

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0022772-10-2

Permittee: CITY OF WAUPUN, 817 South Madison St, Waupun, WI, 53963-0431

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Waupun Wastewater Treatment Facility, 501 NORTH FOND DU LAC STREET, WAUPUN, WISCONSIN

Receiving Water And Location: South Branch of Rock River (Upper Rock River Watershed, UR12 – Upper Rock River Basin) in Fond du Lac County

Brief Facility Description: The Waupun Wastewater Treatment Facility was originally constructed in 1951, updated in 1970, 1982, and again in 2001. The facility initiated another major upgrade in 2021. The permittee submitted a 2020 facility plan for a facility upgrade that will increase the annual average design flow of the treatment facility from 1.8 MGD to 2.14 MGD. Construction of the facility upgrade will be completed by December 31, 2024, and this permit is based on the upgraded facility. The facility's preliminary and primary treatment includes influent pumping, fine screening, grit removal, and primary settling. Secondary treatment is provided through a trickling filter and activated sludge, both of which are followed by secondary clarifiers. Phosphorus is removed through the addition of ferric chloride, which is fed prior to the secondary clarifiers. The facility's sand filters were demolished as a part of the current upgrades. Effluent from the secondary clarifiers will be pumped to a tertiary algal treatment process for low-level phosphorus removal followed by a membrane separation unit process to capture the algae. The effluent from the membrane process will flow to the existing chlorine contact basin for seasonal disinfection, followed by dechlorination and discharge to the Rock River. Algal sludge captured by the membrane separation unit will be centrifuged for thickening, then dried in a double drum dryer. Sludge from primary and secondary clarifiers is digested anaerobically and stored as liquid sludge or dewatered on a belt filter press. Digested sludge is seasonally applied to farm fields as a soil amendment.

When flows are greater than 2.76 MGD, a portion of the flow will bypass the tertiary algal treatment process. This is regulated as an "other bypass" under s. NR 205.07(1)(u)3, Wis. Adm. Code. When flows are greater than 5.5 MGD, a portion of the wastewater will bypass secondary treatment and the tertiary algal treatment process. This is regulated as "blending" under s. NR 210.12, Wis. Adm. Code. In both instances, the bypassed flow will rejoin the fully treated flow at the chlorine contact basin for seasonal disinfection. Sampling will occur and compliance with effluent limitations is required during all "Other Bypass" and "Blending" events. This permit language provides additional details for when prohibited actions such as bypassing can occur for this facility under specific conditions. The sludge outfalls will be finalized prior to discharge from the new sludge outfalls. When final sludge outfalls are activated, the permittee will work with the department to determine the appropriate timing for monitoring of List 1, 2, 3 and/or 4 based on timing and operations.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Jennifer Jerich, DNR, N7725 Hwy 28, Horicon, WI, 53032, (920) 450-4078, Jennifer.Jerich@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Jordan Main, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711, (608) 535-0368, jordan.main@wisconsin.gov

Proposed Modification: Permit Modification -2 completed for the following to items. Changes are highlighted in green. The permit modification removed the Total Phosphorus mass limits set to become effective 1/1/2025 and added the Adaptive Management requirements to the Surface Water section and Compliance Schedules per the approved Adaptive Management Plan (WQT-2024-0026 – November 2024).

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

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) 450-4078 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: Beaver Dam Daily Citizen

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 805 Park Ave. PO Box 558 Beaver Dam, WI 53916

Date Notice Issued: Tuesday, November 26, 2024