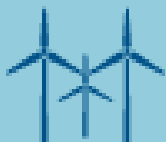




EQB Agency Update

MSBA, 11/1/2016

Will Seuffert, Executive Director
Environmental Quality Board





The Environmental Quality Board



- Governor's office
- Five citizen members
- Board of Soil and Water Resources
- Department of Administration
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Employment and Economic Development
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Metropolitan Council
- Pollution Control Agency



What's The Problem?

The legislature of the state of Minnesota finds that problems related to the environment often encompass the responsibilities of several state agencies and that solutions to these environmental problems require the interaction of these agencies. The legislature also finds that further debate concerning population, economic and technological growth should be encouraged so that the consequences and causes of alternative decisions can be better known and understood by the public and its government.

What's Our Role?

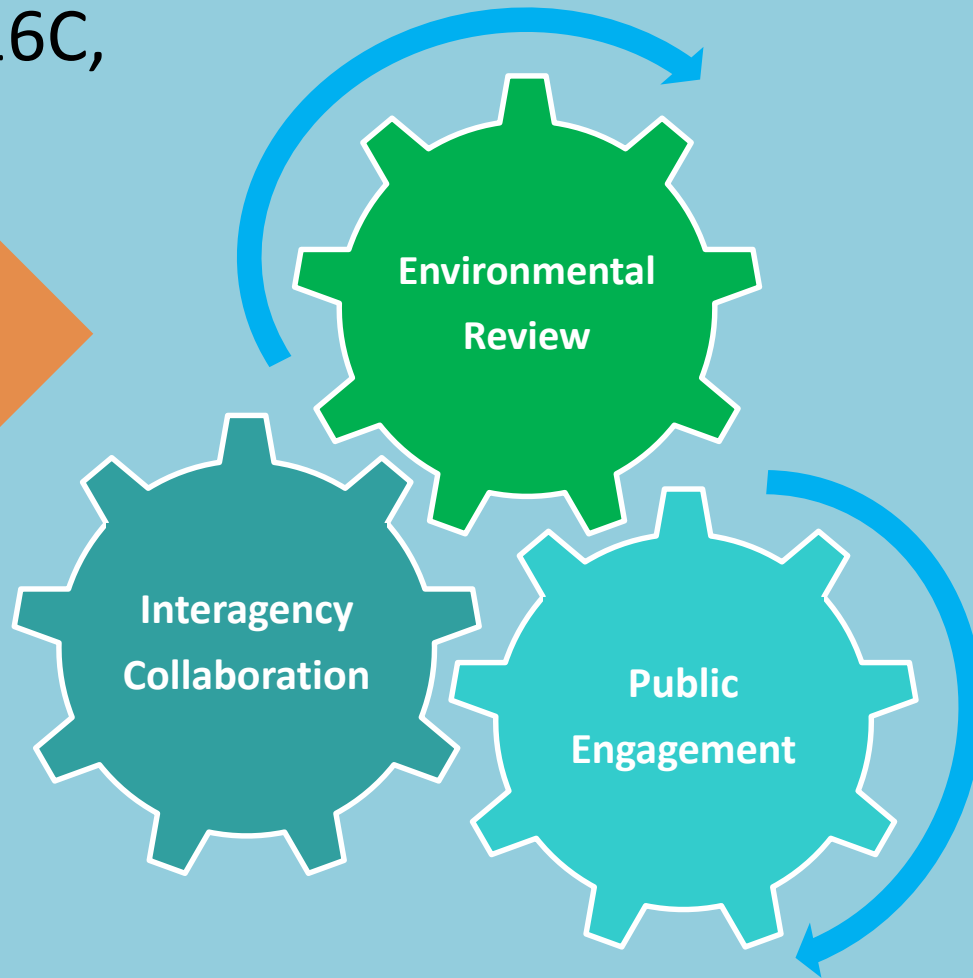
The Environmental Quality Board facilitates strategic interaction of multiple state agencies, stewards environmental review processes that cross domains and jurisdictions, and provides forums for the public to engage in policy making processes.

