



Notice of Annual Hearing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the staff of the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board will hold the annual public hearing on the Power Plant Siting and Transmission Line Routing Program at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, December 2, 2000 in Conference Room 301 of the Centennial Office Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota. Parking is available in the ramp east of the building and the building may only be entered on the east side of the building.

The annual hearing is intended to afford interested persons an opportunity to be heard regarding any aspects of the Board's activities, duties, or policies pursuant to the Power Plant Siting Act, Minnesota Statutes 116C.51-.69, or its Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Rule, Minnesota Rules part 4400.

In particular, comments are requested on the need to modify the Act's provisions for a statewide power plant study area inventory (116C.55) in order to respond to electric industry shifts to wholesale competition, an emphasis on natural gas-fired power plants, and increasing competitiveness of renewable fuels and distributed generation. The MEQB also seeks comments on whether the study area inventory remains a useful concept, and, if so, how it should be adapted to the State Energy Policy Plan process proposed by the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

All persons will be afforded an opportunity to be heard through the presentation of oral or written statements. Written statements marked for the annual hearing record may also be submitted for inclusion in the record by delivery to the Board's office by the close of business December 13, 2000.

Direct all inquiries regarding the annual hearing to: Suzanne Steinhauer, Power Plant Siting Program, Environmental Quality Board, 300 Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55155, Phone 651-296-2878.