COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
PERMIT REVIEW

MEETING DATE: August 24, 2015
AGENDA NUMBER: 08
FILE NUMBER: 15-093
ITEM: CenterPoint Energy Blaine Back Feed Project

RECOMMENDATION: Approve with 4 Stipulations

APPLICANT: Centerpoint Energy
Steve Guhanick
700 West Linden Ave
Minneapolis MN 55403

PURPOSE: Provide natural gas services to developments off of 128th Ave N, Blaine

LOCATION: 128th Ave N, Blaine MN
APPLICABILITY:
1. Any work within or adjacent to a Public Ditch within the Watershed District.
2. Any work in or adjacent to wetlands, lakes or water courses.
3. The lands and water that have been, or may be covered by the regional flood.
4. High infiltration soils.
5. Highly erodible soils
6. Endangered, Threatened or Special concern species, elements of communities.

EXHIBITS:
2. Wetland Exemption Applicant by Merjent; dated 7-21-15, received 7-31-15

HISTORY & CONSIDERATIONS: This project has not been reviewed by the Board.

FINDINGS:
Ditches and Drainage: There is a public ditch on the property. The ditch is County Ditch 59-4. The ditch has been inspected. The trend in land use for this drainage area is toward open space and residential. There are no flooding concerns downstream.

Floodplain: There is no floodplain on the property according to FEMA. The District Atlas 14 model predicts the 100-year elevation for the subwatershed at 897.4 feet. The total floodplain impact is 0 acre-feet. Compensatory storage is not needed.

Groundwater: Surficial ground water is present at an unknown elevation. The site does include groundwater sensitive areas. Information is not required to substantiate low floor elevations, no structures are proposed.

Historic Sites: The proposed project does not include sites of historic or archeological significance.

Local Planning & Zoning: The proposed project is consistent with local planning and zoning. There is an approved local water plan.

Maintenance: The proposed project does include a ditch maintenance easement or utility line crossings. No storm water/infiltration ponds are proposed. Changes in drainage are not proposed.

Soils & Erosion Control: Soils affected by the proposal are Lino and Markey. Stabilizing vegetation is not proposed for disturbed areas within two weeks of rough grading. It is unknown if adjacent properties are protected from sediment deposition. It is unknown if wetlands, waterbodies, ponds, infiltration basins and water conveyance systems are protected from erosion and sedimentation. Project site is not greater than 1 acre; an NPDES permit is not required.
**Stormwater & Hydraulics:** The applicant is not required to meet the volume management requirement equivalent to infiltrating runoff from the first inch of precipitation because no new impervious area is proposed. Stormwater leaving the site is discharged into a well defined receiving channel or pipe and routed to a public drainage system. Drainage sensitive uses do exist downstream from the proposed site. The rate of post development runoff from the site does not exceed predevelopment rates, or rates which would interfere with sensitive downstream land uses.

**Water Quality:** Project does not include new impervious drainage areas greater than 1 acre. The proposal will not detrimentally affect the existing water quality of the receiving water. The proposal will not cause extreme fluctuations of water levels or temperature changes.

**Wetlands:** Wetlands do exist on-site according to the 1987 Federal manual, NWI, PWI and Soil Survey. The applicant is requesting a WCA Utility exemption for the proposed work. No excavation or discharge of dredge or fill material into wetlands or waterbodies will be associated with the project.

**Wildlife:** The proposed project does include the Blanding’s turtles (*Emydoidea blandingii*), a state-listed threatened species, which has been reported from the vicinity of the proposed project and may be encountered on site. The applicant will be provided with information to protect the turtle.

**Performance Escrow:** $15,160.00

**ISSUES/CONCERNS:**

| Ditches and Drainage: There is a public ditch on the property. The ditch is County Ditch 59-4. The proposed project plans to directionally bore a 4 inch gas main under Ditch 59-4. District rules require that the top of the proposed pipe be at least 4 feet below the approved ditch bottom elevation. The approved ditch bottom elevation of Ditch 59-4 is 892.0. | 1. Applicant must acknowledge that the top of the proposed pipe to be directionally bored under Ditch 59-4 is 888.0 and that as-builts will be provided. |
| Soils & Erosion Control: Stabilizing vegetation is not proposed for disturbed areas within two weeks of rough grading. | 2. Provide an erosion control plan that clearly shows the methods used to protect sediment from entering wetlands in all areas of proposed disturbance. |
**Maintenance:** The proposed project does include a ditch maintenance easement or utility line crossings.

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<th>Escrows: $2,000 + (658 ft * $20/ft) = $15,160.00</th>
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<td><strong>RECOMMENDATION:</strong> Approve with 4 Stipulations</td>
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<td><strong>Stipulations:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Receipt of escrows.</td>
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<td>2. Applicant must acknowledge that the top of the proposed pipe to be directionally bored under Ditch 59-4 is 888.0 and that as-builts will be provided.</td>
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<td>3. Include on the construction plans a 100’ easement centered on Ditch 59-4.</td>
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<td>4. Provide an erosion control plan that clearly shows the methods used to protect sediment from entering wetlands in all areas of proposed disturbance.</td>
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