of the supplemental materials required by the Administrative Law Judge's report of March 4, 2008 to correct procedural defects are available from the agency contact person upon request.

You may submit written comments on the proposed rules and may also submit a written request that a hearing be held on the rules until May 2, 2008.

Agency Contact Person. Comments or questions on the rules and written requests for a public hearing on the rules must be submitted to: Marilyn Kosir, Minnesota Office of Higher Education, 1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350, St. Paul MN 55108, or marilyn.kosir@state.mn.us.

Subject of Rules and Statutory Authority. The proposed rule amendments would:

- · Allow for nonaccrual of interest or payment for up to three years for someone with a temporary total disability.
- · Allow for a one-time rehabilitation of a loan within two years of a default date.
- · Allow for a loan interest rate reduction for active duty military personnel.
- · Increase the cosigner minimum age from 18 to 24 unless the cosigner is a sibling of the loan originator.
- · Increase the acceptable limit of negative credit items from \$50 to \$300 to be an eligible cosigner.
- · Eliminate the personal financial statement as an alternative to a credit report for cosigner credit approval.
- Expedite the loan and further eliminate paper loans by adding language allowing electronic signatures when the process has been adopted by the agency.
- · Add language to clarify when a loan is cancelled due to total and permanent disability.

Proposed Rules

The statutory authority to adopt the rules is *Minnesota Statutes*, 136A.16, subd. 2., authorizes the Office of Higher Education to adopt rules to carry out the purposes of sections 136A.15 to 136A.1702. A copy of the proposed rules is published in the *State Register* and is available online at *www.ohe.state.mn.us*.

Comments. You have until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 2, 2008 to submit written comment in support of or in opposition to the proposed rules and any part or subpart of the rules. Your comment must be in writing and received by the agency contact person by the due date. Comment is encouraged. Your comment should identify the portion of the proposed rules addressed and the reason for the comment. You are encouraged to propose any change desired. Any comments that you would like to make on the legality of the proposed rules must also be made during this comment period.

Request for a Hearing. In addition to submitting comments, you may also request that a hearing be held on the rules. Your request for a public hearing must be in writing and must be received by the agency contact person by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 2, 2008. Your written request for a public hearing must include your name and address. You must identify the portion of the proposed rules to which you object or state that you oppose the entire set of rules. Any request that does not comply with these requirements is not valid and cannot be counted by the agency when determining whether a public hearing must be held. You are also encouraged to state the reason for the request and any changes you want made to the proposed rules.

Withdrawal of Requests. If 25 or more persons submit a valid written request for a hearing, a public hearing will be held unless a sufficient number withdraw their requests in writing. If enough requests for hearing are withdrawn to reduce the number below 25, the agency must give written notice of this to all persons who requested a hearing, explain the actions the agency took to effect the withdrawal, and ask for written comments on this action. If a public hearing is required, the agency will follow the procedures in *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 14.131 to 14.20.

Alternative Format. Upon request, this Notice can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, Braille, or cassette tape. To make such a request, please contact Marilyn Kosir, Minnesota Office of Higher Education, 1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 350, St. Paul MN 55108, or *marilyn.kosir@state.mn.us*.

Modifications. The proposed rules may be modified as a result of public comment. The modifications must be supported by comments and information submitted to the agency, and the adopted rules may not be substantially different than these proposed rules, unless the procedure under *Minnesota Rules*, part 1400.2110, has been followed. If the proposed rules affect you in any way, you are encouraged to participate in the rulemaking process.

Statement of Need and Reasonableness. A statement of need and reasonableness is now available from the agency contact person. This statement contains a summary of the justification for the proposed rules, including a description of who will be affected by the proposed rules and an estimate of the probable cost of the proposed rules.

Lobbyist Registration. *Minnesota Statutes*, chapter 10A, requires each lobbyist to register with the State Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. Questions regarding this requirement may be directed to the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board at: Suite 190, Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155, **telephone:** (651) 296-5148 or 1-800-657-3889.

Adoption and Review of Rules. If no hearing is required, the agency may adopt the rules after the end of the comment period. The rules and supporting documents will then be submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearings for review for legality. You may ask to be notified of the date the rules are submitted to the office. If you want to be so notified, or want to receive a copy of the adopted rules, or want to register with the agency to receive notice of future rule proceedings, submit your request to the agency contact person listed above.

Dated: March 18 2008

Susan Heegaard, Director Minnesota Office of Higher Education

4850.0011 DEFINITIONS.

[For text of subps 1 to 8, see M.R.]

Subp. 9. **Creditworthy cosigner.** "Creditworthy cosigner" means one who, in the judgment of the director <u>based on information</u> <u>provided by a national credit bureau</u>, has:

- A. no credit bureau account balances discharged through bankruptcy;
- B. no garnishments, attachments, foreclosure, repossession, or suit;

Proposed Rules =

- C. no delinquent or unsatisfied credit obligation such as tax or mechanics liens, or judgments more than \$300 combined total in unsatisfied credit or unsatisfied payment obligations including, but not limited to, charged-off loans, credit, medical, utility accounts, collection items, and tax or mechanics liens; or and
- D. no more than five percent of <u>current total</u> credit bureau balances past due, <u>unless the amount past due is \$300 or less</u>. A <u>cosigner will be considered creditworthy if the total amount in item C or D does not exceed \$50.</u>
- Subp. 10. **Cosigners.** All <u>SELF</u> borrowers from the student educational loan fund shall have a creditworthy cosigner who is either a United States citizen or a permanent resident. The cosigner is jointly and separately responsible for making loan payments (principal, interest, and other charges). A cosigner must:
- A. be a person at least 18 24 years old or if a sibling (sister, brother, half-sister, half-brother, stepsister, or stepbrother) of the borrower be at least 18 years old;
 - B. agree to the release of information to a consumer credit reporting agency, as described in part 4850.0012, subpart 4; and
 - C. permanently reside in the United States.

If the cosigner has no credit history, creditworthiness shall be determined by the director, by a review of banking references and a review of net worth data with a minimum test requiring that net worth equal or exceed a sum ten times the size of each loan amount requested.

[For text of subp 11, see M.R.]

Subp. 11a. **Default date.** "Default date" means the date the loan is submitted by the office to the loan servicer as a default due to failure to comply with the required terms of the promissory note.

[For text of subps 12 to 14, see M.R.]

Subp. 15. Eligible student. "Eligible student" means a student who:

- A. is enrolled in an eligible school in Minnesota, or is a Minnesota resident enrolled in an eligible school in another state, United States territory, or province as defined in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 136A.15, subdivision 5;
- B. is enrolled at least half-time in a program leading to a certificate, associate, baccalaureate, masters, doctorate, or other professional degree;
 - C. is making satisfactory academic progress as defined by the school;
- D. is not currently in default, as defined by each specific program, of any student educational loan program (Stafford Loan, GSL, FISL, NDSL, Perkins, HPL, HEAL, ALAS/SLS, or other similar federal, state, private, or institutional student loan program) at the current or any previous school;
 - E. is not currently delinquent in payment of interest or principal on an outstanding <u>SELF</u> loan from the student educational loan fund;
 - F. has a creditworthy cosigner;
 - G. demonstrates financial eligibility by meeting the "maximum effort" test; and
 - H. has agreed to the release of information to a consumer credit reporting agency, as listed in part 4850.0012, subpart 4.

[For text of subps 16 to 24, see M.R.]

Subp. 24a. **Loan forgiveness.** "Loan forgiveness" means the obligation of the borrower and the cosigner to repay the SELF loan is forgiven due to the death or total and permanent disability of the borrower. The total and permanent disability of the borrower must occur after all disbursements of the loan are made in order for the loan to be totally forgiven.

[For text of subps 25 to 26a, see M.R.]

Subp. 27. See repealer.

[For text of subps 28a and 28b, see M.R.]

