Permit Fact Sheet

General Information

Permit Number	WI-0001449-11-0
Permittee Name and Address	Agropur Inc P O Box 410, WEYAUWEGA, WI 54983-0410
Permitted Facility Name and Address	Agropur Inc Weyauwega Plant 105 East Third Avenue, Weyauwega
Permit Term	January 01, 2027 to December 31, 2031
Discharge Location	West Bank of the Waupaca River, ½ mile downstream of Weyauwega Mill Street Bridge
Receiving Water	Waupaca River and Groundwater in Waupaca River Watershed of Wolf River River Basin in Waupaca County
Stream Flow ($Q_{7,10}$)	115 cfs
Stream Classification	Warm Water Sport Fish (WWSF) community, non-public water supply and recreational use
Discharge Type	Existing, Continuous

Facility Description

Agropur Inc Weyauwega Plant (Agropur) processes about 3.6 million pounds per day of milk, skim milk, sweet cream, and nonfat milk into 300,000 pounds per day of cheddar and feta cheeses. Liquid whey from cheese processing is reduced to 150,000 pounds per day of dried whey products using reverse osmosis, crystallization, evaporation and drying. The manufacturing process generates 350,000 gallons per day of whey crystallizer condensate of whey (COW) and noncontact cooling water (NCCW). This volume was discharged to the Waupaca River via Outfall 001. Agropur proposed rerouting 0.2 million gallons per day of pretreatment effluent and combining it with existing COW and NCCW at Outfall 001 to allow for greater flexibility for potential future growth at the production facility. The new combined discharge is to be discharged via Outfall 005 in the proposed permit; Outfall 001 has been inactivated.

Factory wastewater is treated at the pretreatment activated sludge wastewater treatment facility. Treated effluent is discharged to the City of Weyauwega publicly owned treatment works for further treatment and discharge. The renovated Agropur treatment facility includes: a 450,000-gallon coarse bubble equalization tank, a biological phosphorus removal selector tank, an 800,000-gallon fine bubble activated sludge aeration tank with aluminum-sulfate and ferric-sulfate addition, 3 aeration blowers, a dissolved air flotation thickener unit, a 1.7-meter wide “Bright Tech” belt filter press and cake sludge storage. Cake sludge is land applied on Department approved sites via Outfall 004 by a contract hauler. High strength dairy waste includes cream separator solids, flavored feta cheese waste and salt whey. These materials are diverted to an on-site holding silo and ultimately hauled to a nearby POTW for treatment.

Substantial Compliance Determination

After a desk top review of all discharge monitoring reports, CMARs, land application reports, compliance schedule items, and a site visit on 11/02/2026, this facility has been found to be in substantial compliance with their current permit.

Compliance determination made by Teresa Hall, Wastewater Specialist on 11/14/2026.

Sample Point Descriptions

Sample Point Designation		
Sample Point Number	**Discharge Flow, Units, and Averaging Period**	**Sample Point Location, Waste Type/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)**
002	24,000 gallons per year (per permit application)	LAND APPLICATION: Representative grab samples of process liquid wastewater and high strength liquid waste shall be obtained from onsite storage units.
003	270,000 gallons per year (per permit application)	LAND APPLICATION: Representative grab samples of liquid sludge shall be obtained following DAF treatment. Outfall is for emergency disposal to the environment only if the belt filter press is not operational.
004	1,200 tons (per permit application)	LAND APPLICATION: Representative grab samples of cake sludge shall be obtained following the belt filter press.
005	0.31 MGD (2025)	EFFLUENT: Representative 24-hour flow proportional composite and grab samples of condensate of whey (COW), noncontact cooling water (NCCW) from the dry whey crystallizer and whey plate cooler, and process wastewater shall be obtained from above the culvert leading to the Waupaca River. Flow is measured with a magmeter at the discharge above the culvert leading to the Waupaca River.

