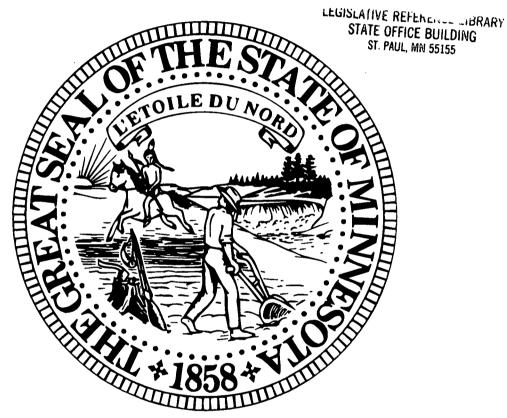
The Minnesota

# State Register

Rules and Official Notices Edition

JAN 1 7 1997



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> **Tuesday 21 January 1997** Volume 21, Number 30 Pages 989-1010

## State Register =

Kent Allin, Asst. Commissioner 612/297-4261

## Judicial Notice Shall Be Taken of Material Published in the State Register

The State Register is the official publication of the State of Minnesota, containing executive and commissioners' orders, proposed and adopted rules, official and revenue notices, professional-technical-consulting contracts, non-state bids and public contracts and grants.

#### **Printing Schedule and Submission Deadlines**

Arne H. Carlson, Governor 612/296-3391 Joanne E. Benson, Lt. Governor 612/296-3391 Department of Administration: Elaine S. Hansen, Commissioner 612/296-1424		Communications.Media Division  Kathi Lynch, Director 612/297-2553	2 Joan Anderson Growe, Secretary of State 612/296-2079 Michael A. McGrath, State Treasurer 612/296-7091 Robin PanLener, Editor 612/297-7963 Carla Nelson, Assistant Editor 612/296-0029	
		Hubert H. Humphrey III, Attorney General 612/297-42 Judi Dutcher, State Auditor 612/297-3670		
# 33	Monday 10 February	Monday 27 January	Monday 3 February	
# 32	Monday 3 February	Friday 17 January	Monday 27 January	
# 31	Monday 27 January	Friday 10 January	Friday 17 January	
# 30	Tuesday 21 January	Monday 6 January	Friday 10 January	
Vol. 21 Issue PUBLISH Number DATE		Deadline for both Adopted and Proposed	padline for: Emergency Rules, Executive and commissioner's Orders, Revenue and Official Notices, tate Grants, Professional-Technical-Consulting contracts, Non-State Bids and Public Contracts	

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Mary Mikes, Manager 612/297-3979

PUBLISHING NOTICES IN THE State Register: Submit TWO COPIES of your notice, typed double-spaced. State agency submissions must include a "State Register Printing Order" form, and a "Certification/Internal Contract Negotiation" form with contracts for professional, technical and consulting services. Non-State Agencies should submit TWO COPIES, with a letter on your letterhead stationery requesting publication and date to be published. FAXED submissions to 612-297-8260 are received to meet deadline requirements, but must be followed by originals and applicable forms or letters to be accepted. The charge is \$80.00 per page, billed in tenths of a page (columns are seven inches wide). About 2-1/2 pages typed double-spaced on 8-1/2"x11" paper equal one typeset page in the State Register. Contact the editor if you have questions.

An "Affidavit of Publication" can be obtained at a cost of \$5.00 for notices published in the State Register. This service includes a notarized "Affidavit of Publication" and a copy of the issue of the State Register in which the notice appeared.

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES: The State Register is published by Communications. Media Division, Department of Administration, State of Minnesota, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 14.46 and is available at the main branch of county libraries in Minnesota and all "State Depository Libraries": State University and Community College libraries; the University of Minnesota libraries; St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth Public Libraries; the Legislative Reference Library; State Law Library; Minnesota Historical Society Library; and the Library Development Service at the State Department of Children, Families and Learning. Copies are available at Minnesota's Bookstore, 117 University Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55155. Order by phone: Metro area: 297-3000 Toll free 800-657-3757. TTY relay service phone number: 1-800-627-3529. NO REFUNDS. Subscribers who do not receive a copy of an issue should notify the State Register Subscription Office immediately at (612) 297-8774. Copies of back issues may not be available more than two weeks after publication. Both editions are delivered postpaid to points in the United States, Periodicals Postage Paid for the State Register at St. Paul, MN, first class for the Contracts Supplement.

- State Register (published every Monday, or Tuesday if Monday is a holiday) One year subscription: \$150.00
- Contracts Supplement (published every Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday) One year subscription: \$125.00 via first class mail, \$140.00 via
- 13-week trial subscription which includes both the State Register and Contracts Supplement. \$60.00
- Single issues are available for a limited time: State Register \$3.50, Contracts Supplement 50¢. Shipping is \$3.00 per order.
- "Professional, Technical and Consulting Contracts Awards Reports," published each month listing the previous month's awards of contracts and RFPs that appeared in the Monday edition of the "State Register." Appears monthly in hard copy format only. Single copies are \$15.00 per report, plus \$3.00 shipping if applicable. Order stock #99-43. Six-month subscriptions cost \$75.00. Order stock #90-15.

#### FOR LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Publications containing news and information from the Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives are available free to concerned citizens and the news media. To be placed on the mailing list, write or call the offices listed below:

Senate Public Information Office (612) 296-0504 Room 231 State Capitol, St. Paul, MN 55155

Contact:

House Information Office (612) 296-2146

Carla Nelson, Assistant Editor 612/296-0929

Room 175 State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155

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Prevailing wage certifications for commercial construction projects		Individual copies and subscriptions for both publications are available through Minnesota's Bookstore, (612) 297-3000 or 1-800-657-3757.		

## Minnesota Rules: Amendments and Additions =

#### 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 1995 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, 117 University Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55155 (612) 297-3000, or toll-free 1-800-657-3757.