- Subp. 28c. SELF IV loans. "SELF IV loans" means SELF loans where the interest rate on the loan is determined by the director at a margin in excess of a SELF IV index rate. The SELF IV initial index rate is the arithmetic average rounded to the nearest tenth of one percent of the three-month London Interbank Offered Rates (LIBOR) rate during the calendar quarter immediately preceding the interest rate adjustment date. The LIBOR rate is determined by the British Banker's Association. Where terms can be obtained for issuance of SELF loans at a rate favorable to borrowers, the director may establish other indexes or utilize a fixed rate as provided for in the promissory note.
- Subp. 28d. Temporary total disability. "Temporary total disability" means a disability resulting from an injury or illness that is expected to last at least four months and that interferes with the borrower's ability to make loan payments. A borrower has a temporary total disability if a doctor of medicine or osteopathy, legally authorized to practice in a state, certifies that the borrower is unable to work and earn money because of an injury or illness expected to last at least four months. A borrower is not considered to have a temporary total disability on the basis of a condition that existed at the time the loan was made.
- Subp. 28e. Total and permanent disability. "Total and permanent disability" means a disability resulting from an injury or illness that is expected to continue indefinitely or result in death, that interferes with the borrower's ability to make loan payments because the borrower is unable to work or earn money, as certified by a doctor of medicine or osteopathy, legally authorized to practice in a state. A borrower is not considered totally and permanently disabled on the basis of a condition that existed at the time the loan was made.
- Subp. 29. **Transition period.** "Transition period" means a 12-month period immediately following graduation or termination of enrollment. Borrowers may extend the transition period, if permitted by the terms of the promissory note, an additional period not to

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exceed 24 months. During the transition period, borrowers are billed for interest only.

Subp. 30. Undergraduate student. "Undergraduate student" means a student who is not a graduate student.

4850.0012 SCHOOL AGREEMENTS AND STUDENT APPLICATIONS.

[For text of subps 1 and 2, see M.R.]

Subp. 3. **Application and promissory note.** The student shall follow the appropriate SELF application process used at the eligible school. The student shall deliver or mail the application and promissory note to the cosigner who shall complete the cosigner's portion of the application and promissory note and deliver or mail them to the director. <u>Electronic signatures are acceptable where an electronic signature process has been adopted by the office.</u> The director will check the application and promissory note for completeness, determine the eligibility of the applicant, and conduct a credit check of the borrower and the cosigner. If the director approves the loan application, the document file is forwarded to the servicer. The servicer shall prepare and mail a disclosure statement to the borrower and cosigner, advise the school of the loan approval, schedule disbursements, and place the document file in permanent storage. If the director rejects the loan application, the applicant and the cosigner must be advised in writing of the decision and the reasons for the rejection.

[For text of subp 4, see M.R.]

4850.0014 AMOUNT AND TERMS.

Subpart 1. Loan amounts. The minimum SELF loan amount from the student educational loan fund is \$500.

The annual and maximum loan amounts for:

A. an undergraduate student are those prescribed in this part, not to exceed the limits specified in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 136A.1701, subdivisions 4 and 5. The loan must not exceed the annual SELF borrowing maximums of \$4,500 for grade levels one and two, and \$6,000 for grade levels three, four, and five or the cost of attendance less all other financial aid (including PLUS loans or other similar federal parent loans borrowed on the student's behalf); and the cumulative SELF loan debt must not exceed the aggregate SELF borrowing maximums by grade level indicated in this subpart. The cumulative undergraduate borrowing maximums for SELF loans are:

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(1) grade level 1, $ 4,500;
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(2) grade level 2, \$ 9,000;

(3) grade level 3, \$15,000;

(4) grade level 4, \$21,000; and

(5) grade level 5, \$25,000.

B. a graduate student are those prescribed in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 136A.1701. The loan must not exceed the annual SELF graduate student borrowing maximum of \$9,000 for grade levels 6 through 9 or the cost of attendance less all other financial aid (including PLUS loans borrowed on the student's behalf); and the cumulative SELF student loan debt of the graduate student does not exceed \$40,000 for both undergraduate and graduate educations combined.

[For text of subp 2, see M.R.]

Subp. 3. **Interest rate.** For SELF II loans, the interest rate on the loan will be determined by the director at a margin in excess of the SELF II index rate as defined under part 4850.0011, subpart 28a. The SELF II index rate is the average rounded to the nearest quarter of one percent of the bond equivalent yield, for auctions of 13 week treasury bills, during the preceding calendar quarter. If the index rate increases or decreases, the interest rate on the loan automatically increases or decreases on the same day without notice to the borrower. The interest rate on the loan cannot increase or decrease more than two percentage points over any four consecutive calendar quarters exclusive of any individual loan interest rate reductions and reinstatements resulting from the application of benefit programs for military, on-time payments and automated payments or other program interest rate reductions. The director shall set the margin to reflect the costs of the SELF program. If the director determines that the margin does not reflect the costs of the SELF program, the director must increase or decrease the margin. The director shall advise borrowers of changes in the margin.

For SELF III and SELF IV loans, the interest rate on the loan will be determined by the director at a margin in excess of a SELF III and SELF IV index rate rates, as defined under part 4850.0011, subparts 28b and 28c. The SELF III initial index rate to be used is the average rounded to the nearest tenth of one percent of the arithmetic average of the threemonth London Interbank Offered Rates (LIBOR) rate during the calendar quarter immediately preceding the interest rate adjustment date. The LIBOR rate is determined by the British Banker's Association. Where terms can be obtained for issuance of SELF loans at a rate favorable to borrowers, the director may establish other indexes or utilize a fixed rate as provided for in the promissory note. The interest rate on the loan cannot increase or decrease more than three percentage points over any four consecutive calendar quarters exclusive of any individual loan interest rate reductions and reinstatements resulting from the application of benefit programs for military, on-time payments and automated payments or other program interest rate reductions. The director shall set the margin to reflect the costs of the SELF program. If the director determines that the margin does not reflect the costs of the SELF program, the director must increase or decrease the margin.

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4850.0018 CLAIMS.

[For text of subpart 1, see M.R.]

- Subp. 2. When paid. Claims are paid in four categories:
- A. A claim for death of the borrower must be filed by the director upon receipt of a death record. The cosigner's obligation to make any further payment of principal and interest or both on a SELF loan is canceled as of the date of death.
- B. If the borrower becomes totally and permanently disabled, a claim must be filed by the director upon receipt of proper medical documentation. The <u>borrower's and</u> cosigner's obligation to make any further payment of principal and interest on a SELF loan is canceled as of the date of <u>approval of the</u> medical documentation <u>by the office</u>.

[For text of items C and D, see M.R.]

4850.0020 LOAN FORGIVENESS.

<u>Subpart 1.</u> **Death of borrower.** The obligation of the borrower and the cosigner to repay a SELF loan shall be forgiven upon documentation of the death of the borrower. Payments made after the borrower's death prior to the submission of a death certificate will not be reimbursed.

Subp. 2. Total and permanent disability of borrower. The obligation of the borrower and the cosigner to repay the SELF loan shall be forgiven upon written request to the office if the office determines that a borrower has a total and permanent disability and if the total and permanent disability of the borrower occurred after all disbursements of the loan were made. The forgiveness is effective the date the total and permanent disability documentation is approved and accepted by the office.

4850.0021 NONACCRUAL OF INTEREST PERIOD DURING A TEMPORARY TOTAL DISABILITY.

A borrower who has a temporary total disability shall be granted a period of nonaccrual of interest upon written request to the office, effective the date the temporary total disability documentation is approved and accepted by the office, if the office determines that the borrower has a temporary total disability and if the temporary total disability of the borrower occurred after all disbursements of the loan were made. Interest does not accrue during an approved nonaccrual of interest period and no payments will be required to be made during this time. A nonaccrual of interest period may be granted for up to one year at a time with a maximum of no more than three years. Extensions may be requested after the end of each approved period of nonaccrual of interest. Updated medical information is required of the borrower for each extension request. If at any time during a nonaccrual of interest period the borrower qualifies for loan forgiveness due to total and permanent disability status, the borrower may submit the required medical documentation to the office for review. At the end of the nonaccrual of interest period the borrower must resume payments at an amount necessary to repay the loan in the time period required by the promissory note unless a payment extension agreement has been entered into with the office.