Permit Requirements

1 Surface Water - Monitoring and Limitations

1.1 Sample Point Number: 005- EFFLUENT

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Continuous	
BOD5, Total		mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
BOD5, Total	Daily Max	138 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	TBEL limit.
BOD5, Total	Monthly Avg	57 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	TBEL limit.
Suspended Solids, Total		mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total	Daily Max	174 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Interim limit, effective upon permit reissuance.
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	86 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Interim limit, effective upon permit reissuance.

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Suspended Solids, Total	Daily Max	27 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Limit effective following the TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Suspended Solids compliance schedule.
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	17 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Limit effective following the TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Suspended Solids compliance schedule.
Suspended Solids, Total		lbs/month	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the Total Monthly Discharge of TSS and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL Calculations section.
Suspended Solids, Total		lbs/yr	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the 12-month rolling sum of total monthly mass of TSS discharged and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL Calculations section.
pH Field	Daily Max	9.0 su	5/Week	Grab	
pH Field	Daily Min	6.0 su	5/Week	Grab	
Chlorine, Total Residual	Daily Max	38 ug/L	5/Week	Grab	
Chlorine, Total Residual	Monthly Avg	38 ug/L	5/Week	Grab	
Nitrogen, Ammonia Variable Limit		mg/L	3/Week	See Table	Look up variable ammonia limit from the "Variable Ammonia Limitation" table and report the variable limit in the Ammonia Variable Limit column on the eDMR.
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Daily Max - Variable	mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Report the daily maximum Ammonia result in the Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total column of the

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
					eDMR. See Ammonia Limitation section.
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Monthly Avg	34 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Phosphorus, Total	Rolling 12 Month Avg	1.0 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Interim limit, effective upon permit reissuance.
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Monitoring only upon permit effective date. Final TMDL-based mass limits go into effect per the phosphorus compliance schedule. See Phosphorus section(s).
Phosphorus, Total	Monthly Avg	0.85 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Limit effective following the TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Phosphorus compliance schedule.
Phosphorus, Total	6-Month Avg	0.28 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	Limit effective following the TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Phosphorus compliance schedule.
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/month	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the Total Monthly Discharge of phosphorus and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL Calculations section.
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/yr	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the 12-month rolling sum of total monthly mass of phosphorus discharged and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL Calculations section.
Chloride	Daily Max	1,500 mg/L	4/Month	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Sampling shall be conducted on four consecutive days one week per month.

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Chloride	Monthly Avg	1,500 mg/L	4/Month	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Sampling shall be conducted on four consecutive days one week per month.
Chloride	Daily Max	9,860 lbs/day	4/Month	Calculated	Sampling shall be conducted on four consecutive days one week per month.
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		mg/L	Quarterly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Nitrogen, Nitrite + Nitrate Total		mg/L	Quarterly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Nitrogen, Total		mg/L	Quarterly	Calculated	Total Nitrogen shall be calculated as the sum of reported values for Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen and Total Nitrite + Nitrate Nitrogen.
Acute WET	Daily Max	1.0 TUa	See Listed Qtr(s)	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	See Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing section.

1.1.1 Changes from Previous Permit

Effluent limitations and monitoring requirements were evaluated for this permit term and the following changes were made from the previous permit. See additional explanation of limits under "Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements" below.

- **Flow Metering Method –** Sample description has been updated to reflect changes in flow sampling after facility upgrade, effective February 2027. The facility is currently measuring flow with a Parshall flume but will be utilizing a magmenter.
- **Flow –** Sample type changed from "Total Daily" to "Continuous".
- **BOD5, Total, Total Suspended Solids, Total Phosphorus, Nitrogen Ammonia –** Sample frequency changed from "weekly" to "3/week".
- **BOD5, Total –** Monthly average limit changed.
- **Total Suspended Solids –** TMDL mass limits effective following compliance schedule.
- **pH –** Sample frequency changed from "Weekly" to "5/Week".
- **Total Phosphorus –** TMDL mass limits effective following compliance schedule.
- **Chlorine –** Sample frequency changed from "Weekly" to "5/Week".
- **Chloride –** Sample frequency changed from "Monthly" to "4/Month".