Volume 21, issues #28-30 (issues #1-27 cumulative appeared in issue #27) Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design Board		Pollution Control Agency 7011.3500; .3505; .3510 (adopted) Psychology Board	
.1200; .1500; .1600; .1700; .1900; .2100; .2200; .2500; .2600;		Public Safety Department	
.2700; .2800; .2900; .4000; .4100; .5100; .5200; .5800 (proposed)	957	7414.0200; .0300; .0400; .1100; .1200; .1250; .1400; .2100; .2100 (proposed withdrawn)	939
<b>1800</b> .0700; .0900 s.2; .1000 s.8; .1100 s.3; .2000; .2300; .2500 s.3; .2700 s.4; .2900 s.3; .5700 (proposed repealer)	957	7414.0400 s.2,3,4 (repealer withdrawn)	939
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## **Adopted Rules**

A rule becomes effective after the requirements of *Minnesota Statutes* §§ 14.05-14.28 have been met and five working days after the rule is published in the *State Register*, unless a later date is required by statutes or specified in the rule.

If an adopted rule is identical to its proposed form as previously published, a notice of adoption and a citation to its previous State Register publication will be printed.

If an adopted rule differs from its proposed form, language which has been deleted will be printed with strikeouts and new language will be underlined. The rule's previous State Register publication will be cited.

#### Exempt Rules

An exempt rule adopted under Minnesota Statutes §§ 14.386 or 14.388 is effective upon its publication in the State Register.

#### **Emergency Expedited Rules**

Provisions for the Commissioner of Natural Resources to adopt emergency expedited Game and Fish Rules are specified in *Minnesota Statutes* §§ 84.027. The commissioner may adopt emergency expedited rules when conditions exist that do not allow the Commissioner to comply with the requirements for emergency rules. The Commissioner must submit the rule to the attorney general for review and must publish a notice of adoption that includes a copy of the rule and the emergency conditions. Emergency expedited rules are effective upon publication in the *State Register*, and may be effective up to seven days before publication under certain emergency conditions. Emergency expedited rules are effective for the period stated or up to 18 months.

## **Pollution Control Agency**

## Adopted Permanent Rules Relating to Gas Emission from Municipal Solid Waste Landfills

The rules proposed and published at *State Register*, Volume 21, Number 9, pages 271-274, August 26, 1996 (21 SR 271), are adopted with the following modifications:

## 7011.3505 STANDARDS OF PERFORMANCE FOR EXISTING MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS.

Subp. 6. Exception to standard or compliance schedule. An owner or operator of an existing landfill seeking to apply a less stringent emission standard or longer compliance schedule than that specified in this part may submit a written request to the agency and the United States Environmental Protection Agency under Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, section 60,24(f).

Subp. 7. NMOC emission rate estimations. An owner or operator of an existing landfill that has a landfill gas collection system in place on the effective date of this part may comply with <u>Code of Federal Regulations</u>, title 40, section 60.754(a)(5), using the method in <u>Code of Federal Regulations</u>, title 40, section 60.754(b), if the existing landfill owner or operator can demonstrate to the agency that the system effectively collects landfill gas from all gas producing areas of the landfill, and negative pressure can be maintained at each wellhead without excess air infiltration.

## 7011,3510 INCORPORATION OF NEW SOURCE PERFORMANCE STANDARD BY REFERENCE.

Subp. 2. Additional requirements. The owner or operator of a landfill subject to *Code of Federal Regulations*, title 40, part 60, subpart WWW, as amended, shall comply with part 7011.3505, subparts 2, 3, and subpart 4.

KEY: PROPOSED RULES SECTION — <u>Underlining</u> indicates additions to existing rule language. <u>Strike outs</u> indicate deletions from existing rule language. If a proposed rule is totally new, it is designated "all new material." <u>ADOPTED RULES SECTION</u> — <u>Underlining</u> indicates additions to proposed rule language. <u>Strike outs</u> indicate deletions from proposed rule language.

## Commissioners' Orders=

## **Department of Transportation**

#### Amended Uniform Traffic Control Devices Manual Order No. 82232

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Transportation has adopted a manual (Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways, dated October 3, 1991) establishing a uniform system of traffic control devices for streets and highways of the State of Minnesota as required by *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 169.06, Subdivision 1; and

WHEREAS, said manual is being revised, to be adopted and distributed during calendar year 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner may authorize and adopt amendments to the Minnesota Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to authority vested in my office and as provided in *Minnesota Statutes*, Section 169.06, subd. 1 (1996), I do hereby adopt and prescribe the revisions as listed on the Record of Revisions or Additions as an amendment to the 1991 Minnesota Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways.

This Order amends Commissioner's Order No. 77588, dated October 3, 1991 as amended by Commissioner's Order No. 78988, dated January 4, 1993, No. 79901 dated February 4, 1994, No. 80748 dated January 6, 1995, No. 80878 dated April 3, 1995, and as further amended by Commissioner's Order No. 81551, dated March 15, 1996.

#### RECORD OF REVISIONS OR ADDITIONS

REVISION NUMBER	DATE ISSUED	PAGES REVISED OR ADDED
6	1/97	i, 2A-7, 2A-18, 2B-ii, 2B-6, 2B-18, 2B-37, 2B-38, 2D-i, 2D-ii, 2D-6, 2D-6.1, 2D-6.2, 2D-7, 2D-10, 2D-18, 2D-25, 2D-27, 2D-28, 2D-29, 2D-31 thru 2D-42, 3D-4, 4A-i, 4A-ii, 4B-25 thru 4B-30, 6A-ii, 6E-2, 6E-3, 6F-15, 6F-16, 6F-20, C-5, C-8, C-9, C-17, C-30, C-31, C-34, and INDEX (pages 1, 2, 3, 6, 13, 16, 17, and 19)

Dated: 10 January 1997

James N. Denn Commissioner of Transportation The Department of Revenue began issuing revenue notices in July of 1991. Revenue notices are statements of policy made by the department that provide interpretation, detail, or supplementary information concerning a particular statute, rule, or departmental practice. The authority to issue revenue notices is found in *Minnesota Statutes* §270.0604.