4850.0022 ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY INTEREST REDUCTION BENEFIT.

Eligible borrowers on active military duty may qualify for interest rate reductions greater than reductions already required by federal or state law based on a determination by the director of available benefits. The military interest rate reduction availability and the amount of any reduction is determined quarterly. Eligible borrowers must request the reduction and provide a copy of active military orders in order to qualify. An available reduction is only effective for dates the borrower is on active duty. Interest reductions, other than reductions required by federal or state law, shall be discontinued without notice for any quarter in which the benefit is unavailable.

4850.0024 DEFAULTED LOAN REHABILITATION.

- Subpart 1. Availability. A defaulted loan rehabilitation option is available for loans which default after adoption of parts 4850.0011 to 4850.0024.
- Subp. 2. Exclusions. A defaulted loan rehabilitation option is not available for loans that have been turned over to a collection entity or that are in default for a second time.
 - Subp. 3. Rehabilitation deadline. Rehabilitation must be completed within two years from the default date.
- Subp. 4. Payment in full option. A defaulted loan is considered rehabilitated if the outstanding balance of the defaulted loan is paid in full to the office within 90 days from the default date.
- Subp. 5. Payment plan option. A borrower or cosigner may rehabilitate a defaulted loan upon approval by the office of a rehabilitation request signed by the borrower or cosigner and submitted to the office. If the office approves the rehabilitation request, the borrower or cosigner must make 12 monthly on-time payments on the defaulted loan. If the borrower or cosigner fails to make 12 consecutive on-time payments and if there is sufficient time remaining within the maximum two-year rehabilitation period, the borrower or cosigner may submit a second rehabilitation request for approval by the office to make 12 on-time payments. The combined payment amounts must be sufficient so that at the end of the rehabilitation period the loan conforms with the promissory note repayment terms had the loan not defaulted. A payment is considered on time if the payment is received by the office no later than seven calendar days after the agreed upon due date.

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<u>Subp. 6.</u> **Rehabilitated loan requirement.** <u>Once a loan has successfully been rehabilitated, the remaining balance must be repaid within the original time frame and according to the original terms and conditions of the promissory note.</u>

Subp. 7. Deletion of default loan status. Upon completion of the loan rehabilitation, the office shall request deletion of the defaulted loan status from the credit bureaus if deletion is permitted by the credit bureaus. Deletion of the default status is contingent upon approval by the credit bureaus. Any past due reporting to the credit bureaus prior to the default will not be deleted.

REPEALER. Minnesota Rules, part 4850.0011, subpart 27, is repealed.

Official Notices

Pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* §§ 14.101, an agency must first solicit comments from the public on the subject matter of a possible rulemaking proposal under active consideration within the agency by publishing a notice in the *State Register* at least 60 days before publication of a notice to adopt or a notice of hearing, and within 60 days of the effective date of any new statutory grant of required rulemaking.

The State Register also publishes other official notices of state agencies and non-state agencies, including notices of meetings and matters of public interest.

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Minnesota Board of Animal Health Quarterly Meeting April 23, 2008

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health will hold its quarterly meeting on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at the Orville L. Freeman Building, 625 Robert St. N, St. Paul, MN 55155 in room B555 at 9:30 a.m.

Official Notices —

Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association Notice of Proposed Premium Rate Meetings

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a representative of the Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association's (MCHA) executive staff and a representative of the Minnesota Department of Commerce will hold premium rate meetings in Minnesota as indicated below. The purpose of the meetings is to allow MCHA enrollees an opportunity to comment on the proposed premium rates. Any rate change must be approved by the Minnesota Department of Commerce. New premium rates would go into effect on July 1, 2008.

For additional information, please call Peggy Zimmerman-Belbeck at (952) 593-9609.

SCHEDULE OF 2008 PUBLIC MEETINGS ON PROPOSED PREMIUM RATES

LOCATION	DATE	TIME
ROCHESTER	Monday, March 31, 2008 Ramada Hotel & Conference Center 1517 SW 16 th Street Rochester, MN 55902 (507) 289-8866	6:30 pm
TWIN CITIES	Wednesday, April 2, 2008 Sheraton Bloomington Hotel 7800 Normandale Blvd. Bloomington, MN 55439 (952) 835-7800	6:30 pm

In case of inclement weather, please call the hotel to be informed of meeting cancellation. If you are unable to attend these meetings for any reason, please log onto the MCHA website at www.mchamn.com_for data provided at the meeting.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Division of Fish and Wildlife

Request for Comments on Possible Amendment to and Repeal of Rules Governing Wildlife, *Minnesota Rules*, Chapters 6230, 6232, 6234, 6236, 6237, 6240

Subject of Rules. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources requests comments on its possible amendment to and repeal of rules governing miscellaneous wildlife issues. The Department is considering rule amendments and repealing its rules that:

- 1.) Modify provisions for some Wildlife Management Areas, State Game and Waterfowl Refuges, waterfowl Controlled Hunting Zones and migratory waterfowl feeding and resting areas.
- 2.) Repeal rules for national wildlife refuges and federal waterfowl production areas
- 3.) Define terms used in special deer hunts
- 4.) Modify deer zone and date options, deer tagging procedure and deer license validation procedures
- Modify bag limits for deer in intensive, managed, lottery, early season deer areas and the metro and bovine tuberculosis deer management zones
- 6.) Modify season for taking deer by firearms in the metro deer management zone
- 7.) Modify muzzleloader seasons and areas and prescribe restrictions on all season licenses during the muzzleloader season
- 8.) Modify bag limit for bears outside quota areas
- 9.) Modify license procedures for taking bears outside quota areas
- 10.) Modify seasons for taking ruffed and spurce grouse, pheasants and gray partridge

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- 11.) Prescribe restrictions on using bait to take turkeys
- 12.) Modify seasons for taking sora and Virginia rails and common snipe
- 13.) Repeal provisions relating to the harvest of prairie chickens
- 14.) Modify youth waterfowl hunting date
- 15.) Modify season and bag limit for taking geese in the northwest goose zone

Persons Affected. The rules may affect persons using some wildlife refuges and controlled hunt zones; small game, deer, and bear hunters; waterfowl hunters and wild turkey hunters. Individuals or businesses that provide goods and services to hunters and trappers may also be affected.

Statutory Authority. The adoption of the proposed rules is authorized by *Minnesota Statutes*, sections 86A.06, 97A.045, 97A.091, 97A.092, 97A.095, 97A.137, 97A.411, 97B.535, 97B.112, 97B.301, 97B.311, 97B.411, 97B.711, 97B.715, 97B.716, 97B.731, 97B.803.

Public Comment. Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these possible rules in writing by e-mail or orally until 4:30 p.m. on May 26. The Department does not contemplate appointing an advisory committee to comment on the possible rules.

Rules Drafts. The Department has prepared a draft of the possible rules amendments and repeals.