- **Temperature –** Monitoring removed.

1.1.2 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Detailed discussions of limits and monitoring requirements can be found in the attached water quality-based effluent limits (WQBEL) memo dated September 29, 2026 and technology-based effluent limitations (TBEL) memo dated October 1, 2026.

Monitoring Frequencies- The Monitoring Frequencies for Individual Wastewater Permits guidance (April 12, 2021) recommends that standard monitoring frequencies be included in individual wastewater permits based on the size and type of the facility, in order to characterize effluent quality and variability, to detect events of noncompliance, and to ensure consistency in permits issued across the state. Guidance and requirements in administrative code were considered when determining the appropriate monitoring frequencies for pollutants that have final effluent limits in effect during this permit term. The sample frequency for the following parameters has been changed from "weekly" to "3/week" based on the industry type: BOD5, Suspended Solids, pH, Total Phosphorus, Nitrogen Ammonia, Chlorine and Chloride.

Expression of Limits- In accordance with the federal regulation 40 CFR 122.45(d) and s. NR 205.065, Wis. Adm. Code, limits in this permit are to be expressed as daily maximum and monthly average limits whenever practicable.

2 Land Application - Sludge/By-Product Solids (industrial only)

2.1 Sample Point Number: 002- PROCESS WASTEWATER

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Flow Rate		gpd	Daily	Total Daily	
Solids, Total		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	
Chloride		mg/L	Monthly	Grab	
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		mg/L	Monthly	Grab	
Phosphorus, Total		mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	
Phosphorus, Water Extractable		% of Tot P	Quarterly	Grab	
Potassium, Total Recoverable		mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	

2.1.1 Changes from Previous Permit:

Sludge limitations and monitoring requirements were evaluated for this permit term and the following changes were made from the previous permit. See additional explanation of limits under "Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements" below.

Flow Rate – Added to permit.

pH – Monitoring removed from permit.

Chloride and Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen – Sample frequency changed from "Quarterly" to "Monthly".

Phosphorus Total, Phosphorus Water Extractable, and Potassium – Sample frequency changed from "1/6 Months" to "Quarterly".

2.1.2 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Requirements for land application of industrial sludge are determined in accordance with ch. NR 214 Wis. Adm. Code.

Sample frequency changed for consistency with General Permit for Landspreading of Industrial Liquid Wastes WI-0055867-08.

2.2 Sample Point Number: 003- LIQUID SLUDGE and 004- CAKE SLUDGE

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Volume		tons/day	Daily	Total Daily	
Solids, Total		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	
Chloride		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	
pH Field		su	Quarterly	Grab	
Phosphorus, Total		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	
Phosphorus, Water Extractable		% of Tot P	Quarterly	Grab	
Potassium, Total Recoverable		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	
Nitrogen, Organic Total		Percent	Quarterly	Grab	
Lead Dry Wt		mg/kg	Once	Grab	
Zinc Dry Wt		mg/kg	Once	Grab	
Copper Dry Wt		mg/kg	Once	Grab	
Cadmium Dry Wt		mg/kg	Once	Grab	
Nickel Dry Wt		mg/kg	Once	Grab	
PCB Total Dry Wt		mg/kg	Annual	Grab	
PFOA + PFOS		ug/kg	Once	Calculated	Report the sum of PFOA and PFOS. See PFAS Permit Sections for more information.
PFAS Dry Wt			Once	Grab	Perfluoroalkyl and

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Volume		tons/day	Daily	Total Daily	
					Polyfluoroalkyl Substances based on updated DNR PFAS List. See PFAS Permit Sections for more information.

2.2.1 Changes from Previous Permit:

Sludge limitations and monitoring requirements were evaluated for this permit term and the following changes were made from the previous permit. See additional explanation of limits under "Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements" below.