## **Department of Revenue**

## Revenue Notice #97-01: Penalties - Abatements - General Policy

#### **Abatement Requests**

Minnesota Statutes, section 270.07, subdivision 1, paragraph (e), authorizes the Commissioner of Revenue to abate penalties imposed by any law relating to taxation, if the Commissioner determines the taxpayer's failure to timely pay the tax or timely file the return is due to "reasonable cause." A taxpayer may make a request for an abatement of penalty by contacting the Commissioner of Revenue. The abatement request must be made within 60 days after the date the taxpayer is mailed notification that a penalty has been imposed.

A "reasonable cause" is one resulting from circumstances beyond the taxpayer's control. This means circumstances that cannot reasonably be expected to be under the taxpayer's control, or which make unreasonable the normal expectation of timely performance.

Examples of reasonable cause (assuming the late filing or late payment is directly attributable to the event) are:

- 1. Death or serious illness of the taxpayer, or of an immediate family member.
- "Acts of God" or other natural or human disasters, such as fire, flood, explosion, or other kinds of loss of the taxpayer's home or place of business, or of personal or business records.
- 3. Theft, arson, or loss of data or records occurring during a move, or when in the hands of a third party for computerization or processing. Generally, the fact that records are in the hands of a tax return preparer does not constitute reasonable cause.
- 4. Criminal activity against the taxpayer, such as embezzlement or fraud by an employee of the taxpayer or other person responsible for filing the return or paying the tax.
- A check for payment of the tax is dishonored by the taxpayer's bank, or an electronic funds transfer fails to be completed by the bank, through no fault of the taxpayer.

#### Factors used to prove reasonable cause are:

- 1. The taxpayer can document or otherwise verify that an event listed above took place, with copies of police reports, insurance records, newspaper notices, or other acceptable records.
- When the taxpayer requests an abatement of penalty based upon the first example, above, the taxpayer can demonstrate
  that no one else was able to assume the responsibility to file the return or pay the tax in his or her place.
- The event which caused the late filing or late payment was unavoidable and not scheduled. Planned absences, such as
  vacations or business trips are not acceptable reasons for failure to file returns or pay taxes.
- 4. The time lapse between the event causing the delay, and the subsequent late filing of the return or late payment of the tax is reasonable under the circumstances.

Equitable considerations, such as the taxpayer having a good history of filing returns and paying taxes on time, the taxpayer coming forward as soon as the error is known, or a sudden change in the law, can also be taken into account when considering an abatement request.

Abatements will not be granted to the taxpayer because the failure to file or pay is based on religious, political, or philosophical opposition to the tax.

The taxpayer can be required to pay the tax and interest on the tax before a penalty abatement determination is made by the Department of Revenue.

Federal court cases and Internal Revenue Service regulations, rulings, and guidelines discussing what constitutes reasonable cause can be considered when reviewing penalty abatement requests. However, the fact that the Internal Revenue Service has previously made a penalty abatement determination regarding the taxpayer in the same case under consideration is not binding on the Department of Revenue. The Department will make an independent determination of whether an abatement is warranted.

In addition to an abatement of penalty for "reasonable cause," *Minnesota Statutes*, section 270.07, subdivision 6, paragraph (c), provides for abatement of a penalty attributable to erroneous advice given to the taxpayer, in writing, by an employee of the Department acting in an official capacity, if the advice:

#### **Revenue Notices**

- (1) was reasonably relied on and was in response to a specific written request of the taxpayer; and
- (2) was not the result of failure by the taxpayer to provide adequate or accurate information.

#### The Toys "R" Us Case

The Minnesota Tax Court has interpreted the reasonable cause standard for abatement of penalties in Toys "R" Us, Inc. v. Commissioner of Revenue, Minn. Tax Ct. Dkt. No. 6694 (Sept. 4, 1996). Toys "R" Us applied for an extension of time to file its fiscal year 1994 corporate franchise tax return. Along with the extension, the taxpayer filed a tentative return, which showed estimated taxes paid during the year in a greater amount than what had actually been paid. As a result, when the final fiscal year 1994 return was filed, there was a balance of tax due and a late payment penalty was imposed on that balance. At issue in the case was whether the penalty should be abated.

The court held that the computational error made on the tentative return in overstating the amount of estimated tax paid during the fiscal year constituted reasonable cause. This was the holding, even though the taxpayer had made two previous payment errors for fiscal years 1990 and 1993. The court relied upon a federal regulation which states: "An isolated computational or transcriptional error generally is not inconsistent with reasonable cause and good faith." (Treas. Reg. § 1.6664-4(b)(1).)

The Department of Revenue will apply the reasonable cause standard set forth in the Toys "R" Us case in the following manner: A late payment of tax that results from an overstatement of the amount of estimated tax actually paid during the taxable period does not generally constitute reasonable cause. However, if the error is merely computational or transcriptional, and there is no pattern of previous computational or transcriptional errors, an abatement may be granted.

#### **Denial of Abatement Requests; Appeals**

If the Commissioner issues an order denying a request for an abatement of penalty, the taxpayer has 60 days after the date of the order to file an administrative appeal with the Department of Revenue, or a judicial appeal to the Minnesota Tax Court. If the taxpayer files an administrative appeal and it is denied, the taxpayer has 60 days after the date of the denial to appeal to the Minnesota Tax Court.

If the taxpayer requests an abatement of penalty and the Commissioner does not respond within 60 days after the date the request is received, the taxpayer has an additional 60 days to appeal to the Minnesota Tax Court. Under these circumstances, the appeal to the Minnesota Tax Court must be filed no later than 120 days after the date the Department receives the penalty abatement request.

Dated: 21 January 1997

Jennifer L. Engh Assistant Commissioner for Tax Policy

## **Official Notices**

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §§ 14.101, an agency must first solicit comments from the public on the subject matter of a possible rule-making 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.

