



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

4A
Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: July 22, 2014

Title of Item: Public Hearing - Partial Ditch Abandonment

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	Action Requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
Submitted by: Kirk Peysar		Department: Auditor's Office
Presenter (Name and Title): Kirk Peysar, Auditor; John Welle, Engineer; and Jim Ratz, County Attorney		Estimated Time Needed:
Summary of Issue: Petition for Partial Abandonment of a Drainage System within Sections 27, 28, 32, 33 and 34 of Workman Township (T.49N.-R.24W.) Aitkin County, MN. United States Steel Corporation (U.S. Steel) submitted this petition for ditch abandonment pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.806. See attachments for further information.		
Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:		
Recommended Action/Motion: No action requested at this time. Will bring back to the Board at a later date.		
Financial Impact: <i>Is there a cost associated with this request?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$</i> <i>Is this budgeted?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i>		



U. S. Steel Corporation
Minnesota Ore Operations
P.O. Box 217
Keewatin, MN 55753

March 31, 2014

Mr. Kirk Peysar
Aitkin County Auditor
209 2nd Street NW
Room 202
Aitkin, MN 5643-1292

**RE: Petition for Partial Ditch Abandonment of a Drainage System
within Sections 27, 28, 32, 33 and 34 of Workman Township (T.49N.-R.24W.)
Aitkin County, Minnesota**

Dear Mr. Peysar:

United States Steel Corporation (U. S. Steel) is submitting this petition for ditch abandonment at the locations referenced above pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.806, "*Partial Abandonment of a Drainage System.*" Per Minnesota Statutes 2010 103E.806, this petition is being filed with the Aitkin County Auditor.

This ditch abandonment request is a part of U. S. Steel's wetland mitigation project where many miles of private and Fire Relief Commission (FRC) ditches flow through the mitigation site. The project site encompasses approximately 1,416 acres owned by U. S. Steel. Note that all ditch assessments and historical ditch liens have been recently removed and recorded for the entire agricultural property.

Please review the regulatory ditch map showing what U. S. Steel believes to be the original Ditch Authority's ditching system (including a ditch section that no longer exists on the NE corner of Section 34 that would still have to be abandoned). The mapping is based on field conversations conducted during a June 26, 2013 site visit between Hatch Mott McDonald (HMM), U. S. Steel staff and John Welle. The map also shows private ditches that have been altered, and re-piped resulting in the present day conditions.

Based on a July 15th, 2013 email from John Welle to U. S. Steel's consultant, HMM, the County likely does not have authority over the FRC ditches shown on the map. U. S. Steel will take ownership of these ditches along with the private ditches until further notice.

U. S. Steel is requesting permission to abandon the following ditch segments, which are further described in the attached supporting documents:

- Section 27: The segment of CD-4 bounding the west side of the SW quadrant.
- Section 28: The segment of CD-4 bounding the east side of the SE quadrant of the SE quadrant.
The segment of CD-4 & FRC-B bounding the entire south side of the Section.
The segment of CD-4 bounding the west side of the SW quadrant of the SW quadrant.
- Section 32: The segment of FRC-A bounding the north side of the Section, except the NW quadrant of the NW quadrant. Note that this description includes the ditch segment along the north side of the NE quadrant of the NE quadrant of Section 32, which appears to be a private ditch, as it is excluded from the County system in available County mapping. The local segment of FRC-A that drains through into CD-38.
The segment of CD-38 along the south side of the north half of the Section, except the SW quadrant of the NW quadrant.
The segment of CD-38 along the east side of the north half of the Section.
- Section 33: The segment of CD-38 along the west side of the north half of the Section.
The segment of CD-4 & FRC-B bounding the entire north side of the section.
The segment of CD-4 & FRC-B bounding the east side of the north half of the section.
- Section 34: The segment of CD-4 & FRC-B bounding the entire west side of the Section.
The segment of CD-4 along the south side of the NE quadrant.
The segment of CD-4 along the entire north side of the south half of the Section.

U. S. Steel is also planning to abandon the following private ditches, which are not under the jurisdiction of the County ditch authority:

- Section 27: The ditch segment bounding the south side of the SW quadrant.
The N/S-oriented ditch segment dividing the SW and SE quadrants of the SW quadrant.
- Section 28: The N/S-oriented ditch segment dividing the SW and SE quadrants of the SE quadrant.
- Section 32: The N/S-oriented ditch segment dividing the east and west halves of the NW quadrant.

The ditch segment bounding the north side of the NE quadrant of the NE quadrant. (This is the segment through which the local segment of FRC-A drains into CD-38, as mentioned above).

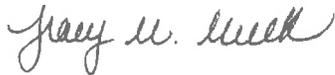
Section 34: The ditch segment bounding the north side of the NW quadrant.

The E/W-oriented ditch segment dividing the NW and SW quadrants of the NE quadrant.

The ditch segments bounding the east and south sides of the south half of the Section.