Agency Contact Person. Written or oral comments, questions, requests to receive a draft of the rules, and requests for more information on these possible rules should be directed to:

Jason Abraham

Department of Natural Resources

500 Lafayette Road

St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4007

Phone: (651) 259-5197 **Fax:** (651) 297-4961

E-mail: Jason.Abraham@dnr.state.mn.us

TTY users may call the Department of Natural Resources at (800) 657-3929

Alternative Format. Upon request, this Request for Comments can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, Braille, or cassette tape. To make such a request, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

NOTE: Comments received in response to this notice will not necessarily be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the administrative law judge if and when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The agency is required to submit to the judge only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are proposed. If you submitted comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the Administrative Law Judge reviews the comments, you should resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

Dated: March 6, 2008 Mark Holsten, Commissioner

Department of Natural Resources

Official Notices =

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Industrial Division

Request for Comments on Possible Amendment to Rules by Removing the State Exemption from National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permitting for Vessel Discharges Codified in *Minnesota Rules* 7001.1030, subpart 2(A)

Subject of Rule: The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) requests comments on a possible rule amendment to the state's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements and exemptions, codified in *Minnesota Rules*, part 7001.1030, subp. 2(A). The MPCA is considering modifying *Minnesota Rules*, part 7001.1030, subpart 2(A) which exempts persons who discharge sewage or effluent from a vessel. The MPCA is considering removing the exemption for effluent discharges from vessels but retaining the sewage exemption. (Sewage discharges are currently regulated under Section 312 of the Clean Water Act (CWA)). The MPCA is proposing that the rule be modified such that the exemption removal would take effect on September 30, 2008.

Background: A recent federal court order is the basis for the proposed removal of the MPCA's current exemption of vessel discharges from NPDES permitting. Repeal of the federal exemption for vessel discharge NPDES permitting will be effective September 30, 2008. On March 30, 2005, the Federal District Court in Northern California (Court) issued a ruling that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had exceeded its statutory authority when, over 30 years ago, the EPA issued a regulation excluding "discharges incidental to normal operation of a vessel at Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, part 122.3(a)" from the CWA NPDES permit requirements.

On September 18, 2006, the Court issued an order vacating the regulation as of September 30, 2008. [Northwest Environmental Advocates v. EPA, No. C 03-5760 SI, 2006 WL 2669042 (N.D. Cal. September 18, 2006)] The Court delayed vacatur by two years to allow the EPA time to address the ramification of the vacatur. The EPA challenged the decision and oral arguments were heard by the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in August of 2007. The EPA has begun development of a national general permit with a goal to have it available by September 30, 2008 if the Court's decision is upheld.

Should the Court ruling be upheld and the EPA is unsuccessful in developing a permit program by September 30, 2008 or the permit program is not adequately protective of Minnesota's water resources, the MPCA, as the NPDES delegated authority in Minnesota intends to have a vessel discharge permit available by September 30, 2008 for priority vessel discharges. The MPCA's rules regarding NPDES permits must be as stringent as federal rules. Repeal of the current exemption in *Minnesota Rules*, part 7001.1030, subp. 2(A) will ensure the agency is able to meet its obligations under state and federal law.

Persons Affected: The MPCA's proposed rulemaking potentially affects the owners and operators of vessels that discharge into Minnesota waters.

Statutory Authority: The MPCA's authority to adopt the rule amendment is set forth in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 115.03, subdivision 1(g). Subdivision 1(g) provides the MPCA with general rulemaking authority. Additional authority is set forth in *Minnesota Statutes*, section 115.03, subdivision 5 which grants the MPCA the authority to promulgate rules needed to administer the NPDES program. The MPCA is also the delegated Minnesota state agency to implement and administer the CWA. Under the above cited statutes, the MPCA has the necessary statutory authority to adopt the proposed rule amendments.

Public Comment: Affected and interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these possible rule amendments in writing or orally until 4:00 p.m. on April 23, 2008. The MPCA does not contemplate appointing an advisory committee to comment on the possible rule amendments.

Rule Drafts: The MPCA is in the process of preparing a draft of the possible rule amendments.

Agency Contact Person: Written comments, questions, requests to receive a draft of the rule amendments when they are prepared, and requests for more information on the rule amendments should be directed to: Mary Jean Fenske, MPCA, Industrial Division, 520 Lafayette Road North, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4194; telephone number: (651) 297-5472 or toll free 1-800-657-3864; facsimile number: (651) 297-8324; and e-mail: *maryjean.fenske@pca.state.mn.us*. TTY users may call the MPCA at TTY (651) 292-5332 or 1-800-657-3864.

Official Notices

Alternative Format: Upon request, this Request for Comments can be made available in an alternative format, such as large print, Braille, or cassette tape. To make such a request, please contact the agency contact person at the address or telephone number listed above.

Note: Comments received in response to this notice may not necessarily be included in the formal rulemaking record submitted to the administrative law judge if and when a proceeding to adopt rules is started. The MPCA is required to submit to the administrative law judge reviewing the rules only those written comments received in response to the rules after they are formally proposed. If you submitted comments during the development of the rules and you want to ensure that the administrative law judge reviews the comments, you should resubmit the comments after the rules are formally proposed.

Brad Moore, Commissioner Pollution Control Agency

Department of Transportation State Aid for Local Transportation Division Notice of Appointment and Meeting of a State Aid Variance Committee

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commissioner of Transportation has appointed a State Aid Variance Advisory Committee who will meet on Thursday, March 27, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. at the Mn/DOT Arden Hills Training Center, located at 1900 West County Road I, in Shoreview, Minnesota, 55126.

This notice is given pursuant to Minnesota Statute 14.46.

The purpose of this open meeting is to investigate and determine recommendations for variance requests from minimum State Aid roadway standards and administrative procedures as governed by *Minnesota Rules* for State Aid Operations 8820 adopted pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* Chapters 161 and 162.

The proposed agenda will be the following:

1. Petition of the City of Maplewood for a variance from *Minnesota Rules* for State Aid Operations 8820.2800 subpart 2, as they apply to the construction of County Road D, located between .T.H. 61 and Hazelwood Street in the City of Maplewood, so as to allow the approval of the final plans after the opening of bids in lieu of before the opening of bids as required by rules.

9:15 a.m. City of Maplewood

Dated: March 24, 2008

Julie A. Skallman, State Aid Engineer State Aid for Local Transportation Minnesota Department of Transportation

State Grants & Loans

In addition to requests by state agencies for technical/professional services (published in the State Contracts Section), the *State Register* also publishes notices about grants and loans available through any agency or branch of state government. Although some grant and loan programs specifically require printing in a statewide publication such as the *State Register*, there is no requirement for publication in the *State Register* itself. Agencies are encouraged to publish grant and loan notices, and to provide financial estimates as well as sufficient time for interested parties to respond.

Grant Applicants

Have you picked up all the grants open for bid? A "Contracts & Grants" section is available that lists all grants and contracts open for bid. Open the *State Register* and click on Bookmarks in the upper right corner. You will see a list of ALL the current rules, with an INDEX, and previous years' indices, as well as a list of all contracts and grants open for bid. Subscribe and receive LINKS to the *State Register*. You also receive Subscriptions cost \$180 a year (an \$80 savings). Here's what you receive via e-mail:

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It's all E-mailed to you, at end-of-day on Friday, instead of waiting for the non-subscriber's issue released on Monday. Contact Cathy Hoekstra, our subscriptions manager, at (651) 297-8777, or **Fax:** (651) 297-8260, or **E-mail:** cathy.hoekstra@state.mn.us

Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT)

Notice of Availability of Contract(s) for Roads Opportunities & Diversity Success (R.O.A.D.S) Grant

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is requesting proposals for the purpose of providing a trusted source of qualified women and minority job seekers for the highway heavy construction industry. Mn/DOT, with support from the Federal Highway Agency (FHWA), is committed to assisting contractors in building a well-trained and diverse workforce. A key component in ensuring the success of this mission is to develop reliable sources of labor for the contractors who are required to train individuals and employ them on federally funded Mn/DOT projects.

Work is proposed to start after April 23, 2008.

A Request for Proposals is available by mail through April 4, 2008. A written request (by direct mail or fax) is required to receive the Request for Proposals. After April 4, 2008, the Request for Proposals must be picked up in person.

The Request for Proposals can be obtained from:

Director Minnesota Department of Transportation Office of Civil Rights 395 John Ireland Blvd., MS 170 St. Paul, MN 55155

Phone: (651) 366-3073 **Fax:** (651) 366-3129

Proposals submitted in response to the Request for Proposals in this advertisement must be received at the address above no later than 4:00 P.M. Central Daylight Time, **Friday**, **April 11**, **2008**. Late proposals will not be considered. No time extensions will be granted.

