City of Colby Public Noticed Permit Fact Sheet

General Information

Permit Number	WI-0023655-10-0
Permittee Name and Address	City of Colby, c/o City Clerk 211 W Spence St, P O Box 236, Colby WI 54421
Permitted Facility Name and Address	Colby Wastewater Treatment Facility, 803 Disposal Rd, Colby WI 54421
Permit Term	May 01, 2025 to March 31, 2030
Discharge Location	NW ¼ of NE ¼ of Section 24, T28N, R1E (Lat: 44.90081° N / Lon: 90.32382° W)
Receiving Water	Dill Creek in Upper Big Eau Pleine River of Wisconsin River (upper) in Clark County
Stream Flow ($Q_{7,10}$)	0.10 cfs
Stream Classification	Limited Forage Fish (LFF), non-public water supply.
Discharge Type	Continuous, existing
Design Flow	0.400 MGD Annual Average
Industrial or Commercial Contributors	Colby Metals
Plant Classification	A1 - Suspended Growth Processes; B - Solids Separation; C - Biological Solids/Sludges; P - Total Phosphorus; L - Laboratory; SS - Sanitary Sewage Collection System
Approved Pretreatment Program?	N/A

Facility Description

The Colby Wastewater Treatment Facility treats domestic wastewater from the City of Colby. The design flow of the facility is 0.4 million gallons per day (MGD). The actual annual average influent flow was 0.230 MGD in 2024. The actual annual average effluent flow was 0.188 MGD in 2024. Treatment consists of a bar screen, grit removal, three anoxic tanks designed for biological phosphorus removal, a two-channel oxidation ditch and two covered circular clarifiers. Additional phosphorus is removed by addition of ferric chloride. Sludge is aerobically digested and landspread on Department approved fields. Significant effluent limit and/or monitoring changes are as follows: 1) the sample frequency for flow has been changed from “continuous” to “daily” for eDMR reporting purposes (this same change has been made at the influent), 2) an increase in the DO monitoring frequency for BOD, 3) fecal coliform monitoring and limits will be replaced during the permit term with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits, per the associated compliance schedule, 4) copper limits were dropped (monitoring remains), 5) monitoring for PFOS and PFOA added every other month in accordance with s. NR 106.98(2)(c), Wis. Adm. Code along with an associated compliance schedule, and 6) temperature monitoring added in 2028, along with a schedule to install continuous temperature monitoring equipment. Additionally, to quantitate the risk, PFAS sludge sampling has been included in the permit pursuant to ss. NR214.18(5)(b) and NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code.

Substantial Compliance Determination

Enforcement During Last Permit: The facility missed entering their variable nitrogen ammonia limit on a couple of occasions early in the last permit term but did not continue to be an ongoing issue. The facility had no formal enforcement and no limit exceedances. After a desk top review of all discharge monitoring reports, land application reports, and compliance schedule items, and an inspection on 11/20/2024, Colby WWTF has been found to be in substantial compliance with their current permit.

Compliance determination made by Jenna Monahan on 11/26/2024.

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)**
701	Influent: 0.230 (2024)	Representative influent samples shall be collected at the Parshall flume before sidestreams.
001	Effluent to Dill Creek: 0.188 (2024)	Representative effluent samples shall be collected after all treatment and from the sampling manhole.
002	20 dry US tons land applied during last permit term	Representative liquid sludge samples shall be collected from the storage tank and monitored for Lists 1, 2, 3, 4 & PFAS annually and once in 2026 for PCBs.

Permit Requirements

1 Influent – Monitoring Requirements

1.1 Sample Point Number: 701- INFLUENT PRIOR TO SIDESTREAMS

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	
Suspended Solids, Total		mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	

1.2 Changes from Previous Permit:

Influent limitations and monitoring requirements were evaluated for this permit term and the only change is the flow sample frequency was changed from continuous to daily for DMR reporting purposes.

1.3 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Monitoring of influent flow, BOD5 and total suspended solids is required by s. NR 210.04(2), Wis. Adm. Code, to assess wastewater strengths and volumes and to demonstrate the percent removal requirements in s. NR 210.05, Wis. Adm. Code, and in the Standard Requirements section of the permit.