EQB Mandate

103A, 103B, 116C,
116D, 116G

Inputs

- Executive Orders:
11-32, 16-07
- Board
Members/Agency
Heads
- Citizen Members
- Citizen Requests
- Agency concerns
- Human resources

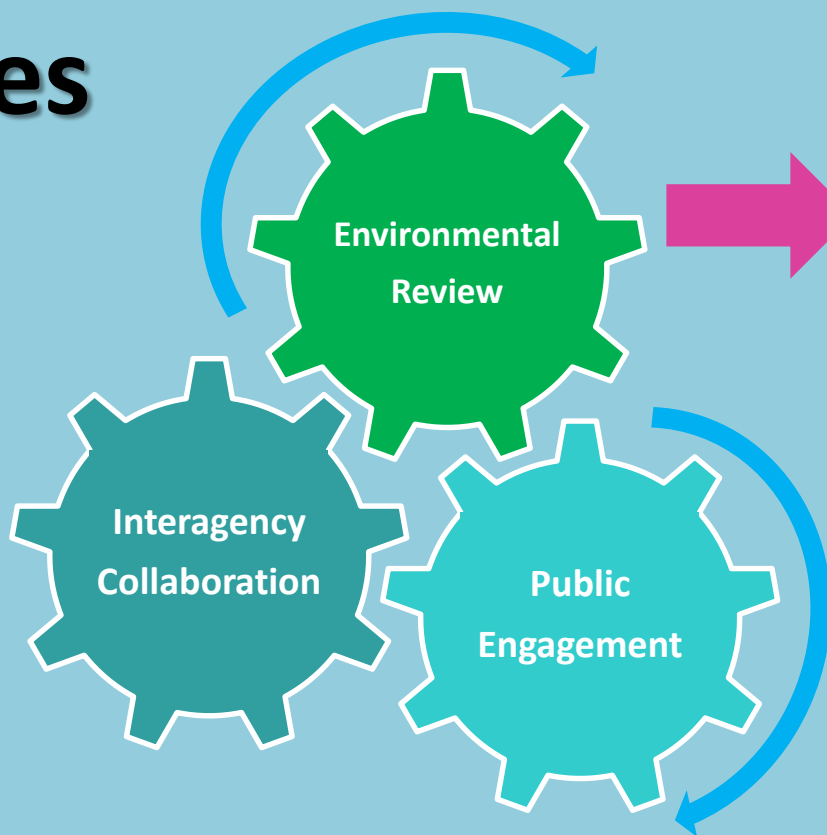




Strategies

Educate and Advise: Publish reports and analyses, focus on economics

Coordinate: Facilitate state activities across all levels of state government, build partnerships with non-EQB agencies