## Minnesota Department of Health

#### **Health Policy and Systems Compliance Division**

#### **Notices Related to Essential Community Provider Designation**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for Essential Community Provider designation have been received from the applicants listed below. Pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* section 62Q.19, subdivision 1, the public has 30 days from the date of this publication to submit written comments regarding these applications. Written comments should be submitted to: Tom Johnson, Minnesota Department of Health, Health Policy and Systems Compliance Division, 121 East Seventh Place, P.O. Box 64975, St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0975. Telephone inquiries may be directed to Mr. Johnson at (612) 282-6333.

**Duluth Community Health Center** 

Two East Fifth Street

Duluth, Minnesota 55805-1712

Date received: December 19, 1996

Pilot City Health Center
1313 Penn Avenue North
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411
Date received: December 20, 1996

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, dba

Ne-Ia-Shing Clinic HCR 67, Box 241

Onamia, Minnesota 56359

Date received: December 20, 1996

Community-University Health Care Center/

Variety Children's Clinic 2001 Bloomington Avenue South Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404 Date received: December 23, 1996

Southside Community Clinic (of Southside

Community Health Services)
4243 Fourth Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409
Date received: December 23, 1996

Northwestern Mental Health Center, Inc.

603 Bruce Street

Crookston, Minnesota 56716-0603

Date received: December 26, 1996

Hinckley Clinic (of Pine Medical Clinic)

Tobies Mill

Hinckley, Minnesota 55037

Date received: December 27, 1996

Graceville Health Center
115 West Second Street

Graceville, Minnesota 56240-0157 Date received: December 30, 1996 Family HealthCare Center 306 Fourth Street North

Fargo, North Dakota 58102

Date received: December 20, 1996

Sawtooth Mountain Clinic, Inc. P.O. Box 1090, Gunflint Trail Grand Marais, Minnesota 55604

Date received: December 20, 1996

Mille Lacs Health System 200 North Elm Street

P.O. Box A

Onamia, Minnesota 56359-0800 Date received: December 23, 1996

**Dawson Clinic (of Johnson Memorial** 

Health Services)
1272 Walnut Street
Dawson, Minnesota 56232

Date received: December 23, 1996

Green Central Community Clinic (of Southside Community Health Services)

324 East 35th Street

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407 **Date received: December 23, 1996** 

Sandstone Clinic (of Pine Medical Clinic)

307 Division Street

Sandstone, Minnesota 55072

Date received: December 27, 1996

Cook Area Health Services, Inc.

20 South Fifth Street East Cook, Minnesota 55732

Date received: December 31, 1996

Hamm Memorial Psychiatric Clinic

555 Park, Suite 380 St. Paul, Minnesota 55103

Date received: December 30, 1996

#### Official Notices

Lakeland Mental Health Center, Inc.

126 East Alcott Avenue Fergus Falls, Minnesota 56537 Date received: December 30, 1996

Jackson Medical Center 1430 North Highway Jackson, Minnesota 56143

Date received: December 31, 1996

Hennepin County Medical Center

701 Park Avenue

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415-1829 Date received: December 31, 1996

Fremont Clinic (of Fremont Community Health Services) 3300 Fremont Avenue North Minneapolis, Minnesota 55412 Date received: January 2, 1997 South Central Human Relations Clinic

215 Oak

Owatanna, Minnesota 55060

Date received: December 30, 1996

Lakefield Medical Center
220 Milwaukee Avenue
Lakefield, Minnesota 56150
Date received: December 31, 1996
Central Avenue Clinic (of Fremont

Community Health Services)
2610 Central Avenue North East
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418
Date received: January 2, 1997

Sheridan Women & Children's Clinic (of Fremont Community Health Services)

342 - 13th Avenue North East Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413 **Date received: January 2, 1997** 

Applications for Essential Community Provider designation from the following entities have been found to be in compliance with Minnesota statutes and rules and have been approved:

Kandiyohi Community Health Services

Willmar, Minnesota

Range Mental Health Center

Virginia, Minnesota

Willmar Regional Treatment Center

Willmar, Minnesota

Dated: 7 January 1997

Littlefork Medical Center Littlefork, Minnesota

Rice County Community Health Services

Faribault, Minnesota

Anne M. Barry, Commissioner Minnesota Department of Health

## Minnesota Department of Health

#### Minnesota Health Care Commission

**Health Technology Advisory Committee** 

# Notice of: 1) Availability of Preliminary "Lung Volume Reduction Surgery for Diffuse Emphysema" Evaluation Report; 2) Solicitation of Written Comments; 3) Solicitation of Public Testimony

The Health Technology Advisory Committee (HTAC) of the Minnesota Health Care Commission is charged under *Minnesota Statutes* 62J.152 with conducting evaluations of specific technologies and their specific use and application. For the purposes of evaluation, the definition of technologies in statute includes "... drugs, devices, procedures, or processes applied to human health care ...." As part of the evaluation process, HTAC is required to submit a preliminary report to the Minnesota Health Care Commission, and to solicit written comments on the report. Before completing its final comments and recommendations on the HTAC technology evaluation report, the Commission solicits and reviews public testimony on the report.

The Health Technology Advisory Committee (HTAC) of the Minnesota Health Care Commission has completed its preliminary report on the evaluation of "Lung Volume Reduction Surgery for Diffuse Emphysema". Interested individuals or organizations may submit written comments regarding the technology evaluation report within 30 days from the publication of this notice to the attention of Nancy Cusick at:

HTAC 121 East 7th Place, Suite 400 P.O. Box 64975 St. Paul, MN 55164-0975 Fax: 612/282-5628

Public testimony on HTAC's evaluation of Lung Volume Reduction Surgery for Diffuse Emphysema will be accepted by the Minnesota Health Care Commission on Wednesday, February 19, 1997, at 9:30 a.m. at

Capitol View Conference Center 70 West County Road B-2 Little Canada, MN 55117

A presentation on the report will precede the public testimony and will begin at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Testimony should be limited to no more than five minutes. Written testimony will also be accepted, and should be submitted to Nancy Cusick at the address below. Individuals interested in providing public testimony are asked to provide prior written or verbal notice to Nancy Cusick, by Monday, February 17, 1997 at:

Any written material received by the Minnesota Health Care Commission shall be subject to the requirements of the Minnesota Data Practices Act (Minnesota Statutes, Section 13).

