

### State of Wisconsin

# DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Carroll D. Besadny Secretary

BOX 7921 MADISON, WISCONSIN 53707

STATE OF WISCONSIN ) ss
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES )

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETINGS:

I, Bruce B. Braun, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and custodian of the official records of said Department, do hereby certify that the annexed copy of Natural Resources Board Order No. EA-29-85 was duly approved and adopted by this Department on November 20, 1985. I further certify that said copy has been compared by me with the original on file in this Department and that the same is a true copy thereof, and of the whole of such original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the Department at General Executive Facility #2 in the City of Madison, this 22 day of January, 1986.

Bruce B. Braun, Deputy Secretary

(SEAL)

6290J

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Revisor of Statutes Bureau

# ORDER OF THE WISCONSIN NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD CREATING RULES

	of creating ss. NR 150.02(28m) and	
	of the Wisconsin Administrative Cod	
	the preparation of environmental	
assessments	• •	

EA-29-85

# Analysis Prepared by the Department of Natural Resources

The current rules, relating to preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) to determine whether an environmental impact statement (EIS) under s. 1.11, Stats., the Wisconsin Environmental Policy Act (WEPA), is necessary require that department staff or its consultants "prepare" the EA.

The federal rules which interpret and administer the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), under 40 CFR 1506.5, authorize the use of an applicant-prepared EA or use of material submitted by an applicant upon independent review and acceptance of responsibility for its accuracy by the federal agency charged with preparing the EA.

Consistent with the federal practice under NEPA, the proposed rules would allow the department to use information submitted by an applicant as part of an EA upon independent evaluation and acceptance of responsibility for its accuracy by the department.

Pursuant to authority vested in the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources
Board by ss. 1.11 and 227.02(1)(e), Stats., the State of Wisconsin Natural
Resources Board hereby creates rules interpreting s. 1.11, Stats., as follows:

SECTION 1. NR 150.02(28m) is created to read:

NR 150.02(28m) "Prepared by the department", for purposes of EA's under ss. NR 150.03(7) and 150.04(8)(a), means prepared:

- (a) By department employees or consultants; or
- (b) In part by the department and in part by applicants for department permission, or applicants' consultants upon review and approval under s. NR 150.04(8m).

#### SECTION 2. NR 150.04(8m) is created to read:

NR 150.04(8m)(a) Except for the EIS evaluation section of an EA as described in sub. (6)(g), any part of an EA may be prepared by an applicant for department permission or the applicant's consultant following the department's evaluation of the environmental issues and acceptance of responsibility for its scope and content.

- (b) If the department chooses to use information submitted by an applicant or applicant's consultant, after independent evaluation and assumption of responsibility for its accuracy, the names of the department's employees or its consultants responsible for the evaluation shall be included in the list of preparers in the EA.
- (c) It is the intent of this subsection that acceptable work not be redone, but that it be verified by the department.
- (d) The department's review and verification under this subsection shall be consistent with that required under s. NR 150.05(4).

The foregoing rules were approved and adopted by the State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board on November 20, 1985

The rules contained herein shall take effect as provided in s. 227.026(1)(intro.), Stats.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Carroll D. Besadry Secretary

(SEAL) 7044H



### State of Wisconsin

## **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Carroll D. Besadny Secretary

BOX 7921

MADISON, WISCONSIN 53707 IN REPLY REFER TO: 1020

January 21, 1986

Mr. Orlan L. Prestegard Revisor of Statutes Suite 904 RECEIVED

JAN 2 3 1986

Revisor of Statutes Bureau

Dear Mr. Prestegard:

30 W. Mifflin Street

Enclosed are two copies, including one certified copy, of State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board Order No. EA-29-85. These rules were reviewed by the Assembly Committee on Environmental Resources and the Senate Committee on Energy and Environmental Resources pursuant to s. 227.018, Stats. Summaries of the final regulatory flexibility analysis and comments of the legislative review committees is also enclosed.

You will note that this order takes effect following publication. Kindly publish it in the Administrative Code accordingly.

Sincerely,

C. D. Besadny Secretary

Enc.

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