2 Surface Water - Monitoring and Limitations

2.1 Sample Point Number: 001- AFTER TREATMENT IN MANHOLE

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Continuous	
BOD5, Total	Daily Max	30 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
BOD5, Total	Monthly Avg	15 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total	Daily Max	30 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	20 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Dissolved Oxygen	Daily Min	4.0 mg/L	Daily	Grab	
pH Field	Daily Min	6.0 su	Daily	Grab	
pH Field	Daily Max	9.0 su	Daily	Grab	
Nitrogen, Ammonia Variable Limit		mg/L	3/Week	See Table	Daily max variable limit applies year-round. Look up the 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 eDMR. See ammonia section below & in permit.
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Weekly Avg	8.3 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit applies Jan - April
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Monthly Avg	3.7 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit applies Jan - April

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Weekly Avg	9.7 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit applies May - Sept
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Monthly Avg	4.2 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit applies May - Sept
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Weekly Avg	14 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit applies Oct - Dec
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH3-N) Total	Monthly Avg	6.0 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Limit applies Oct - Dec
E. coli		#/100 ml	Weekly	Grab	Monitoring only May through September annually until the final limit goes into effect per the Effluent Limitations for E. coli Schedule.
E. coli	Geometric Mean - Monthly	126 #/100 ml	Weekly	Grab	Limit Effective May through September annually per the Effluent Limitations for E. coli Schedule.
E. coli	% Exceedance	10 Percent	Monthly	Calculated	Limit & monitoring apply May-Sept. See the E. coli Percent Limit section in permit. Enter the result in the DMR on the last day of the month.
Chloride		mg/L	Quarterly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Chloride samples shall be collected at the same time as a scheduled WET test.
Copper, Total Recoverable		ug/L	Monthly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Copper samples shall be collected at the same time as a quarterly hardness sample and a scheduled WET test.
Hardness, Total as CaCO3		mg/L	Quarterly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	A quarterly hardness samples shall be collected at the same time as a monthly effluent copper sample.
Temperature Maximum		deg F	3/Week	Continuous	Monitoring required Jan – Dec 2028. See temperature section in permit and the

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
					associated schedule in the Schedules section.
PFOS		ng/L	1/ 2 Months	Grab	Monitoring only. See PFOS/PFOA section in permit & the associated schedule.
PFOA		ng/L	1/ 2 Months	Grab	
Phosphorus, Total	Monthly Avg	1.0 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	See TMDL section below & in permit.
Phosphorus, Total	Monthly Avg	1.7 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	
Phosphorus, Total	6-Month Avg	0.57 lbs/day	3/Week	Calculated	
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 section below & in permit.
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 section below & in permit.
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		mg/L	See Listed Qtr(s)	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	Monitoring required annually in specific quarters. See Nitrogen Series Monitoring section in permit for more info & specific quarters monitoring is required.
Nitrogen, Nitrite + Nitrate Total		mg/L	See Listed Qtr(s)	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	
Nitrogen, Total		mg/L	See Listed Qtr(s)	Calculated	
Acute WET	Daily Max	1.0 TUa	See Listed Qtr(s)	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	See WET testing section in the permit for more info & specific quarters monitoring is required.
Chronic WET	Monthly Avg	1.2 TUc	See Listed Qtr(s)	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	

3 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** - sample frequency was changed from continuous to daily for DMR reporting purposes

- **E. coli-** Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits added, along with a compliance schedule
- **Copper** – copper limits removed, monitoring remains at a monthly frequency
- **PFOS/PFOA** – bimonthly monitoring added, along with a compliance schedule
- **Temperature** – monitoring added in 2028, along with a schedule to install continuous temperature monitoring equipment
- **DO** – monitoring frequency increased to the standard monitoring frequency

3.1 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 written by Ben Hartenbower, "Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations for the Colby Wastewater Treatment Facility WPDES Permit No. WI-0023655", dated January 14, 2025.

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 dissolved oxygen (DO) monitoring frequency has been increased from 3/week to daily.

BOD, TSS, pH and DO: Categorical limits and WQBELs are included in the permit as outlined in ch. NR 210, Wis. Adm. Code. The effluent limitations for BOD5, Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and pH are carried over from the previous permit and are not subject to change at this time because the receiving water characteristics have not changed. The monitoring frequency for all these parameters increased in order to effectively characterize the effluent quality and variability, and to best determine compliance with effluent limitations.