For information regarding HTAC, or to obtain a copy of the HTAC report on "Lung Volume Reduction Surgery for Diffuse Emphysema", please contact Nancy Cusick at 612-282-6374, or via fax at 612-282-5628.

# Brief Summary of the Preliminary HTAC Report: Lung Volume Reduction Surgery for Diffuse Emphysema: Conclusions From The Data:

After review of the available literature and consultation with experts in this field, HTAC has determined that:

- Short term effectiveness of 6 to 18 months has been demonstrated.
- The benefits of the surgery appear to outweigh the harm.
- Mortality rates are at an acceptable level for a major pulmonary/thoracic procedure.
- It appears that, on a short-term basis, health care costs for a patient after LVRS are less than for the patient before LVRS. For example, patients may not need LTOT.

These conclusions led HTAC to the following recommendations.

#### **Recommendations:**

The published information and testimony of experts reviewed by HTAC suggests that LVRS may benefit a select group of Minnesota patients. However, many questions remain unanswered:

#### Official Notices =

- How should patients be selected for LVRS?
- 2) What is the optimal surgical technique for LVRS?
- 3) What is the long-term outcome of LVRS?
- 4) What is the cost effectiveness of LVRS compared to medical management with LOT?

#### Recommendation I. "Coverage with Conditions"

HTAC recommends that coverage for LVRS for diffuse emphysema include conditions. "Coverage with conditions" means that the payer will provide insurance payment, but only if certain conditions are met. The conditions attached to coverage should be specifically designed to aid the data collection and analysis needed for more definite conclusions regarding the long-term safety, effectiveness and cost of LVRS for diffuse emphysema.

For example, coverage could be conditioned on participation of the patient and center in either the NIH trial or (for patients not eligible to enter the NIH trial) in prospective outcomes data collection, coordinated with national efforts and between all centers in Minnesota performing LVRS.

### Recommendation II. Requirements of Facility and Its Staff for Coverage with Conditions

LVRS should only be performed at medical centers which offer a complete LVRS program:

- 1. The institution must have board certified or eligible pulmonologists, thoracic surgeons, and anesthesiologists familiar with complex problems in general thoracic surgery.
- Nurses, respiratory therapists, pain management services and a suitably equipped and staffed intensive care unit should also be available.
- 3. The program must also offer pre- and post-operative rehabilitation.
- 4. The surgery should not necessarily be restricted to academic medical centers.
- 5. Patient selection criteria must be well- defined (See appendix II)
- 6. The center must participate in a clinical registry and provide data for collection.

### Recommendation III. Requirement of Participation in Clinical Trial/Registry for Coverage with Conditions

Centers in Minnesota who are not accepted for the NIH clinical trial are encouraged to follow guidelines for patient selection outlined in the NIH request for proposal, and to collect the data needed to answer the four questions above. Randomized trials are encouraged, depending on the questions that need to be answered and if trials are feasible to conduct. A mandatory registry approach to data collection is suggested where randomized trials cannot be performed.

1. The LVRS data registry previously located in St. Louis, MO, is in the process of relocating to Minnesota at the time of writing.

## **Department of Health**

**Community Health Services** 

**Health Systems Development Section** 

# Public Hearing Regarding Revisions to the Minnesota Department of Health Plan for Use of Federal Fiscal Year 1997 Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant Funding

The Minnesota Department of Health will sponsor a public hearing to obtain comment on revisions to its plan for use of federal fiscal year 1997 Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant funds. Proposed changes are available upon request.

The public hearing will be conducted as part of a meeting of the State Preventive Health Advisory Committee held Tuesday, January 28, 1997 at the Minnesota Department of Health, Metro Square Building, 121 E. Seventh Place, St. Paul, Minnesota. The meeting and Public Hearing will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the Lower Level Room 54. Any person or group may submit either written or oral comments at the meeting.

Written comments may be submitted by January 28th to the address below.

For further information contact:

Debra Burns, Section Manager Health Systems Development Minnesota Department of Health 121 East Seventh Place P.O. Box 64975 St. Paul, Minnesota 55164-0975 (612) 296-8209

## **Minnesota Housing Finance Agency**

# Request for Comments for Planned Amendment to Rules Governing the Definition of Capital Contributions of Investors for the Redefined Equity Program, *Minnesota Rules*, Section 4900.0010 Subp. 7.A.(2)(d)(e)

Subject of Rules. The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (Agency) requests comments on its planned amendment to rules governing the definition of capital contribution of investors for the Redefined Equity Program (Program). The Agency is considering rule amendments that provide incentives for owners of federally subsidized multi-family rental housing to remain in the housing program and preserve the housing as decent, affordable housing for very low income persons and families.

Persons Affected. The amendment to the rules would likely affect the developers and investors in MHFA-financed federally subsidized multifamily rental housing.

Statutory Authority. Minnesota Statutes, section 462A.06, subdivision 11 (1994) authorizes the Agency to adopt rules pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 14, Minnesota Statutes Section 462A.03, Subdivision 13, which requires the Agency to determine the return of a limited dividend ability on capital contributors of its inventors pursuant to rules.

Public Comment. Interested persons or groups may submit comments or information on these planned rules in writing or orally until 4:30 p.m. on April 3, 1997.

Rules Drafts. The Agency has prepared a draft of the planned rules amendments.

Agency Contact Person. Written or oral comments, questions, requests to receive a draft of the rules, and requests for more information on these planned rules should be addressed to: Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, 400 Sibley Street, Suite 300, St. Paul, MN 55101, Attn: Robert J. VandenHoek, telephone number (612) 296-9826. TDD users may call the Agency at (612) 296-7608.

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.