Should there be any questions about this submittal or if you require additional information, please contact me at (218) 778-8672 or via email at tmmuck@uss.com

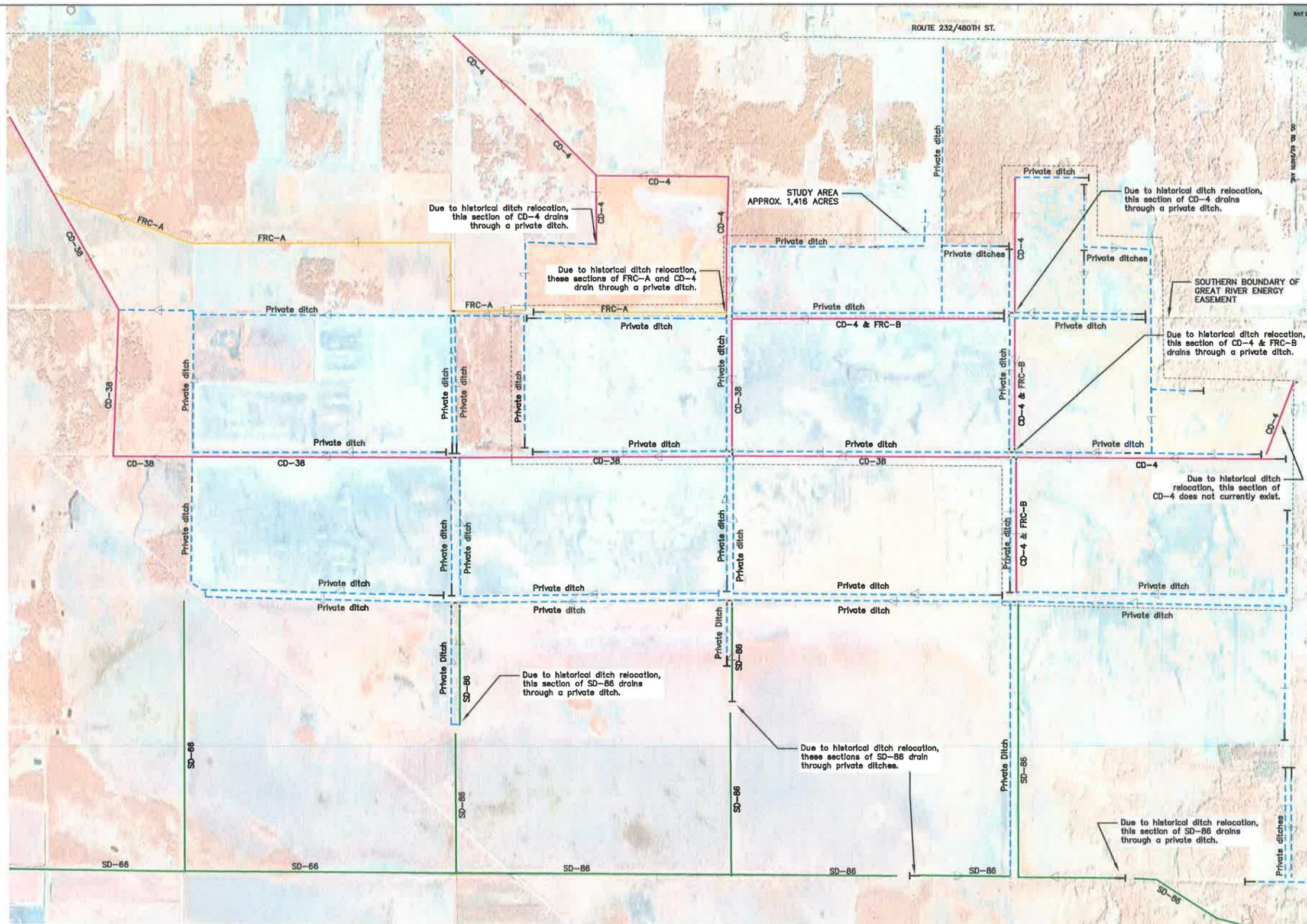
Sincerely,



Tracy M. Muck
Minnesota Ore Operations
United States Steel Corporation

cc: John Welle, Aitkin County Engineer
Nathan Campbell, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Barbara Walther, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Tim Smith, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Chrissy Bartovich, U. S. Steel
Josh Zika, U. S. Steel

P:\203818 - US Steel_2011\1 - Drainage\Ditch Classification July 2013.dwg



LEGEND:

- COUNTY-REGULATED DITCH
- STATE-REGULATED DITCH
- - - PRIVATE UNREGULATED DITCH
- FIRE RELIEF COMMISSION DITCH FRC-A
- - - CULVERT
- T TERMINUS
- ▶ DITCH FLOW DIRECTION



U. S. STEEL CORPORATION
AITKIN COUNTY, MINNESOTA
PALISADE WETLAND MITIGATION PROJECT
2013 DITCH CLASSIFICATION MAP

FIGURE 4

Job	No.
293818AA01	1
B/D	Total
1	1

Designed	Checked	Approved	Date
RWS	RWS	JMF	7/12/2013

Date

Revision

Contract No.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

AITKIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**Partial Ditch Abandonment of a Drainage System
Involving County Ditch 4 and County Ditch 38
(Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.806)**

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, July 22, 2014 , at 10:30a.m., the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners will hold a public hearing at the county board room, county courthouse in the City of Aitkin, Minnesota, for the purpose of considering partial abandonment of drainage systems, in the County of Aitkin, Minnesota.

A copy of the petition for partial abandonment of a drainage system is available for public review at the Office of the County Auditor, Aitkin County Courthouse, 209 Second Street Northwest, Aitkin, Minnesota. Or by calling 218-927-7354.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNTY BOARD.

Dated at Aitkin, Minnesota, this 27th day of June , 2014.

**Kirk Peysar
County Auditor**