Ammonia: In addition to seasonal weekly and monthly average ammonia limits, the daily maximum ammonia limits in the table below that vary with effluent pH apply year-round.

Effluent pH s.u.	Limit mg/L	Effluent pH s.u.	Limit mg/L	Effluent pH s.u.	Limit mg/L
6.0 ≤ pH ≤ 6.1	61	7.0 < pH ≤ 7.1	37	8.0 < pH ≤ 8.1	7.8
6.1 < pH ≤ 6.2	60	7.1 < pH ≤ 7.2	33	8.1 < pH ≤ 8.2	6.4
6.2 < pH ≤ 6.3	59	7.2 < pH ≤ 7.3	30	8.2 < pH ≤ 8.3	5.3
6.3 < pH ≤ 6.4	57	7.3 < pH ≤ 7.4	26	8.3 < pH ≤ 8.4	4.4
6.4 < pH ≤ 6.5	55	7.4 < pH ≤ 7.5	22	8.4 < pH ≤ 8.5	3.6
6.5 < pH ≤ 6.6	53	7.5 < pH ≤ 7.6	19	8.5 < pH ≤ 8.6	3.0
6.6 < pH ≤ 6.7	50	7.6 < pH ≤ 7.7	16	8.6 < pH ≤ 8.7	2.5
6.7 < pH ≤ 6.8	47	7.7 < pH ≤ 7.8	14	8.7 < pH ≤ 8.8	2.1
6.8 < pH ≤ 6.9	44	7.8 < pH ≤ 7.9	11	8.8 < pH ≤ 8.9	1.7
6.9 < pH ≤ 7.0	41	7.9 < pH ≤ 8.0	9.5	8.9 < pH ≤ 9.0	1.5

Thermal: The permittee re-submitted a dissipative cooling (DC) request to the department. After review, the department reapproved the DC request as part of the Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations Memo for Colby dated January 14, 2025. Therefore, no effluent temperature limits are included this permit term, however one year of effluent temperature monitoring is required in 2028 to establish a baseline of data for the next permit reissuance. The permittee is required to install a continuous effluent temperature monitoring device at Outfall 001. See the Schedules section for information.

PFOS and PFOA: NR 106 Subchapter VIII – Permit Requirements for PFOS and PFOA Dischargers became effective on August 1, 2022. At the first reissuance of a WPDES permit after August 1, 2022, the new rule requires WPDES

permits for municipal dischargers with an average flow rate less than 1 MGD, to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine if monitoring is required pursuant to s. NR 106.98(2)(c), Wis. Adm. Code. The department evaluated the need for PFOS and PFOA monitoring taking into consideration the presence of potential PFOS or PFOA industrial wastes, remediation sites and other potential sources of PFOS or PFOA. Based on information available at the time the permit was drafted, PFOS/PFOA monitoring is required because monitoring of the water supply resulted in a PFOS result is greater than one fifth of the criterion for the substance. Therefore, monitoring once every two months is included. A sample frequency of 1/2 months means one sample is taken during any two-month period. Examples of 1/2 month sample would be every other month (Jan, March, May, etc.) or back-to-back months with a break in between (February & March, May & June, Aug & Sept, etc.). DMR Short Forms will be generated for the following time periods: January-February, March-April, May-June, July-August, September-October, and November-December. At a minimum one sample result will be present on each form. The initial determination of the need for sampling shall be conducted for up to two years in order to determine if the permitted discharge has the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to an exceedance of the PFOS or PFOA standards under s. NR 102.04(8)(d)1, Wis. Adm. Code.

Phosphorus- Chapter NR 217, Wis. Adm. Code. specifies WQBELs (water quality-based effluent limits) for discharges of phosphorus to surface waters of the state. WQBELs for phosphorus are needed whenever the discharge contains phosphorus at concentrations or loadings that will cause or contribute to an exceedance of the water quality standards.

