

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0059480-06-0

Permittee: Billerud Quinnesec LLC, PO Box 191, Norway, MI, 49870

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Billerud Quinnesec LLC, W6791 US Highway 2, Quinnesec, MI

Receiving Water And Location: Land application of sludge on Department approved sites in Florence and Marinette Counties in Wisconsin

Brief Facility Description: Billerud Quinnesec LLC produces approximately 1,400 tons per day of bleached kraft pulp and 1,300 tons per day coated freesheet paper. Since 1995, the Quinnesec mill has bleached its pulp with an elemental chlorine-free process that includes oxygen delignification and employs chlorine dioxide and hydrogen peroxide. Billerud treats its process wastewaters in an activated-sludge treatment system, which discharges to the Menominee River; this discharge is covered by a NPDES Permit issued by the State of Michigan. Billerud's wastewater treatment plant produces approximately 90 dry tons of sludge per day. Wastewater treatment system sludge is land applied approximately 210 days per year on Department approved sites. The mill landfills its sludge in its licensed, on-site landfill when land application is not possible. Land application of sludge occurs primarily in Florence and Marinette Counties in Wisconsin and is conducted in accordance with the facility's approved Land Application Management Plan. All land application sites in Wisconsin are approved by the Department prior to the application of mill sludge. Covered and sealed dump trucks haul the sludge to land application sites. Sludge is generally land applied on the same day that the sludge is hauled to the application site.

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: Teresa Hall, 3369 W Brewster Street, Appleton, WI 54914, (920) 841-6425, teresa.hall@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.