

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REVOKE/REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE  
ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0023655-10-0

Permittee: City of Colby, c/o City Clerk 211 W Spence St, Colby, WI, 54421

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Colby Wastewater Treatment Facility, 803 Disposal Rd, Colby, WI 54421

Receiving Water And Location: Dill Creek in Upper Big Eau Pleine River of Wisconsin River (upper) in Clark County

Brief 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.

Permit Drafter’s Name, Address, Phone and Email: Holly Heldstab, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI, 54701, (715) 492-0483, Holly.Heldstab@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer’s Name, Address, Phone and Email: Jenna Monahan, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 492-4323, jenna.monahan@wisconsin.gov

Reason For Revoke/Reissue: Effluent data collected at the facility indicates the copper limit in the current permit set to become effective 09/30/2025 is not needed. Instead of modifying the permit to remove the copper limit and associated compliance schedule, and because the permit is so close to the normal reissuance date, the department is going through the reissuance process early, thereby necessitating a revocation of the existing permit.

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

Dissipative Cooling: The department may account for dissipative cooling of the permittee’s treated domestic sewage effluent in determining the need for sub-lethal temperature limits pursuant to s. NR 106.59, Wis. Adm. Code. Based on the department’s evaluation it has been determined that sub-lethal effluent limits for temperature are not necessary because the permittee’s effluent thermal load is adequately dissipated. Comments on this determination are requested.

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) 492-0483 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: Tribune-Phonograph, 103 W Spruce Street, PO Box 677, Abbotsford, WI, 54405-0677

Date Notice Issued: Wednesday, February 12, 2025