Dated: 3 February 1997

Katherine G. Hadley, Commissioner Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Official Notices =

## **Department of Labor and Industry**

#### **Labor Standards Division**

#### Notice of Prevailing Wage Certifications for Commercial Construction Projects

Effective January 21, 1997 prevailing wage rates were determined and certified for commercial construction projects in the following counties:

Benton: Sauk Rapids/Rice High School Electrical Upgrades-Sauk Rapids.

Carlton: 1997 Masonry Restoration at Cloquet Middle School-Cloquet.

Cottonwood: Water Treatment Facility Improvements-Windom.

Hennepin: Clara Barton Open School Capitol Improvements-Minneapolis; Brooklyn Park Ice Arena Addition- Brooklyn Park; North Star Primary Roof Deck Removal & Replacement-Mpls.

Itasca: Coleraine School Maintenance Shop Renovation-Coleraine.

Lesueur: Hallway Ceiling Tile Asbestos Abatement of 1968 Addition-Montgomery.

Lyon: PCB Transformer Removal & Replacement Southwest State University-Marshall.

Ramsey: Central High School Asbestos Abatement-St. Paul; 1997 Ceiling Tile Asbestos Abatement & Replacement Phase II & III-IDS #622-Maplewood; Elevator Addition to Monroe Elementary School-St. Paul; Outdoor Air Intake Retrofit Capital Square Building-St. Paul Abestos Abatement of Thermal Systems District Service Facility-St. Paul.

Rice: Renovations and Additions to Jefferson, Lincoln, McKinley Elementary Schools-Faribault.

St. Louis: U of M Duluth University Circle Reconstruction-Duluth; Chemistry 200 Remodeling U of M Duluth-Duluth.

Stearns: Dishwasher Replacement in Main Kitchen St. Cloud MCF-St. Cloud.

Winona: MN/DOT Dresbach Truck Station Ventilation Modifications-Dresbach.

Copies of the certified wage rate for these projects may be obtained by writing the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, Prevailing Wage Section, 443 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4306. The charge for the cost of copying and mailing are \$1.36 per project. Make check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota.

Gary W. Bastian, Commissioner

## **Minnesota Property Insurance Placement Facility**

### Notice of Meeting of the Governing Board

Paulette Carlson, the chair of Governing Board of the Minnesota Property Insurance Placement Facility has CALLED A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD to be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 1997, in the office of the Facility. The purpose of the special meeting is to review the results of the recent market conduct examination performed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce. The meeting will be limited to this one agenda item. This meeting is for informational purposes only - no decisions will be made by the Governing Board.

## State Grants and 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.

## Minnesota Department of Health

# Office of Rural Health and Primary Care Minnesota Community Health Center Program Notice of Grant Opportunity for Operating Community Health Centers in Rural Minnesota

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) is seeking applications from community-controlled nonprofit organizations and government entities interested in planning and operation Community Health Centers in rural areas of Minnesota.

The purpose of these grants is to improve or preserve access to primary care by attracting essential health care professionals and services into medically underserved rural communities.

In order to qualify for Community Health Center Program funding, an applicant must:

- Be located in a rural shortage area (Medically Underserved Area, Federal Health Professional Shortage Area or Governor Designated Shortage Area). Rural is defined as outside the seven county Twin Cities metropolitan area, and outside the census defined urbanized areas of Duluth, St. Cloud, East Grand Forks, Moorhead, Rochester, and Lacrosse.
- Represent or propose the formation of a nonprofit corporation with local governance or be a governmental entity.
- Result in a locally owned and operated community health center which includes primary and preventive health care services, and incorporates quality assurance, regular review of clinical performance and peer review.
- Seek to employ mid-level professionals, where appropriate.
- Demonstrate community support and raise at least a 20% match to grant funds.
- Propose to serve an area that is not currently served or was not served prior to establishment of a state-funded community health center by a federally certified medical organization.

\$250,000 is available to fund applications in this grant cycle. The Office of Rural Health and Primary Care expects that successful applicants will be able to begin their grant projects by July, 1997. The Minnesota Department of Health can provide technical assistance to grantees in addition to grant support.

Prospective applicants who have questions, and/or would like a copy of the complete Request for Applications and application form may contact:

Mark Schoenbaum Office of Rural Health and Primary Care Division of Community Health Services Minnesota Department of Health P.O. Box 64975 St. Paul, MN 55164-0975

Phone: (612) 282-3859

Toll Free: 1-(800) 366-5424 (inside Minnesota only)

Applications are due by April 11, 1997 at 4:00 P.M. to the address above. An additional copy of the application must be submitted to the Community Health Board in which the proposed Community Health Center is located no later than April 11, 1997.

State Grants and Loans

## **Minnesota Department of Human Services**

#### **Chemical Dependency Division**

## Request for Proposals for Program Funding For Chemically Dependent Pregnant Women and Women with Children

The Chemical Dependency Program Division (CDPD) of the Minnesota Department of Human Services is requesting proposals for, new, existing or expansion of gender specific comprehensive Chemical Dependency Treatment programs for Chemically Dependent Pregnant Women and Women with Children. A total of \$1,546,388 from Federal Substance Prevention and Treatment Block Grant is available to potentially fund 10 or more programs. The funded program(s) will provide or provide access to Chemical Dependent Treatment Services that include but are not limited to; housing, parenting, prenatal care, medical care, child care, pediatric care, transportation, physical and sexual abuse assessment, aftercare, and follow-up. Funded programs will begin on or about July 1, 1997, unless otherwise noted in the RFP, and continue for a minimum of one year.

Copies for the full Request for Proposal and grant application forms are available upon request from:

Sheila Big Bear State of Minnesota Department of Human Services Chemical Dependence Program Division 444 Lafayette Road, 5th Floor St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-3823

Proposals must be received no later than 4;30 p.m. March 7, 1997. Mailed proposals must be postmarked no later than March 5, 1997.

