STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0001449-11-0

Permittee: Agropur Inc, P O Box 410, WEYAUWEGA, WI, 54983-0410

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Agropur Inc Weyauwega Plant, 105 East Third Avenue, Weyauwega

Receiving Water And Location: Waupaca River and Groundwater in Waupaca River Watershed of Wolf River River Basin in Waupaca County

Brief 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.
Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Ashley Clark, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI, 54313, (920) 857-0450, Ashleym.Clark@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Barti Oumarou, 625 E County Road Y, Suite 700, Oshkosh, WI 54901, (920) 424-4013, Barti.Oumarou@wisconsin.gov

The Department has tentatively decided that the above-specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Land application of waste shall be done in accordance with permit conditions and applicable codes. All land application sites shall be approved prior to their use. To receive a list of approved sites, or to be notified of potential approvals, contact the above-named basin engineer.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above-named permit drafter's office or the above named basin engineer's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (920) 857-0450 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable

accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Waupaca County Post

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 600 Industrial Drive, Waupaca, WI 54981

Date Notice Issued: **Enter Date Notice Issued**