Customer Service: guidance documents, training

Measurement and Accountability: monitor trends and gauge effectiveness

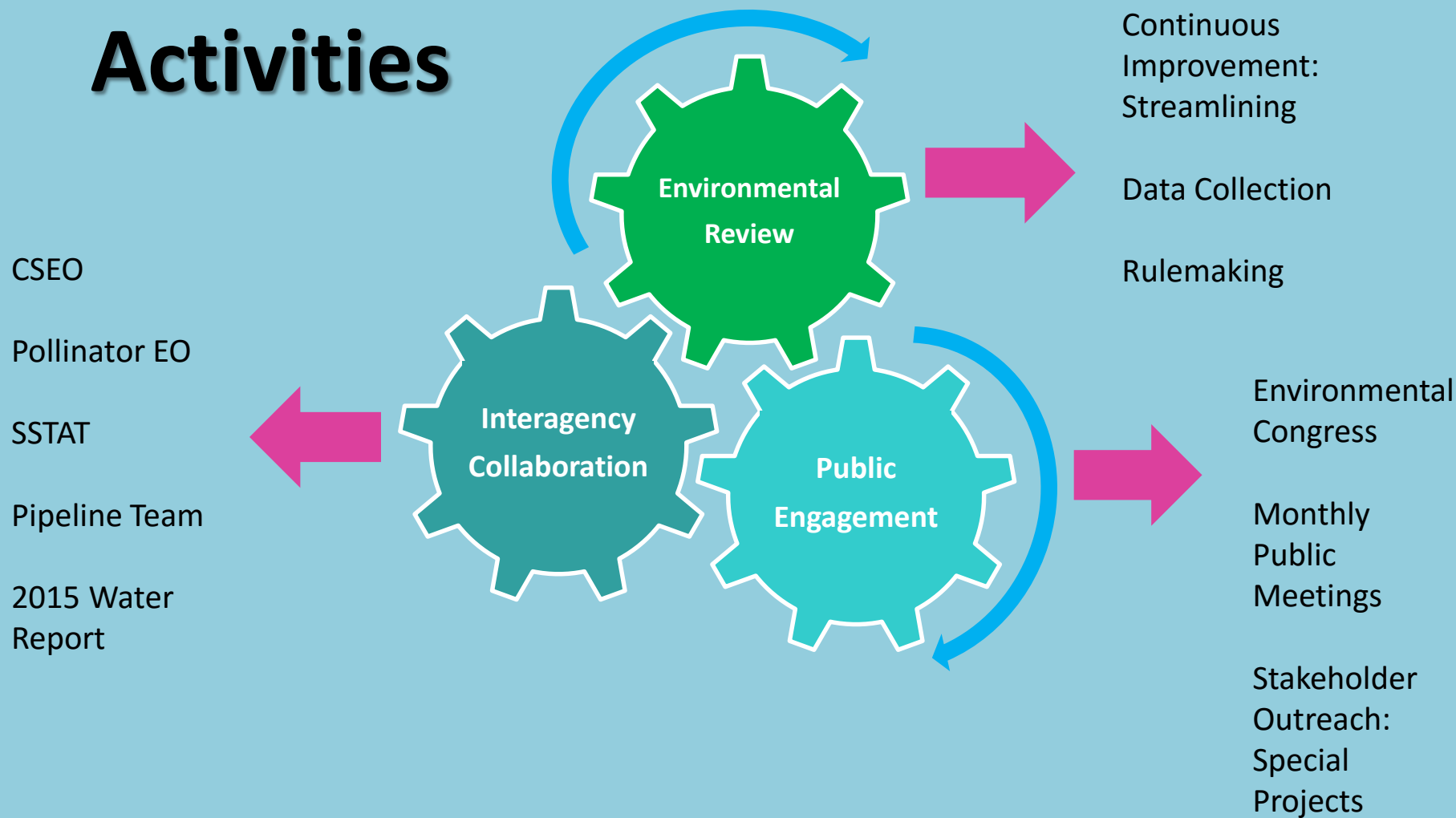
Continuous Improvement

Convene: build mutual understanding, collaborate on solutions

Inform: Produce reports on key issues

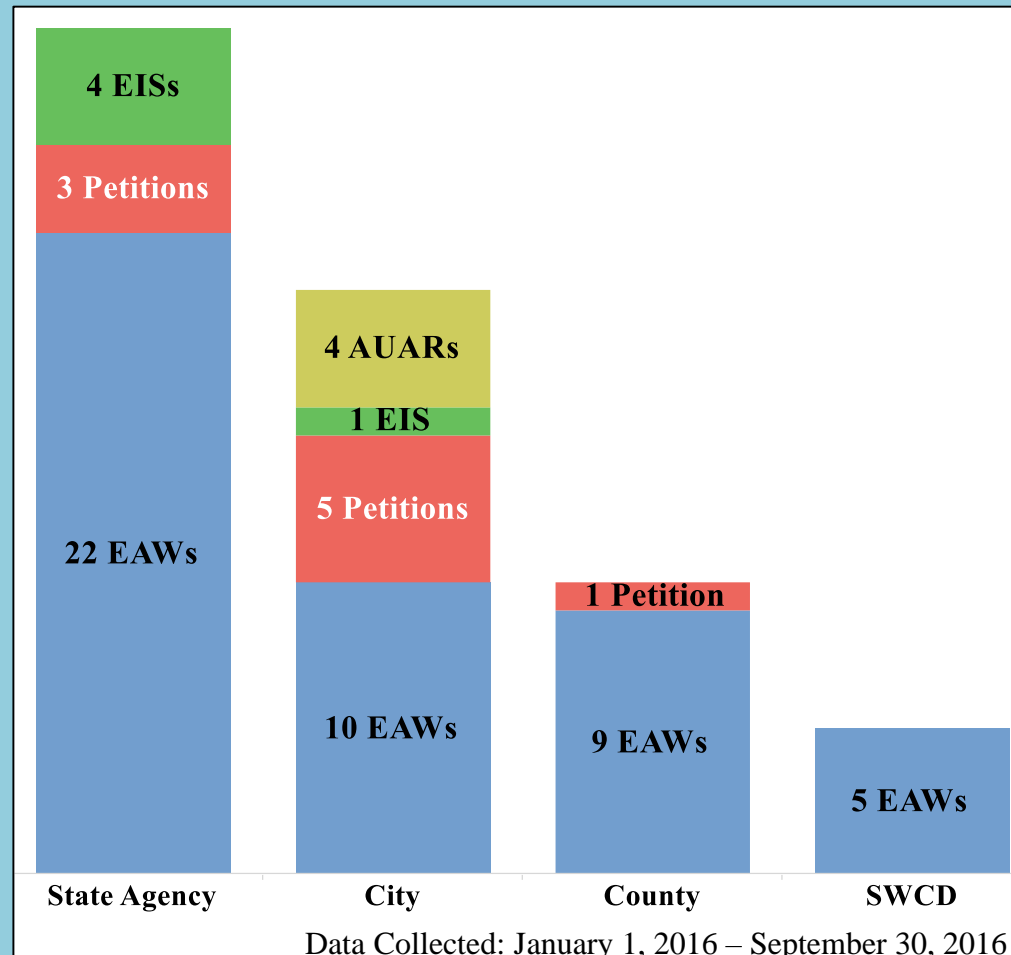


Activities



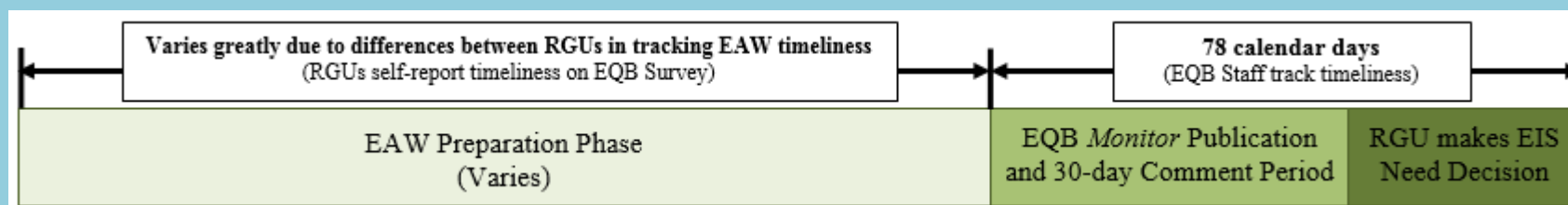
Completed Environmental Reviews, 2016

- 46 Environmental Assessment Worksheets
- 9 Citizen Petitions
- 5 Environmental Impact Statements
- 4 Alternative Urban Areawide Reviews



