

STABILIZATION OF THE NORTH SHORE “MEGA-SLUMP”

Kevin Biehn, RLA, CPESC, LEED AP
651 Hale Avenue North – Oakdale, MN 55128
651.770.8448 / 651.770.2552
kbiehn@eorinc.com

Client/Stakeholder Invited
Cook County Joint Powers Board

The beautiful Poplar River is a high gradient, designated trout stream in Northeastern Minnesota. The river was in jeopardy and had been placed on Minnesota’s Impaired Waters List for both mercury and turbidity. One study estimated that as much as 65% of the stream turbidity was generated by the infamous “Mega Slump” - a monstrous, 100 foot nearly vertical slope of exposed red clay, located two-miles upstream from the Lake Superior – Poplar River confluence.

The talk will cover the detailed stream assessment and design particulars of the Mega-Slump stabilization, which has been in place since the summer of 2008. Construction cost, current stability, change in stream turbidity, agency/stakeholder process and the applicability of the solution to other North Shore streams will also be covered.