## **Department of Public Service**

#### **Energy Division**

#### Request for Proposals on Expansion of Selected Alternative Fuel Vehicles in Minnesota Purpose of Solicitation

The Energy Division of the Minnesota Department of Public Service (DPS), through the *Clean Fuels Minnesota* program, is soliciting grant proposals from private businesses, utilities, and units of local government, which accelerate the use of alternative fuel vehicles. Alternative fuels eligible under this solicitation include: E85 (85% ethanol fuel), CNG (compressed natural gas), LNG (liquefied natural gas), LPG (propane), electric, biodiesel, and hydrogen.

The primary purposes of these grant projects are displacing gasoline and diesel fuel use with alternative fuels and adding Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFVs) into everyday operation. Grant funds may be used for any costs associated with expanding AFV use including incremental vehicle costs (OEM or conversion), incremental fuel costs, and/or costs associated with installing refueling capacity. However, all proposals must result in an increased number of alternative fuel vehicles and an increased amount of alternative fuel use. Research and technical studies are not eligible for grants under this solicitation.

The Department anticipates awarding \$50,000 through this solicitation. The Department reserves the right to increase, decrease, or withdraw this solicitation at anytime based on budgetary considerations.

#### **Proposal Requirements:**

- Proposals must be based on a single alternative fuel: E85, CNG, LNG, LPG, electric, biodiesel, or hydrogen.
   Organizations interested in demonstrating multiple alternative fuel technologies may submit more than one proposal.
- 2) Proposals must clearly identify the type of alternative fuel vehicle that will be placed into operation under the grant. The proposal must identify the incremental number of alternative fuel vehicles added including make and model, the anticipated annual mileage of the vehicles, the vehicle conversion company used (if applicable); the amount of gasoline and/or diesel fuel that will be displaced by the AFVs annually; and how and where alternative fuel will be procured for these vehicles.
- 3) Proposals can be based on either original equipment manufacturer (OEM) vehicles or after market conversion. Dedicated, dual, and flexible fueled vehicle projects are eligible. All conversion equipment must be certified and installed by a qualified conversion company. Re-conversion, converting new vehicles with equipment from older alternative fuel vehicles, is not eligible for funding under this solicitation.

#### State Grants and Loans

- 4) Proposals must include a complete project budget identifying all planned expenditures and the source of funding for these expenditures.
  - a) No more than \$50,000 in grant money will be awarded toward any single project.
  - b) A minimum 2:1 match is required for all proposals. All expenditures for vehicles and fueling facilities may be considered eligible match expenditures.
  - Administrative and staff costs associated with a proposal are not eligible expenditures for grant funds under this solicitation.
- 5) Proposals must include a project implementation schedule identifying all major project milestones. All proposals must agree to provide a final report to the DPS on the experiences and results of the demonstration no later than six months after initial operation of the new vehicles.
- 6) Proposals must be prepared on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper and cannot exceed 12 pages in length.

#### **Evaluation and Selection of Grant Recipients:**

A proposal review team of *Clean Fuels Minnesota* members and DPS staff will review all grant proposals. No *Clean Fuels Minnesota* member affiliated with an organization that is part of a submitted proposal will participate on the review team. The proposal review team will select projects based on the following considerations.

- 1. MAXIMIZING GASOLINE OR DIESEL FUEL DISPLACEMENT. 35 points (The proposal that displaces the maximum amount of fuel will be awarded 35 points. Lower annual displacements will be prorated accordingly.)
- 2. LEVERAGING OTHER FINANCIAL RESOURCES. 20 points (The proposal that leverages the greatest amount of match financing will be awarded 20 points. Lower matches will be prorated accordingly.)
- 3. NEED FOR GRANT. 10 points (All proposals will be placed in one of three categories: Grant Critical to Project (10 points), Grant Important to Project (5 points), or Grant of Minimal Importance to Project (0 points).)
- 4. COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN BUSINESSES, GOVERNMENTAL UNITS, AND FUEL PROVIDERS. 10 points (Proposals with five partners qualify for maximum points.)
- 5. PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE FUELING CAPACITY. 10 points (Proposals that develop or utilize publicly accessible fueling will receive maximum points.)
- 6. DISSEMINATING AFV EXPERIENCES. 5 points (Proposals that clearly identify how experiences of the demonstration will be shared with other potential AFV users will receive maximum points.)
- 7. DEDICATED VEHICLES. 5 points (Proposals based on dedicated vehicles will receive maximum points.)
- 8. TIMELINESS OF IMPLEMENTATION 5 points (Proposals that can be implemented within six months 5 points; 1 year 4 points; 18 months 3 points; etc.)

#### **Proposal Submission and Deadline:**

Three copies of the completed proposal must be submitted to the Department of Public Service, 121 7th Place East, Suite 200, St. Paul, MN 55101, no later than 4:30 P.M. on Friday, March 14, 1997. All grant proposals should be clearly marked as *Clean Fuels Minnesota* Alternative Fuel Vehicle Proposal.

#### **Available Assistance:**

Current Clean Fuels Minnesota members are welcome and encouraged to submit proposals. In addition, several Clean Fuels Minnesota members and the Department of Public Service have expressed a willingness to assist businesses and local government organizations in supplying information and developing funding proposals. People seeking assistance in developing a grant proposal or having questions concerning this grant solicitation should contact either Mike Roelofs, Clean Fuels Minnesota coordinator at (612) 297-2545 or Jan Reak, Alternative Fuels Specialist at (612) 297-5648 during normal business hours. Both of these people can be reached at the address above.

## Professional, Technical & Consulting Contracts

Department of Administration procedures require that notice of any consultant services contract or professional and technical services contract which has an estimated cost of over \$10,000 be printed in the State Register. These procedures also require that the following information be included in the notice: name of contact person, agency name and address, description of project and tasks, and final submission date of completed contract proposal.

In accordance with *Minnesota Rules* Part 1230.1910, certified Targeted Group Businesses and individuals submitting proposals as prime contractors shall receive the equivalent of up to 6% preference in the evaluation of their proposal. For information regarding certification, call the Materials Management Helpline (612) 296-2600 or [TTY (612) 297-5353 and ask for 296-2600].