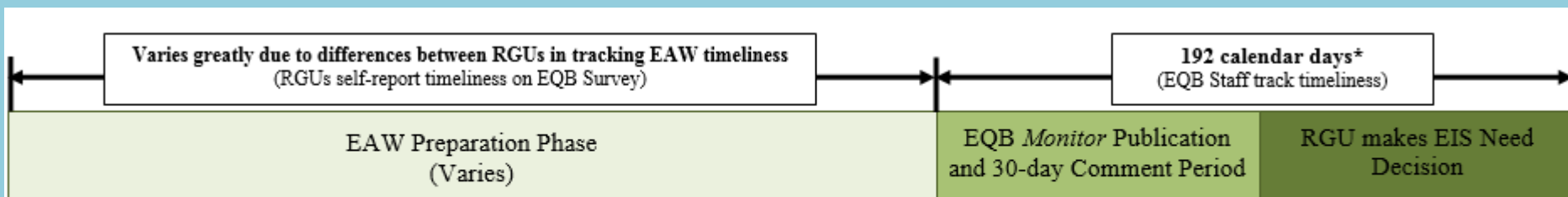
Timeliness of EAWs, 2016

Timeliness of State EAWs



Data Collected: January 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016

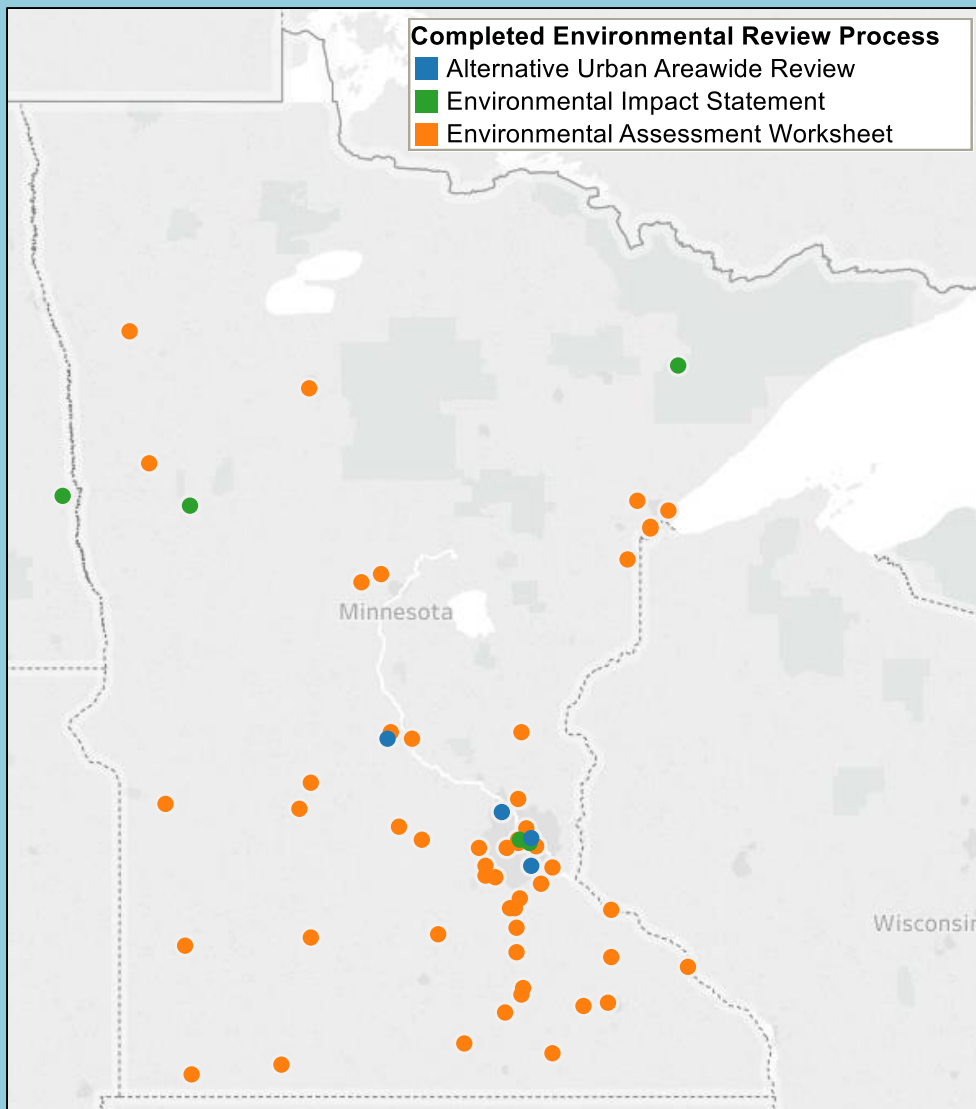
Timeliness of Joint State and Federal EA-EAWs*