This request does not obligate the State to complete the work contemplated in this notice. The State reserves the right to cancel this solicitation. All expenses incurred in responding to this notice are solely the responsibility of the proposer.

Informal Solicitations: Informal solicitations for professional/technical (consultant) contracts valued at over \$5,000 through \$50,000, may either be published in the *State Register* or posted on the Department of Administration, Materials Management Division's (MMD) Web site. Interested vendors are encouraged to monitor the P/T Contract Section of the MMD Web site at www.mmd.admin.state.mn.us for informal solicitation announcements.

Formal Solicitations: Department of Administration procedures require that formal soliciations (announcements for contracts with an estimated value over \$50,000) for professional/technical contracts must be published in the *State Register*. Certain quasi-state agency and Minnesota State College and University institutions are exempt from these requirements.

Requirements: There are no statutes or rules requiring contracts to be advertised for any specific length of time, but the Materials Management Division strongly recommends meeting the following requirements:

\$0 - \$5000 does not need to be advertised. Contact the Materials Management Division: (651) 296-2600 \$5,000 - \$25,000 should be advertised in the *State Register* for a period of at least seven calendar days; \$25,000 - \$50,000 should be advertised in the *State Register* for a period of at least 14 calendar days; and anything above \$50,000 should be advertised in the *State Register* for a minimum of at least 21 calendar days

Contract Information

Obtain MORE and FASTER information with a SUBSCRIPTION to the *State Register*. You also receive LINKS to the *State Register*. Open the *State Register* and click on Bookmarks in the upper left corner. You will see a list of the contents of the current issue, with an INDEX, and previous years' indices. You also receive a summarized "Contracts & Grants" section to review. Subscriptions cost \$180 a year (an \$80 savings). Here's what you receive via e-mail:

- Word Search Capability
- Updates to Index to Vol. 31
- LINKS, LINKS, LINKS
- "Contracts & Grants" Open for Bid
- Easy Access to State Register Archives

- · Early delivery, on Friday
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- Indexes to Vols. 31, 30, 29, 28 and 27

It's all E-mailed to you, at end-of-day on Friday, instead of waiting for the non-subscriber's issue released on Monday. Contact Cathy Hoekstra, our subscriptions manager, at (651) 297-8777, or **Fax:** (651) 297-8260, or **E-mail:** cathy.hoekstra@state.mn.us

Colleges and Universities, Minnesota State (MnSCU) Bemidji State University Notice of Request for Proposals for Television Service Package

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Bemidji State University will receive sealed proposals for a television service package for its residence halls and various locations on campus. Specifications will be available March 24, 2008, at the following Bemidji State University website:

http://www.bemidjistate.edu/about/rfps_bids/

Sealed proposals must be received by Belinda Lindell, Director of Logistical Services, Bemidji State University, Deputy 204, Box 8, 1500 Birchmont Drive NE, Bemidji, MN 56601, by 2:00 PM, April 21, 2008.

Bemidji State University reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any irregularities or informalities in proposals received. This Request for Proposal does not obligate the University to complete a proposed contract, and the University reserves the right to cancel the solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Minneapolis Community and Technical College Sealed Bids Sought for Parking Ramp Maintenance Repairs for 2008

Sealed Bids for: Parking Ramp Maintenance Repairs for 2008

Will be received by: Valerie Frolov

T-Building Room T – 0600

Minneapolis Community & Technical College

1501 Hennepin Avenue S Minneapolis MN 55403

Until 2:00 PM, local time, April 22, 2008 at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud.

Project Scope: Replace Failed Joint Sealant between TEE'S. Replace failed Expansion Joint, Patching Concrete delamination on top and bottom surface, repair beam spalls in the four story Double TEE Ramp.

A Pre-Bid Meeting will be held at 1:00 PM, Wednesday, April 9, 2008, in Public Safety Desk area at room R-3100 skyway level, Minneapolis Community & Technical College. The Architect/Engineer and/or College/University Representatives will review the bidding procedures, Bidding Documents and other conditions with interested Bidders and answer questions.

Bidding Documents as prepared by the Project Architect/Engineer; Palanisami & Associates, Inc., are on file at the offices of the:

- Above named Project Architect/Engineer. Palanisami & Associates Inc., 5661 International Parkway, Minneapolis, MN 55428
- Following Builders' Exchanges: Minneapolis at 1123 Glenwood Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55405, and St. Paul at 445 Farmington Street, St. Paul, MN 55103
- 3) McGraw Hill Construction Plan Room 1401 Glenwood Avenue North, Minneapolis, MN 55409
- 4) Reed Construction Data Plan Room 30 Technology Parkway South, # 500 Norcross, Georgia 30092-2912
- 5) MEDA Minority Contractors Plan Room 2781 Freeway Blvd # 100, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
- National Association of Minority Contractors of Upper Midwest 4801 4th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55409

Complete sets only of Bidding Documents for use by Bidders in submitting a bid may be obtained at the following address:

Palanisami & Associates Inc., 5661 International Parkway Minneapolis MN 55427 (763) 533-9403

A deposit of \$50.00 is required for each set.

Prospective Bidders requesting that Bidding Documents (complete sets only) be mailed to them, may send a separate non-refundable payment (check made out to the Architect/Engineer) for \$25.00 per set for shipping & handling (in addition to the above \$50.00 deposit) to the Architect. Such deposits and payments may be sent prior to **April 4, 2008**. Documents will be sent to street addresses only (P.O. Boxes not acceptable).

Each bid which totals over \$15,000.00 shall be accompanied by a certified check, payable to **Minnesota State Colleges and Universities**, in the sum of not less than 5% of the total base bid; or a corporate surety bond of a surety company duly authorized to do business in the state of Minnesota in the same amount; which is submitted as bid security, conditioned upon the Bidder entering into a contract with Minnesota State Colleges and Universities in accordance with the terms of the bid.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Northland Community and Technical College Advertisement for Bids for Air Cooled Water Chiller and Diesel Generator Installation

Sealed Bids for: Air Cooled Water Chiller And Diesel Generator Installation

Northland Community and Technical College

East Grand Forks, Minnesota

will be received by: Mr. Bob Gooden

Director of Facilities

Room 118C

Northland Community and Technical College

East Grand Forks, Minnesota

Until 2 PM CDT, April 30, 2008 at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud.

Project Scope: Installation of air cooled water chiller and diesel generator. Proposals must be honored for ninety (90) days after April 30, 2008.

A pre-bid meeting will be held.

Bid Forms, Contract Documents, Drawings and Specifications as prepared by the Project Architect/Engineer, **Martin Mechanical Design Inc.**, are on file at the offices of the:

- 1.) above named Project Architect/Engineer.
- 2.) following Builders Exchanges: Fargo, Minneapolis, Grand Forks
- 3.) Construction Market Data Plan Room.
- 4.) Dodge Plan Room.
- 5.) National Association of Minority Contractors of Upper Midwest

Complete sets only of bid forms and Drawings and Specifications for use by Bidders in submitting a bid may be obtained at the following address:

Martin Mechanical Design Inc.

702 28th Avenue North Fargo, North Dakota 58102 (701) 293-7957

A deposit of \$25.00 is required for each set.

Prospective Bidders requesting that Bidding Documents (complete sets only) be mailed to them, may send a separate non-refundable payment (check made out to the Architect) for \$7.00 per set for shipping & handling (in addition to the \$25.00 deposit) to the Architect. Such deposits and payments may be sent prior to **June 25, 2006.** Documents will be sent to street addresses only (P.O. Boxes not acceptable).

