

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0021598-10-1

Permittee: City of Chetek, PO Box 194, Chetek, WI, 54728

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: City of Chetek, 210 Water Street, Chetek, Wisconsin

Receiving Water And Location: Chetek River in Lake Chetek watershed of the Lower Chippewa River basin in Barron County

Brief Facility Description: The “current” wastewater treatment facility located on Water Street consists of fine screens, a primary clarifier, rotating biological contractors (RBCs), chemical phosphorus removal in the form of ferric chloride and final clarifiers. Prior to discharging effluent is seasonally (May through September) disinfected using UV treatment. Sludge is anaerobic digested, then stored in a holding tank until land spread a soil conditioner on land approved by the Department. Sludge drying beds are also available.

The “new” wastewater treatment facility located on Gotham Drive consists of screens and grit removal, sequencing batch reactor (SBR) (a type of activated sludge technology), chemical phosphorus removal in the form of aluminum sulfate (alum), gravity sand filters (phosphorus removal) and seasonal disinfection (May through September) using UV treatment. Sludge is aerobically digested then stored in constructed reed beds planted with native *Phragmites australis americanus*.

Proposed Modification: Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water, including sample points, outfall monitoring and limitations for the Gotham Drive wastewater treatment facility have been added. Once the Gotham Drive facility is completely functional the permittee shall notify the department and all sample points for the Water Street facility will become inactive.

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

Permit Drafter’s Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sheri A. Snowbank, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, (715) 635-4131, Sheri.Snowbank@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer’s Name, Address, Phone and Email: Carson Johnson, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI 54801, (715) 205-7507, carson.johnson@wisconsin.gov

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 (715) 635-4131 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 AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Chetek Alert, PO Box 5, Chetek, WI 54728-0005

Date Notice Issued: Wednesday, November 20, 2024