***Note:** These environmental reviews were completed in compliance with both state and federal requirements to reduce duplication and allow for greater efficiency

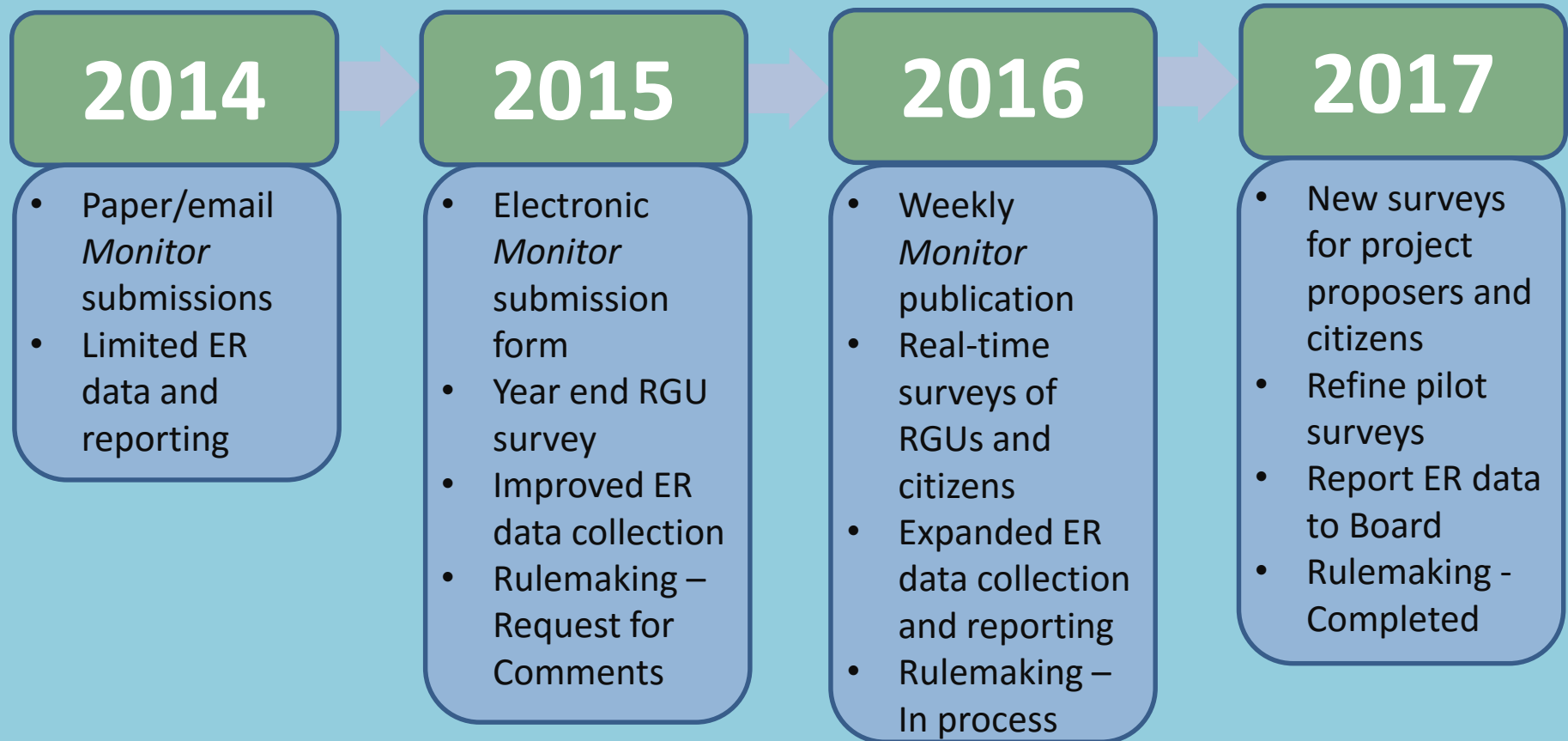
Data Collected: January 1, 2016 – September 30, 2016