Volume – Added to permit.

PFAS –Monitoring is required once pursuant to s. NR 214.18(5)(b), Wis. Adm. Code.

pH, Phosphorus Total, Phosphorus Water Extractable, Potassium, Ammonia Nitrogen Total, and Total Organic Nitrogen – Sample frequency changed from "1/6 Months" to "Quarterly".

Lead, Zinc, Copper, Cadmium, and Nickel – Sample frequency changed from "Annual" to "Once".

2.2.2 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Requirements for land application of industrial sludge are determined in accordance with ch. NR 214 Wis. Adm. Code.

Sample frequencies have been updated to for consistency with General Permit for Landspreading of Industrial Sludge WI-0057657-07.

PFAS- The presence and fate of PFAS in municipal and industrial sludges is an emerging public health concern. EPA has developed a draft risk assessment to determine future land application rates and released this risk assessment in January of 2025. The department is evaluating this new information. Until a decision is made, the "Interim Strategy for Land Application of Biosolids and Industrial Sludges Containing PFAS" should be followed.

Collecting sludge data on PFAS concentrations from a wide range of wastewater treatment facilities will help protect public health from exposure to elevated levels of PFAS and determine the department's implementation of EPA's recommendations. To quantitate this risk, PFAS sampling has been included in this WPDES permit pursuant to ss. NR 214.18(5)(b) and NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code.

3 Schedules

3.1 TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Phosphorus

The permittee shall comply with the WQBELs for Phosphorus as specified. No later than 14 days following each compliance date, the permittee shall notify the Department in writing of its compliance or noncompliance. If a submittal is required, a timely submittal fulfills the notification requirement.

Required Action	Due Date
Construction Upgrade Progress Report #1: The permittee shall submit a progress report on construction upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in	03/31/2029

the Surface Water section of this permit.	
Construction Upgrade Progress Report #2: The permittee shall submit a progress report on construction upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.	03/31/2030
Complete Construction: The permittee shall complete construction of wastewater treatment system upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.	11/01/2030
Achieve Compliance: The permittee shall achieve compliance with final phosphorus WQBELs. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches to Phosphorus WQBEL Compliance' in the Surface Water section of this permit.	12/31/2030

3.1.1 Explanation of Schedule

The remaining action items in the TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Phosphorus were brought over from the current permit. The completion of this schedule will result in the TMDL mass based limits becoming effective during this permit term.

3.2 TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Suspended Solids

The permittee shall comply with the TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) derived WQBELs (Water Quality Based Effluent Limits) for TSS as specified. No later than 14 days following each compliance date, the permittee shall notify the Department in writing of its compliance or noncompliance. If a submittal is required, a timely submittal fulfills the notification requirement.

Required Action	Due Date
Construction Upgrade Progress Report #1: The permittee shall submit a progress report on construction upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches' above.	03/31/2029
Construction Upgrade Progress Report #2: The permittee shall submit a progress report on construction upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches' above.	03/31/2030
Complete Construction: The permittee shall complete construction of wastewater treatment system upgrades. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches' above.	11/01/2030
Achieve Compliance: The permittee shall achieve compliance with final TSS WQBELs. Note: See 'Alternative Approaches' above.	12/31/2030

3.2.1 Explanation of Schedule

The remaining action items in the TMDL Water Quality Based Effluent Limits (WQBELs) for Total Suspended Solids were brought over from the current permit. The completion of this schedule will result in the TMDL mass based limits becoming effective during this permit term.

3.3 Land Application Management Plan

A management plan is required for the land application system.

Required Action	Due Date
Land Application Management Plan: Submit an update to the management plan to optimize the land application system performance and demonstrate compliance with Wisconsin Administrative Code NR 214. The management plan shall include options for sludge storage or alternative disposal methods during winter months.	10/01/2028

3.3.1 Explanation of Schedule

An up-to-date Land Application Management plan is a standard requirement in reissued industrial permits per s. NR 214.17(6)(c), Wis. Adm. Code.