Colby is included within the Wisconsin River Basin (WRB) total maximum daily load (TMDL), which was approved by EPA April 26, 2019. The TMDL establishes Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) for point source dischargers and determines the maximum amount of phosphorus that can be discharged and still protect water quality. The final effluent limits and monitoring expressed in the permit were derived from Site-Specific Criteria (SSC) for Lakes Petenwell, Castle Rock, and Wisconsin originally included in Appendix K of the TMDL report and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on July 9, 2020. The permittee's approved SSC-based WLA for this permittee is 168 lbs/yr and results in a calculated phosphorus mass limits of 1.70 lbs/day expressed as a monthly average and 0.57 lbs/day expressed as a six-month average.

Facilities with WRB TMDL based effluent limits for phosphorus must report the 12-month rolling sum of total monthly discharge (lbs/yr). If reported 12-month rolling sums exceed the facility's max annual WLA, the facility's mass limits (monthly average) may be recalculated using more appropriate CVs or monitoring frequencies when the permit is reissued to bring discharge levels into compliance with the facility's given WLA.

Total Nitrogen Monitoring (NO2+NO3, TKN and Total N)- The Department has included effluent monitoring for Total Nitrogen in the permit through the authority under §§ 283.55(1)(e), Wis. Stats., which allows the department to require the permittee to submit information necessary to identify the type and quantity of any pollutants discharged from the point source, and through s. NR 200.065(1)(h), Wis. Adm. Code, which allows for this monitoring to be collected during the permit term. More information on the justification to include total nitrogen monitoring in wastewater permits can be found in the "Guidance for Total Nitrogen Monitoring in Wastewater Permits" dated October 1, 2019. Testing is required annually; see permit for specific quarters.

4 Land Application - Monitoring and Limitations

Municipal Sludge Description						
Sample Point	**Sludge Class (A or B)**	**Sludge Type (Liquid or Cake)**	**Pathogen Reduction Method**	**Vector Attraction Method**	**Reuse Option**	**Amount Reused/Disposed (Dry Tons/Year)**
002	B	Liquid	Fecal coliform	Injection or VSR	Land application	20
Does sludge management demonstrate compliance? Yes						

Municipal Sludge Description						
Sample Point	**Sludge Class (A or B)**	**Sludge Type (Liquid or Cake)**	**Pathogen Reduction Method**	**Vector Attraction Method**	**Reuse Option**	**Amount Reused/Disposed (Dry Tons/Year)**
Is additional sludge storage required? No						
Is Radium-226 present in the water supply at a level greater than 2 pCi/liter? No						
Is a priority pollutant scan required? No Priority pollutant scans are required once every 10 years at facilities with design flows between 5 MGD and 40 MGD, and once every 5 years if design flow is greater than 40 MGD.						

4.1 Sample Point Number: 002- SLUDGE @ STORAGE TANK

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
Solids, Total		Percent	Annual	Composite	
Arsenic Dry Wt	Ceiling	75 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Arsenic Dry Wt	High Quality	41 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Cadmium Dry Wt	Ceiling	85 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Cadmium Dry Wt	High Quality	39 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Copper Dry Wt	Ceiling	4,300 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Copper Dry Wt	High Quality	1,500 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Lead Dry Wt	Ceiling	840 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Lead Dry Wt	High Quality	300 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Mercury Dry Wt	Ceiling	57 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Mercury Dry Wt	High Quality	17 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Molybdenum Dry Wt	Ceiling	75 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Nickel Dry Wt	Ceiling	420 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Nickel Dry Wt	High Quality	420 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Selenium Dry Wt	Ceiling	100 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Selenium Dry Wt	High Quality	100 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Zinc Dry Wt	Ceiling	7,500 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Zinc Dry Wt	High Quality	2,800 mg/kg	Annual	Composite	
Nitrogen, Total Kjeldahl		Percent	Annual	Composite	
Nitrogen, Ammonium		Percent	Annual	Composite	

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	**Limit Type**	**Limit and Units**	**Sample Frequency**	**Sample Type**	**Notes**
(NH4-N) Total					
Phosphorus, Total		Percent	Annual	Composite	
Phosphorus, Water Extractable		% of Tot P	Annual	Composite	
Potassium, Total Recoverable		Percent	Annual	Composite	
PCB Total Dry Wt	Ceiling	50 mg/kg	Once	Composite	Once in 2026
PCB Total Dry Wt	High Quality	10 mg/kg	Once	Composite	Once in 2026
PFOA + PFOS		ug/kg	Annual	Calculated	Report the sum of PFOA and PFOS. See PFAS Permit Sections for more information.
PFAS Dry Wt			Annual	Grab	Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances based on updated DNR PFAS List. See PFAS Permit Sections for more information.