Completed Environmental Reviews, 2016





Environmental Review: Continuous Improvement





Mandatory Categories Rulemaking-

- Environmental Review Efficiency/Streamlining
 - *Laws of Minnesota for 2012, Chapter 150, Article 2, Section 3*
 - 2012/2013 Mandatory Categories Report
 - *2015 Special Session Law, Chapter 4, Article 3, Section 2*



- Rule amendments to categories in 1982, 1986, 1988, 1997, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2010
- Majority of the EAW and EIS mandatory categories created in the 1980's



ER: Unresolved Issues

- Timeliness and costs
- Health Impacts and Environmental Review
 - Pending petition: HIA/HRA for nonferrous mining
- Climate Change: Category or Potential Impact to Analyze?
- Pipeline Rules: Alternative Review vs. EIS
- Environmental Justice: Does the current model enable broad participation?

Interagency Collaboration: Executive Order 16-07

- Directs statewide action for MDA, EQB, DNR, BWSR, MnDOT, and Administration
- Establishes Interagency Pollinator Protection Team (IPPT)
- Creates Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection (GCPP)

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**



**MARK DAYTON
GOVERNOR**

Executive Order 16-07

**Directing Steps to Reverse Pollinator Decline and
Restore Pollinator Health in Minnesota**

Pollinator Report

- *The Interagency Pollinator Protection Team shall develop statewide pollinator goals and metrics and report on the progress toward those goals in a report to the EQB by December 1 of each year. The report shall include recommendations for pollinator policy, research needs, and budget recommendations*



MDA



DNR; photo by Deborah Rose



BWSR



MPCA



Governor's Committee on Pollinator Protection

- 15 member committee, more than 80+ applicants to date
- Members will have relevant experience in agriculture, conservation, education, academia, or local government
- First meeting in December (pending appointments)
- Will have a chance to review the IPPT report before its publication
- Help agencies engage Minnesotans, raise public awareness of pollinator issues
- Identify and support opportunities for local and public-private partnerships while promoting collaboration across the state on pollinator protection efforts