3.4 Landspreading Alternatives

This permittee shall comply with cake sludge landspreading restrictions in accordance with s. NR 214.18(4)(c), Wis. Adm. Code, during winter conditions (frozen or snow-covered ground) and seek permanent alternative methods of disposal or storage.

Required Action	Due Date
Preliminary Alternatives Plan: The permittee shall submit a preliminary alternatives plan[TH6.1] to the Department to address alternative disposal options for cake sludge during winter conditions (frozen or snow-covered ground). The alternative options should be developed for long-term/permanent implementation. If the plan concludes that an upgrade to the current cake sludge storage infrastructure is necessary, the submittal shall include a preliminary engineering design report and a proposed timeline for completion of construction. If the plan concludes that alternative sludge disposal methods/locations will be used, the submittal shall include information on all alternative methods, both potential and confirmed. This includes: hauler name, sludge destination/location information, method of disposal, length of disposal time, information about each disposal location/method if there will be multiple prior to final disposal, alternative plans for offsite storage failure/damage/unavailability, etc.	10/01/2027
Final Alternatives Plan: The permittee shall submit a final plan regarding alternative(s) to landspreading during winter conditions. If the plan concludes that construction of new storage facilities is required, the submittal shall include a final engineering design report addressing the proposed structures and an updated timeline for completion of construction. If the plan concludes that alternative disposal methods will be used, the submittal shall include the contracted hauler, transport method and equipment, proposed hauling (pickup and dropoff) schedule, destination(s) of final sludge disposal, and spill response procedures.	10/01/2028
Progress Report #1: The permittee shall submit a report to provide updates on the implementation process of the alternative disposal option(s) identified in the Final Alternatives Plan. If the Final Alternatives Plan identified construction of new and/or upgraded storage at the facility site, the report shall include a detailed timeline of construction activities. The report shall include, at minimum: start date of construction, dates of significant construction actions, completion date of construction, date of initial use for cake sludge storage, implementation of all operations and management requirements for the storage structure/facility, etc.	01/01/2029
Progress Report #2: The permittee shall submit a report to provide updates on the continued	01/01/2030

implementation process of the alternative disposal option(s) identified in the Final Alternatives Plan. If the Final Alternatives Plan identified construction of new and/or upgraded storage at the facility site, the report shall include a detailed description of construction activities to date and since Progress Report #1 was submitted and an updated timeline of remaining construction activities. The report shall include updates to the information already submitted: start date of construction, dates of significant construction actions, completion date of construction, date of initial use for cake sludge storage, implementation of all operations and management requirements for the storage structure/facility, in addition to any other actions/information related to the construction/installation and/or operations and maintenance of the storage structure/facility.	
Achieve Compliance with Final Alternatives Plan: The permittee shall complete all actions required to implement the option(s) identified in the Final Alternatives Plan to manage cake sludge during winter conditions in accordance with ch. NR 214, Wis. Adm. Code.	10/01/2030

3.4.1 Explanation of Schedule

This permittee shall comply with cake sludge landspreading restrictions in accordance with s. NR 214.18(4)(c), Wis. Adm. Code, during winter conditions (frozen or snow-covered ground) and seek permanent alternative methods of disposal or storage.

Attachments

Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations for the Agropur Inc. Weyauwega Plant WPDES Permit No. WI-0001449-11-0, Michael Polkinghorn, dated September 29, 2026

Technology-Based Effluent Limitations for Agropur Inc. Weyauwega Plant WPDES Permit No. WI-0001449-11-0, Michael Polkinghorn, dated October 1, 2026

Justification Of Any Waivers From Permit Application Requirements

No waivers requested or granted as part of this permit reissuance

Prepared By: Ashley Clark, Wastewater Specialist

Date: October 9, 2026