Each bid which totals over \$15,000.00 must be accompanied by a bid bond or other security described here as a proposal guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract if its bid is accepted. This security may be either a certified check, payable to **Minnesota State Colleges and Universities**, in the sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the total base bid or a corporate surety bond for the same amount by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Minnesota.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Northland Community and Technical College Advertisement for Bids for Air Cooled Water Chiller and Generator Procurement

Sealed Bids for: Air Cooled Water Chiller And Generator Procurement

Northland Community and Technical College

East Grand Forks, Minnesota

will be received by: Mr. Bob Gooden

Director of Facilities

Room 118C

Northland community and Technical College

East Grand Forks, Minnesota

Until 2 PM CDT, April 16, 2008 at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud.

Project Scope: Procurement of air cooled water chiller and diesel generator. Proposals must be honored for ninety (90) days after April 16, 2008.

Bid Forms, Contract Documents, Drawings and Specifications as prepared by the Project Architect/Engineer, **Martin Mechanical Design Inc.**, are on file at the offices of the:

- 1.) above named Project Architect/Engineer.
- 2.) following Builders Exchanges: Fargo, Minneapolis
- 3.) Construction Market Data Plan Room.
- 4.) Dodge Plan Room.
- 5.) National Association of Minority Contractors of Upper Midwest

Complete sets only of bid forms and Drawings and Specifications for use by Bidders in submitting a bid may be obtained at the following address:

Martin Mechanical Design Inc.

702 28th Avenue North Fargo, North Dakota 58102 (701) 293-7957

A deposit of \$25.00 is required for each set.

Prospective Bidders requesting that Bidding Documents (complete sets only) be mailed to them, may send a separate non-refundable payment (check made out to the Architect) for \$7.00 per set for shipping & handling (in addition to the \$25.00 deposit) to the Architect. Such deposits and payments may be sent prior to **June 25, 2006.** Documents will be sent to street addresses only (P.O. Boxes not acceptable).

Each bid which totals over \$15,000.00 must be accompanied by a bid bond or other security described here as a proposal guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract if its bid is accepted. This security may be either a certified check, payable to **Minnesota State Colleges and Universities**, in the sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the total base bid or a corporate surety bond for the same amount by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Minnesota.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Northland Community and Technical College Advertisement for Bids for Nursing Additions and Renovations

Sealed Bids for: Nursing Additions and Renovations

Northland Community & Technical College

East Grand Forks, MN

will be received by Mr. Bob Gooden, Director of Facilities

Northland Community and Technical College,

2022 Central Ave. NE

East Grand Forks, Minnesota 56721

Until **April 24, 2008, 2:00 PM,** at which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Bids will be opened in Room 315 and should be addressed to the director of facilities listed above. Single Prime Bids will be received for All Work.

Project Scope: Work includes a 9200sf Nursing Addition, including concrete footing & foundation, new masonry bearing walls, steel joists and deck, BUR roof system, and interior finishes. Other additions and major remodeling at existing areas of the building are also included.

Mechanical and Electrical subbid work is to be included in the single prime bids.

Pre Bid Walkthrough: Prebid meeting will be conducted on April 17, 2008, 1:00 PM at Project Site. All interested Primary bidders, and major subbidders are urged to attend. The above meeting is not mandatory, but is highly recommended for all serious bidders. The Architect and Owner's representatives will review the bidding procedures, Bidding Documents, and other conditions. This meeting will also allow the contractors, to conduct an investigative pre-bid walkthrough.

Bidding Documents as prepared by the Project Architect are on file at the offices of :

- 1.) Project Architect (address below).
- 2.) following Builders Exchanges: St. Paul, Minneapolis, Fargo & Grand Forks, North Dakota
- 3.) McGraw Hill/Dodge Construction Plan Room
- 4.) Northland Community and Technical College
- 5.) National Association of Minority Contractors of Upper Midwest
- 6) Mechanical Engineers office: Obermiller-Nelson Engineering, Fargo, North Dakota
- 7) Electrical Engineers office: Vareberg Engineering, Fargo, North Dakota
- 8) Civil Engineers Office: Floan-Sanders Inc., East Grand Forks, Minnesota

Complete sets only of bid forms and Drawings and Specifications for use by Bidders in submitting a bid may be obtained at the following address:

Foss Architecture and Interiors

P.O. Box 306

Moorhead, Minnesota 56561 **Phone:** (218) 236-1202 **Fax:** (218) 236-4945

Deposit: A deposit (refundable) of \$300.00 is required for each set. Prospective Bidders requesting that bidding documents (complete sets only) be mailed to them, must send, in advance, the refundable deposit. Documents will be sent to street addresses only (P.O. Boxes not acceptable)

Bidding documents must be returned in **complete** form, including addendum within 14 days after the opening of bids. Planholders not returning their sets within 14 days, or returning their sets damaged or incomplete will be charged the deposit fee to cover the costs of the

drawing set reproduction.

Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be issued by the Architect.

Bids must be accompanied by a bid bond or other security described here as a proposal guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract if its bid is accepted. This security may be either a certified check, payable to **Minnesota State Colleges and Universities**, in the sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the total base bid or a corporate surety bond for the same amount, issued by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Minnesota.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Normandale Community College

Notice of Availability of Request for Proposal (RFP) for Owner Representative Selection for the Classroom Addition and Renovation at Normandale Community College

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, acting as the owner for the State of Minnesota, is soliciting proposals from interested, qualified consultants for Owner Representative services for the above referenced project.

A full Request for Proposals is available on Normandale Community College website: "www.normandale.edu/OR-Rep"

A project informational meeting has been scheduled for 8:00-9:00 am on Thursday April 3, 2008 at Normandale Community College, Administrative Suite, Room C-2116. Contact: Gail Scheid, Assistant to the Vice President at (952) 487-8159 or E-mail: Gail.Scheid@normandale.edu to sign up for the meeting.

Proposals must be delivered to Normandale Community College, Ed Wines, Vice President for Finance & Operations, Administrative Suite, C-2107, 9700 France Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55431 not later than 12:01 April 9, 2008. Late responses will not be considered.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities is not obligated to complete the proposed project and reserves the right to cancel the solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Normandale Community College

Notice of Availability of Request for Proposal (RFP) for Multimedia System Installations for Small General Campus Classrooms

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Normandale Community College, is soliciting proposals from interested, qualified technology system integrators for the above referenced project.

A full Request for Proposals is available on Normandale Community College website: "www.normandale.edu/MultimediaRFP/" For the purpose of this RFP

A pre-award vendors conference has been scheduled for 9:00 – 11:30 am on Wednesday April 2, 2008 at Normandale Community College, in Room C-3148.

This meeting is the only opportunity to visit this area and though the meeting is not mandatory, not attending could result in not being able to meet all of the evaluation criteria accurately and affect a proposal's scoring. Minutes of this meeting will be written up and posted

on the www.normandale.edu/MultimediaRFP/website.

Contact: Steven Wyffels at (952) 487-8166 or E-mail: steve.wyffels@normandale.edu for more information.

Proposals must be delivered to Normandale Community College, Steven Wyffels, Instructional Technology Support, ITS, L-1700, 9700 France Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55431 not later than 12:01 April 7, 2008. Late responses will not be considered.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Normandale Community College is not obligated to complete the proposed project and reserves the right to cancel the solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) St. Cloud Technical College Request for Proposals for Reverse Osmosis System

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that St. Cloud Technical College will receive proposals for the procurement and delivery of A REVERSE OSMOSIS SYSTEM for the Water Environment Technologies lab. The complete Request for Bid will be available on Monday, March 17, 2008, on the website: http://www.sctc.edw/rfp.

Proposal responses must be delivered in a sealed envelope or package clearly marked "Reverse Osmosis System RFB" to Susan Meyer at the Business Office of St. Cloud Technical College, 1540 Northway Drive, St. Cloud, MN 56303 by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 31, 2008. St. Cloud Technical College reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, or to waive any irregularities or informalities, in proposals received.