Climate Solutions and Economic Opportunities: CSEO



Timeline of Minnesota's historic mega-rain events 1866-2014

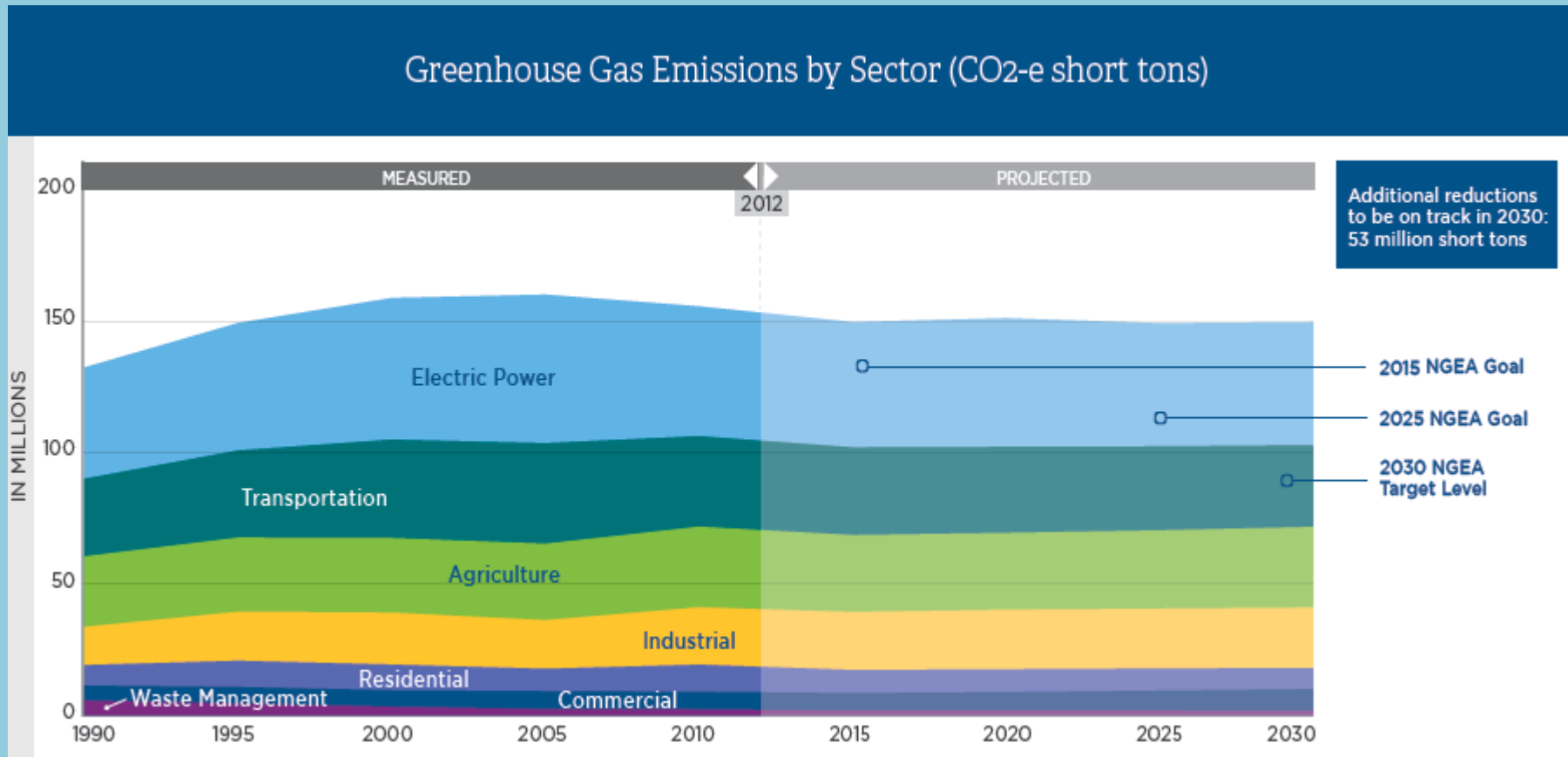


1866-1965
Four mega-rains
in 100 years

1966-1999
Three mega-rains
in 33 years

2000-2014
Five mega-rains
in 14 years

Where Do Our Emissions Come From?





Immediate Action – These policies result in immediate reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. They account for 64 to 79% of the emissions reductions that could be made between now and 2030. All the immediate action policies focus on the electric sector.

Policy options	2030 annual in-state GHG reduction (CO ₂ e-tons)	% Reduction towards 2030 target	NPV costs/savings 2015-2030 (\$2014MM)	Average annual employment (full- and part-time)
Increase the renewable electricity standard to 50%	14	27	-404	1,820
Increase the renewable electricity standard to 40%	8	15	-620	1,510
Retire and repower coal plants	7	13	752	310
Increase energy efficiency requirements 2.5%	5	10	-1,882	1,560
Increase energy efficiency requirements 2%	4	7	1,272	N/A
Combined heat and power (CHP)	5	10	-1,112	2,330
Zero energy building codes (SB2030)	10	19	-2,050	2,750
Wastewater treatment facilities energy efficiency	0.07	0.14	-56	80

Long-term Strategies – These policies are critical for reaching Minnesota’s 2050 goals, but they require more time for development. Generally, these policies reduce the use of single-occupancy internal combustion vehicles and protect or increase carbon stores in soils and trees.