## **Department of Corrections**

## **Request for Proposal: Psychiatric Services**

The Minnesota Department of Corrections, Health Care Unit, is requesting proposals for psychiatric consultation services to inmates at the Minnesota correctional facilities. Services to include initial psychiatric evaluation, prescription of psychotropic medications, evaluation / certification of mental illness for emergency holds and judicial commitment. Psychiatrist will also be required to participate in scheduled meetings as directed by the Medical Director or Health Care Administrator.

For an RFP or additional information, please call or write to:

Mr. Dana Baumgartner
Health Care Administrator
Minnesota Department of Corrections
1450 Energy Park Drive, Suite 200
St. Paul, Minnesota 55108-5219

Telephone: 612-642-0248

Proposals are due no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 3, 1997. No late proposals will be accepted.

## **Department of Natural Resources**

**Metro Division** 

# Request for Proposal for Consultant Services to Implement a New Regional Initiative Called the Greenways and Natural Areas Project

The Metro Region of the DNR is seeking the professional and technical services of a consultant to implement a new regional initiative called the Greenways and Natural Areas (GNA) Project. This project is in its formative stage of implementation and concludes in early fall 1997. The GNA Project is funded by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources and its purpose is to explore the social, ecological, and economic aspects of greenways, to develop a common vision for a regional greenways network, and to develop recommendations and specific actions for the Minnesota Legislature on greenway project implementation in the metropolitan region.

This request for proposal does not obligate the state to complete the proposed project, and the state reserves the right to cancel the solicitation if it is considered to be in its best interest.

The consultant hired for this position will work with the GNA technical advisory group, GIS staff, the GNA collaborative group, and the regional planner to organize and develop monthly meetings on behalf of the Greenways and Natural Areas collaborative group. The collaborative is a broad-based working group interested in greenway development and its purpose is to create a vision for a regional greenways network and to develop a set of recommendations for the Minnesota Legislature. Upon completion of monthly meetings of the collaborative group, the contractor will draft a report for comment by the collaborative group and then finalize the report for the legislature.

The goal of the contractor is to help lead the collaborative group through a learning and discussion phase over several months and to bring that group to a common vision and set of recommendations as to how to implement a regional greenways network. Major tasks of the contractor will include: organization and facilitation of technical advisory group (TAG) meetings; logistical and content planning for monthly collaborative group meetings; recording of information at monthly collaborative meetings; drafting of meeting minutes; speaker identification and possible contract preparation for guest speakers; timely communication with collaborative group members and completion of any requested followup actions by the collaborative; synthesis of meeting information to draft working vision statements; work with GIS staff to refine greenways maps; and writing of draft and final legislative reports.

## Professional, Technical & Consulting Contracts

Specific expected outcomes of this contract include: timely preparation of monthly meetings; development of a regional vision for a greenways network; development of a set of recommendations and actions for the Minnesota Legislature based on output of monthly meetings. Responders may propose additional tasks or activities if they will substantially improve the results of the project.

Proposals should consist of a letter signed in ink documenting experience with similar collaborative natural resource projects and indicating ability to effectively carry out all aspects of project completion. A resume should accompany the letter, as well as the names and contact information for 3 current references. Prospective responders should submit 2 copies of their proposals no later than 3 p.m. on 7 February 1997 to: Kathleen Wallace, Regional Administrator, DNR, 1200 Warner Road, St. Paul, MN 55106. Late proposals will not be considered. Any questions regarding this request for proposal can be directed to: Sharon Pfeifer, DNR Regional Planner, 1200 Warner Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; fax: 772-7977; phone: 772-7982; email: sharon.pfeifer@dnr.state.mn.us.

The department has estimated that the cost of this project should not exceed \$12,000. Anticipated completion date is 13 September 1997, by which time all project products must be acceptably completed.

Factors on which proposals will be judged include, but are not limited to:

- A. Expressed understanding of proposal objectives.
- B. Demonstrated ability of applicant to work effectively and collaboratively with a variety of people.
- C. Technical background in natural resources, with demonstrated ability to analyze and synthesize information.
- D. Polished writing skills; legislative experience would be very useful.
- E. Excellent organizational and communication skills.

Interviews are anticipated. The successful responder will be required to submit acceptable evidence of compliance with Minnesota workers' compensation insurance coverage requirements prior to execution of the contract.

## Non-State Public Bids, Contracts & Grants =

The State Register also serves as a central marketplace for contracts let out on bid by the public sector. The 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 project and tasks; 4) cost estimate; and 5) final submission date of completed contract proposal. Allow at least three weeks from publication date (four weeks from date article is submitted for publication). Surveys show that subscribers are interested in hearing about contracts for estimates as low as \$1,000. Contact the editor for further details.

## **Metropolitan Council Environmental Services**

## Public Notice for Letters of Interest for Professional Services for Environmental Planning and Evaluation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) is soliciting qualifications for professional services for the Environmental Planning and Evaluation (EPE) Department Environmental Information Management System (EIMS). This project will have two phases: Phase I - System Planning and Phase II - System Development, with Phase I being required to be completed within 60 days after issuance of Notice To Proceed. The cost for Phase I shall not exceed \$50,000.

The project goals are to consolidate and integrate all environmental information generated by the EPE Department sections, and also provide direct linkages to other Metropolitan Council computer systems, to external environmental information management's systems and to Geographic Information Systems. An effective EIMS will enable the EPE Department to assess environmental trends, identify and prioritize environmental problems, and measure environmental quality improvements as a result of management programs.

The tentative schedule for selecting a consulting firm for this project is as follows:

Receive Letters of Interest
Request For Proposals (RFP) issued
General Informational Meeting
Proposals Received
Select Consultant
Negotiate final Contract Agreement
Notice To Proceed given
January 1997
February 1997
February 1997
March 1997
March 1997

All firms interested in being considered for this project are invited to submit a Letter of Interest asking for the Request For Proposals package.

All inquiries are to be addressed to:

Administrative Assistant, Contracts and Documents Metropolitan Council Wastewater Services Mears Park Centre 230 East Fifth Street St. Paul, MN 55101



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