4.2 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.

PFAS –Monitoring is required annually pursuant to NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code.

4.3 Explanation of Limits and Monitoring Requirements

Requirements for disposal, including land application of municipal sludge, are determined in accordance with ch. NR 204, Wis. Adm. Code. Ceiling and high-quality limits for metals in sludge are specified in s. NR 204.07(5). Requirements for pathogens are specified in s. NR 204.07(6) and in s. NR 204.07 (7) for vector attraction requirements. Limitations for PCBs are addressed in s. NR 204.07(3)(k). Radium requirements are addressed in s. NR 204.07(3)(n).

PFAS- The presence and fate of PFAS in municipal and industrial sludges is an emerging public health concern. EPA is currently developing a risk assessment to determine future land application rates and expects to release this risk assessment by the end of 2024. In the interim, the department has developed the "Interim Strategy for Land Application of Biosolids and Industrial Sludges Containing PFAS."

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.

5 Schedules

5.1 Effluent Limitations for E. coli

The permittee shall comply with surface water limitations for E. coli 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

Required Action	Due Date
Status Update: The permittee shall submit information within the discharge monitoring report (DMR) comment section documenting the steps taken in preparation for properly monitoring and testing for E. coli including, but not limited to, selected test method and location of sampling.	05/21/2025
Operational Evaluation Report: The permittee shall prepare and submit an Operational Evaluation Report to the Department for review and approval. The report shall include an evaluation of collected effluent data and proposed operational improvements that will optimize efficacy of disinfection at the treatment plant during the period prior to complying with final E. coli limitations and, to the extent possible, enable compliance with the final E. coli limitations. The report shall include a plan and schedule for implementation of the operational improvements. These improvements shall occur as soon as possible, but not later than 04/30/2026. The report shall state whether the operational improvements are expected to result in compliance with the final E. coli limitations. The permittee shall implement the operational improvements in accordance with the approved plan and schedule specified in the Operational Evaluation Report and in no case later than 04/30/2026. If the Operational Evaluation Report concludes that the operational improvements are expected to result in compliance with the final E. coli limitations, the permittee shall comply with the final E. coli limitations by 04/30/2026 and the permittee is not required to comply with subsequent milestones identified below in this compliance schedule (‘Submit Facility Plan’, 'Final Plans and Specifications', 'Treatment Plant Upgrade to Meet Limitations', ‘Construction Upgrade Progress Report’, 'Complete Construction', 'Achieve Compliance'). FACILITY PLAN - If the Operational Evaluation Report concludes that operational improvements alone are not expected to result in compliance with the final E. coli limitations, the permittee shall initiate development of a facility plan for meeting final E. coli limitations and comply with the remaining required actions in this schedule of compliance. If the Department disagrees with the conclusion of the report and determines that the permittee can achieve final E. coli limitations using the existing treatment system with only operational improvements, the Department may reopen and modify the permit to include an implementation schedule for achieving the final E. coli limitations sooner than 04/30/2029.	11/30/2025
Submit Facility Plan: If the Operational Evaluation Report concluded that the permittee cannot achieve final E. coli limitations with operational improvements alone, the permittee shall submit a Facility Plan per s. NR 110.09, Wis. Adm. Code. The permittee may submit an abbreviated facility plan if the Department determines that the modifications are minor.	04/30/2026
Final Plans and Specifications: The permittee shall submit final construction plans to the Department for approval pursuant to ch. NR 108, Wis. Adm. Code, specifying treatment plant upgrades that must be constructed to achieve compliance with final E. coli limitations and a schedule for completing construction of the upgrades by the complete construction date specified below.	03/31/2027
Treatment Plant Upgrade to Meet Limitations: The permittee shall initiate bidding, procurement, and/or construction of the project. The permittee shall obtain approval of the final construction plans	09/30/2027

and schedule from the Department pursuant to s. 281.41. Stats., prior to initiating activities defined as construction under ch. NR 108, Wis. Adm. Code. Upon approval of the final construction plans and schedule by the Department pursuant to s. 281.41, Stats., the permittee shall construct the treatment plant upgrades in accordance with the approved plans and specifications.	
Construction Upgrade Progress Report: The permittee shall submit a progress report on construction upgrades.	09/30/2028
Complete Construction: The permittee shall complete construction of wastewater treatment system upgrades.	03/31/2029
Achieve Compliance: The permittee shall achieve compliance with final E. coli limitations.	04/30/2029