Background/Purpose:

The purpose of this Request for Bid (RFB) is to evaluate and select a vendor to construct and deliver a complete Reverse Osmosis system to St. Cloud Technical College's Water Environment Technologies lab, located at 1540 Northway Drive, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Questions:

All questions and inquiries related to this RFB must be in writing and directed to Bruce Peterson, Academic Dean, St. Cloud Technical College, 1540 Northway Drive, St. Cloud, MN 56303, e-mail: bpeterson@sctc.edu, phone (320) 290-2185. Other department personnel are NOT allowed to discuss the Request for Proposal with anyone, including responders, before the proposal submission deadline.

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) Winona State University Paguest for Rids for an Air Cooled Split System Chiller Lourdes He

Request for Bids for an Air Cooled Split System Chiller Lourdes Hall

Sealed Bids for: Air Cooled Chiller Procurement

Lourdes Hall

Winona State University Winona, Minnesota

Will be received by: Steve Ronkowski

Facilities Coordinator
Facilities Services 203
Winona State University
175 West Mark Street
Winona, Minnesota 55987

Until 2:00 PM, local time, April 04, 2008, at which time the bids will be opened.

Project Description: Chiller with a complete refrigeration system except for the piping that connects the indoor compressors and evaporator to the outdoor condenser. Include equipment start-up services and owner training.

Bidding Documents will be available March 24, 2008, via e-mail request to Gregory Cardinal at *gcardinal@michaudcooley.com* or via telephone request at (612) 673-6898.

Winona State University reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any irregularities or informalities in bids received. The Request for Bid does not obligate the University to complete the proposed purchase, and the University reserves the right to cancel the solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest.

Department of Natural Resources

Notice of Availability of Contract to Oversee Quality Control of Vascular Plant Data Collection and Classification of Forest Stands to Native Plant Community CERTIFICATION # 15014 - Amount of proposed contract: \$50,000 - \$100,000

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, is requesting proposals for the purpose of providing quality control for field collection of vascular plant data and forest stand classification in the summer of 2008. Five contracts will be offered, each for a different geographic area in the state: northeast, northwest, north central, central, and southeast. Each contractor will oversee three to four crews. Crews comprise two college undergraduates one with plant taxonomy/identification skills and the other with soil description skills. The contractor will also provide a one-day plant identification workshop for each Area office in their region. Contractors should have excellent plant identification and teaching skills.

Work is proposed to start after April 3, 2008.

A Request for Proposals will be available by mail from this office through March 26, 2008. **A written request (by direct mail or fax)** is required to receive the Request for Proposal. After March 26, 2008, the Request for Proposal must be picked up in person.

The Request for Proposal can be obtained from:

Dan Hanson
DNR Resource Assessment
413 SE 13th Street

Grand Rapids, MN 55744 **Phone:** (218) 327-4119 ext 239

Fax: (218) 327-4517

Proposals submitted in response to the Request for Proposals in this advertisement must be received at the address above no later than 2:30 p.m. April 3, 2008. **Late proposals will not be considered.** Fax or e-mailed proposals will **not** be considered.

This request does not obligate the State to complete the work contemplated in this notice. The State reserves the right to cancel this solicitation. All expenses incurred in responding to this notice are solely the responsibility of the responder.

Department of Public Safety Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) Request for Proposals (RFP) for CJIS Staff Augmentation Services

Professional/technical services are needed for up to ten individuals to provide the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA), Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) with analysts, system administrator, network engineer and developer services and to provide these services on site at the BCA office building located at 1430 Maryland Ave East, St. Paul, MN 55106 throughout the project. The BCA is looking for individuals with skills including: business analysis, technical analysis, system administration, network engineering and development (developer services).

Individuals selected by the BCA/CJIS from this RFP process and awarded contracts will analyze existing BCA/CJIS systems and define the architecture and business processes that will guide the development of new systems for the BCA/CJIS. The goal of this effort is to improve the overall effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Minnesota. Minimum skills and experience required by respondents to this RFP are contained in the complete RFP. Resumes and cover letter are required with three references that may be contacted by the BCA. Resumes must specify the number of years held in each position, specifically list the minimum qualifications and any core and desired qualifications the individual possesses and include examples of similar work done by the individual. Candidates that do not meet the minimum requirements will not be considered.

The BCA reserves the right to award multiple contracts if needed, and most contracts are anticipated to begin on or around May 12, 2008 and end on May 11, 2009. Not all contracts awarded from this RFP will begin on May 12, 2008, but will have various begin dates staggered throughout the remainder of the 2008 calendar year as services are needed and required by the BCA. However, if funding is extended and if additional work is needed by the BCA/CJIS after May 11, 2009, the BCA/CJIS will retain the option to extend the contract(s) with the selected contractors, with their consent, for up to four additional one-year periods, not exceeding a total of five years. The value of the contract(s) for subsequent years will be at the same rate agreed to in the original contract or at an agreed upon rate that is reflective of the current economy and approved by the Minnesota Department of Administration and the Minnesota Office of Enterprise Technology.

Details are contained in a complete RFP, which may be obtained by e-mailing: sara.bechelhutton@state.mn.us.

All questions concerning this RFP should be e-mailed Sara Bechel Hutton at *sara.bechelhutton@state.mn.us*, and should be received by Sara Bechel Hutton no later then 2:00 PM Central Standard Time on April 2, 2008. Answers to questions will be in emailed to all entities/individuals requesting a complete RFP. Final date for submitting proposals is 2:00 PM Central Standard Time on April 14, 2008.

Department of Public Safety

Emergency Communication Networks Request for Proposals (RFP) for Local and Regional Public Safety Interoperable Communications Assessment

Professional/technical services are needed to provide the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Emergency Communication Networks Division (DPS) with an assessment of Minnesota local and regional public safety interoperable communication needs. DPS seeks to establish contracts with qualified multiple contractors capable of providing the necessary wireless communication consulting services throughout various regions of the state of Minnesota. These services may include all or only part of the following services under this project: providing DPS with local and regional assessments of current public safety communication infrastructures, a needs assessment, and an outline of alternative approaches to address local and regional public safety needs. Although the basic proposal for this project is focused upon the ARMER (Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response) backbone, contractors must also be capable of providing assessments of non-ARMER alternatives as part of the enhanced proposal portion of this project. The ability to address other wireless public safety communication needs, such as data and microwave infrastructure requirements is also desired.

The primary output from these contracts will be to provide DPS with preliminary and final written comprehensive reports of existing Minnesota local and regional public safety communication capabilities, needs assessments, and assessment of alternative approaches to address local and regional public safety interoperable communication needs in the future. As part of this process, contractors will be required to meet with Minnesota local public safety officials, provide an overview of public safety communication technology and assist officials in understanding the changing technology of public safety communication systems.

Anticipated contracts start date is May 1, 2008 with an initial ending date of April 30, 2009. However, if funding is available beyond this date, and if DPS requires continued services on this project, DPS will retain the option, with contractor's consent, to extend contract(s) for up to 4 additional 1 year periods. The value of the contract(s) for subsequent extension periods may be adjusted. Details are contained in the complete RFP, which may be obtained by emailing: <code>scott.wiggins@state.mn.us</code>. All questions concerning this RFP should be emailed to or sent in writing directly to Scott Wiggins no later than 2:00 p.m. Central Daylight Savings Time on April 3, 2008. Answers to questions will be provided to all respondents requesting a complete RFP. Final date for submitting proposals is 2:00 p.m. Central Daylight Savings Time on April 14, 2008.

Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety Notice of Request for Proposals for Traffic Law Training

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), is requesting proposals for professional and technical services to develop, direct, arrange and conduct peace officer training on traffic safety laws, aired to various sites around the state of Minnesota and/or by a web based interactive training module. This will include but not limited to:

- Identify and research new legislation passed related to impaired driving and other traffic safety issues;
- · Determine appropriate training mechanism to reach target audience;
- · Identify and arrange for appropriate faculty to participate;
- · Create or obtain training materials;
- · Prepare a script for the training

Details are contained in a complete Request for Proposals (RFP) which may be obtained by contacting Liz Vail directly by mail, fax, or e-mail, as stated below:

Office of Traffic Safety 444 Cedar Street, Suite 150 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-5150

Fax: (651) 201-7075

E-mail: lizabeth.vail@state.mn.us

All questions concerning this RFP should be e-mailed to Liz Vail and be received no later then 2:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time on, March 31, 2008. Answers to questions are anticipated to be emailed out to all entities requesting a complete RFP by the end of the workday on, April 1, 2008. Contracts are anticipated to begin on May 15, 2008 and end on, September 30, 2008. The OTS will retain an option to extend contracts for up to four additional one-year periods, with the consent of the contractor. The value of the contracts for subsequent years may be adjusted.

Final date for submitting proposals is 2:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time on April 11, 2008. Late proposals will not be considered. Faxed or e-mailed proposals will not be considered.

This RFP does not obligate the State to award a contract or complete the project, and the State reserves the right to cancel the solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest. All expenses incurred in responding to this notice are solely the responsibility of the responder.

Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT)

Engineering Services Division

Notice of Potential Availability of Contracting Opportunities for a Variety of Highway Related Technical Activities ("Consultant Pre-Qualification Program")

This document is available in alternative formats for persons with disabilities by calling Juanita Voigt at (651) 366-4774 for persons who are hearing or speech impaired by calling Minnesota Relay Service at (800) 627-3529.

Mn/DOT, worked in conjunction with the Consultant Reform Committee, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota (ACEC/MN), and the Department of Administration, to develop the Consultant Pre-Qualification Program as a new method of consultant selection. The ultimate goal of the Pre-Qualification Program is to streamline the process of contracting for highway related professional/technical services. Mn/DOT awards most of its consultant contracts for highway-related technical activities using this method, however, Mn/DOT also reserves the right to use Request for Proposal (RFP) or other selection processes for particular projects. Nothing in this solicitation requires Mn/DOT to use the Consultant Pre-Qualification Program.

Mn/DOT is currently requesting applications from consultants. Refer to Mn/DOT's Consultant Services web site, indicated below, to see which highway related professional/technical services are available for application. Applications are accepted on a continual basis. All expenses are incurred in responding to this notice will be borne by the responder. Response to this notice becomes public information under the Minnesota Government Data Practices.

Consultant Pre-Qualification Program information, application requirements and applications forms are available on Mn/DOT's Consultant Services web site at: http://www.dot.state.mn.us/consult.

Send completed application material to:

Juanita Voigt
Consultant Services
Office of Technical Support
Minnesota Department of Transportation
395 John Ireland Blvd. Mail Stop 680
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Note: DUE DATE: APPLICATION MATERIAL WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A CONTINUAL BASIS.

Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) Engineering Services Division Notice Concerning Professional/Technical Contract Opportunities

NOTICE TO ALL: The Minnesota Department of Transportation (Mn/DOT) is now placing additional public notices for professional/technical contract opportunities on Mn/DOT's Consultant Services **website** at: www.dot.state.mn.us/consult.

New public notices may be added to the website on a daily basis and be available for the time period as indicated within the public notice.

Non-State Bids, Contracts & Grants

The *State Register* also serves as a central marketplace for contracts let out on bid by the public sector. The *State Register* meets state and federal guidelines for statewide circulation of public notices. Any tax-supported institution or government jurisdiction may advertise contracts and requests for proposals from the private sector. It is recommended that contracts and RFPs include the following: 1) name of contact person; 2) institution name, address, and telephone number; 3) brief description of commodity, project or tasks; 4) cost estimate; and 5) final submission date of completed contract proposal. Allow at least three weeks from publication date (four weeks from the date article is submitted for publication). Surveys show that subscribers are interested in hearing about contracts for estimates as low as \$1,000. Contact editor for futher details.

Metropolitan Council

Notice of Invitation for Bids (IFB) for WWTP Medium Voltage Cable Reference Number 08P024

The Metropolitan Council is requesting bids for WWTP Medium Voltage Cable for its Environmental Services Division.

Issue Invitation for Bids March 18, 2008

Bids Due April 10, 2008, at 3:00 pm local time

Award Contract May 8, 2008

All firms interested in submitting bids for this contract and desiring to receive an IFB package are invited to make a written request either by e-mail, fax or mail, or phone request to:

Miriam Lopez-Rieth Metropolitan Council 390 N. Robert Street St. Paul, MN 55101 **Phone:** (651) 602-1095

Phone: (651) 602-1095 **Fax:** (651) 602-1083

E-mail: Miriam.Lopez-Rieth@metc.state.mn.us

Metropolitan Council

Notice of Request for Proposals (RFP) for Double Barrel Interceptor Remote Inspection

Contract Number 08P038

The Metropolitan Council is requesting proposals for Double Barrel Interceptor Remote Inspection. Specialty firms are required that provide high quality remote inspection equipment capabilities for sewers using CCTV and sonar for the double barrel connecting to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant. The double barrel consists of approximately 6,000 lineal feet (12,000 total l.f.) and will be approximately half full during inspection. The barrels are each 9.5 feet high by 10 feet wide and require detailed inspection including their 128 expansion joints at 40 foot intervals and the bottom grit deposition. The facility location is in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Issue Request for ProposalsMarch 17, 2008Receive ProposalsApril 16, 2008Contract AwardApril, 2008

All firms interested in being considered for this project and desiring to receive an RFP package are invited to submit a Letter of Interest to:

Sunny Jo Emerson, Senior Administrative Assistant, Contracts and Procurement Unit Metropolitan Council 390 North Robert Street St. Paul, MN 55101-1805

Non-State Bids, Contracts & Grants

Phone: (651) 602-1499 **Fax:** (651) 602-1083

E-mail: sunnyjo.emerson@metc.state.mn.us

Metropolitan Council - Metro Transit

Notice of Invitation for Bids (IFB) for Lake Street Station Pedestrian Enhancements

Project Number 7700 - Contract # 08P043

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on April 17, 2008 at 2:00 PM, Metro Transit a division of the Metropolitan Council will receive and publicly open separate sealed bids for Metro Transit's Project Number 7700 at 515 North Cleveland Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55114-1878. Sealed bids should be delivered to the second floor Purchasing Department.

Metro Transit is requesting bids for a Contractor to modify non-ADA sidewalk, add handrail, and install concrete stairs at the Lake Street Station on the Hiawatha Light Rail Line.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from Metro Transit, Purchasing Department, Attn: Candace Osiecki at 515 North Cleveland Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55114-1878.

Phone: (612) 349-5070 **Fax:** (612) 349-5069

E-mail: candace.osiecki@metc.state.mn.us

Dated this 17th day of March, 2008

Rice Creek Watershed District

Public Notice Of Rice Creek Watershed District Request For Proposals Legal Services

Pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* Section 103B.227, Subd. 5, the Rice Creek Watershed District is soliciting proposals for legal services for calendar year 2007 - 2009. Proposals must be submitted to the District Office at 4325 Pheasant Ridge Drive, Suite 611, Blaine, Minnesota 55449-4539, by 4:30 p.m., April 2, 2008. Proposals should include background and profile information on the firm, along with specific information as to expertise in watershed district matters, hourly billing rates for 2008 - 2009, and names and qualifications of water resource personnel that would be assigned to the District along with the amount of time that they are available to work on District matters. Please submit 7 copies of the proposal. For more information or a copy of the full RFP free of charge call Theresa at (763) 398-3070 or it can be found on our webpage at: *www.ricecreek.org*

University of Minnesota (U of M) Subscribe to Bid Information Service (BIS)

The University of Minnesota offers 24-hour/day, 7-day/week access to all Request for Bids/Proposals through its web-based Bid Information Service (BIS). Subscriptions to BIS are free. Visit our website at *bidinfo.umn.edu* or call the BIS Coordinator at (612) 625-5534.

Request for Bids/Proposals are also available to the public each business day from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Purchasing Services lobby, Suite 560, 1300 S. 2nd Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55454.



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