Policy options	2030 annual in-state GHG reduction (CO ₂ e-tons)	% Reduction towards 2030 target	NPV costs/savings 2015-2030 (\$2014MM)	Average annual employment (full- and part-time)
Transit and multimodal travel	0.28	1	-330	450
Compact development in urban areas	1	2	-425	220
Electric vehicles on 100% renewable energy	1	3	3,000 *	-1,220
Community and urban forests	1	1	1,806	4,180
Forest health	2	4	187	-210
Increased conversion of row crops to perennial crops	2	3	-2,104	-490
Increased use of cover crops	1	1	-1,346	230
Re-use, composting, and recycling	0.17	0.31	-817	2,750
Source reduction	0.06	0.12	-277	60

*assumes little change in the price of an electric vehicle



Pilot Programs – These policies have high potential to reduce emissions; however, they involve new programs or technologies that need to be explored and tested before they can be implemented at a large scale. These policies include transportation options, distributed renewable energy for direct heating and cooling, and agriculture practices.

Policy options	2030 annual in-state GHG reduction (CO ₂ e-tons)	% Reduction towards 2030 target	NPV costs/savings 2015-2030 (\$2014MM)	Average annual employment (full- and part-time)
Advanced and conventional biofuels	0.19	0.35	462	3,420
Transportation pricing cumulative	2	4	2,718	8,230
Transportation pricing: PAYD insurance component	1	2	-2,160	N/A
Transportation pricing: carbon tax component	1	1	1,898	N/A
Transportation pricing: fuel tax component	0.46	1	2,980	N/A
Thermal renewable energy	3	6	872	-690
Nutrient management in agriculture	0.15	0.29	-131	-200



Public Engagement

Environmental Congress: February 3, U of MN St Paul
Campus Continuing Education Center

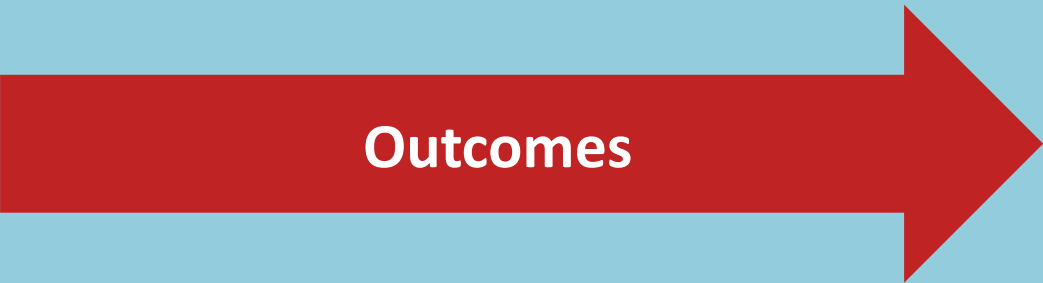


@MnEQB



Minnesota Environmental
Quality Board

Water	<p>Lake and River Water Quality: Minnesota has abundant water resources overall, but quality issues threaten our future. Water concerns touch on human health, ecosystems, and our responsibility to downstream neighbors. Criteria is based on Minnesota's progress toward state and national goals for the Clean Water Act to have all waters be fishable and swimmable (100%).</p>	→
	<p>Water Use - What is Sustainable? Minnesota is at risk of overusing water in several areas of the state. We must protect our economy, ecosystems, public health, and the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Criteria is based on the trend of the 3-year moving average of reported water use: public water supply, industrial, irrigation and other, divided by Minnesota's state population.</p>	→
	<p>Nitrates: Elevated nitrate in groundwater is a public health concern that can be reduced by using nitrogen fertilizer best management practices, and other practices such as living cover in targeted high risk areas. Criteria is based on monitoring of private well networks in two vulnerable areas of the state (southeast and central Minnesota) to determine nitrate concentrations and trends.</p>	→
Land	<p>Pheasants: Recent pheasant, and other grassland bird, population declines reflect significant prairie and grassland habitat loss. Criteria is based on population trends from Department of Natural Resource's (DNR) August Road Side Survey Index (birds per 100 mi), the long-standing measure of Minnesota's pheasant population.</p>	↘
	<p>Land Conversion: Over time, our land conversion per person has increased, resulting in a higher rate of land conversion of prime farmland, forest land, wetlands, and wildlife habitat. Criteria is based on acres of developed land per 1,000 persons in Minnesota. There is no state or national goal for the land conversion metric.</p>	→
	<p>Recycling: About one-third of our waste is still sent to landfills. More of this waste could be recycled. Criteria based on recycling rates in Minnesota as a percentage of all waste, compared to state goals.</p>	→



Minnesota citizens are engaged and informed about environmental issues and proposed development, and can shape the development of policies and programs

The state plans and develops broad-based policies to address environmental concerns that cut across jurisdictional boundaries

State government holds itself accountable to broader civic engagement and environmental outcomes



Thank you!