Explanation of Schedules: A compliance schedule is included in the permit to provide time for the permittee to investigate options for meeting new effluent E. coli water quality-based effluent limits while coming into compliance with the limits as soon as reasonably possible.

5.2 Install Continuous Temperature Monitoring Device at Outfall 001

The permittee shall install a continuous effluent temperature monitoring device at Outfall 001 in accordance with the following schedule:

Required Action	Due Date
Submit Report: Permittee shall submit a report with a timeline & plan for obtaining and installing a continuous effluent flow temperature device at Outfall 001.	06/30/2026
Complete Installation: Permittee shall complete installation of the continuous temperature monitoring device at Outfall 001.	11/30/2027
Begin Monitoring and Reporting Temperature: Permittee shall begin continuously monitoring temperature at Outfall 001 in order to submit effluent temperature data at a minimum of 3X/week in 2028 per Section 2.2 of this permit.	01/01/2028

5.3 PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need

Required Action	Due Date
Report on Effluent Discharge: Submit a report on effluent PFOS and PFOA concentrations and include an analysis of trends in monthly and annual average PFOS and PFOA concentrations. This analysis should also include a comparison to the applicable narrative standard in s. NR 102.04(8)(d), Wis. Adm. Code. This report shall include all additional PFOS and PFOA data that may be collected including any influent, intake, in-plant, collection system sampling, and blank sample results.	03/31/2026
Report on Effluent Discharge and Evaluation of Need: Submit a final report on effluent PFOS and PFOA concentrations and include an analysis of trends in monthly and annual average PFOS and PFOA concentrations of data collected over the last 24 months. The report shall also provide a comparison on the likelihood of the facility needing to develop a PFOS/PFOA minimization plan. This report shall include all additional PFOS and PFOA data that may be collected including any influent, intake, in-plant, collection system sampling, and blank sample results. The permittee shall also submit a request to the department to evaluate the need for a PFOS/PFOA	03/31/2027

minimization plan. If the Department determines a PFOS/PFOA minimization plan is needed based on a reasonable potential evaluation, the permittee will be required to develop a minimization plan for Department approval no later than 90 days after written notification was sent from the Department. The Department will modify or revoke and reissue the permit to include PFOS/PFOA minimization plan reporting requirements along with a schedule of compliance to meet WQBELs. Effluent monitoring of PFOS and PFOA shall continue as specified in the permit until the modified permit is issued. If, however, the Department determines there is no reasonable potential for the facility to discharge PFOS or PFOA above the narrative standard in s. NR 102.04(8)(d), Wis. Adm. Code, no further action is required and effluent monitoring of PFOS and PFOA shall continue as specified in the permit.	

Explanation of PFOA/PFOA Schedule: As stated above, NR 106 Subchapter VIII – Permit Requirements for PFOS and PFOA Dischargers became effective on August 1, 2022. S. NR 106.98, Wis. Adm. Code, specifies steps to generate data in order to determine the need for reducing PFOS and PFOA in the discharge. Data generated per the effluent monitoring requirements will be used to determine the need for developing a PFOS/PFOA minimization plan. As part of the schedule, the permittee is required to submit two annual Reports on Effluent Discharge.

If the department determines that a minimization plan is needed, the permit will be modified or revoked/reissued to include additional requirements.

Other Comments

Publishing Newspaper: Tribune-Phonograph, 103 W Spruce Street, PO Box 677, Abbotsford, WI, 54405-0677

Attachments

"Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations for the Colby Wastewater Treatment Facility WPDES Permit No. WI-0023655", dated January 14, 2025.

Justification Of Any Waivers From Permit Application Requirements

No waivers requested or granted as part of this permit reissuance

Prepared By: Holly Heldstab, Wastewater Specialist **Date:** February 3, 2025