

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0051241-11-0

Permittee: Del Monte Foods, Inc., 1400 Plover Road, Plover, WI, 54467

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Del Monte Foods Plover Plant #107, 1400 Plover Rd., Plover, WI

Receiving Water And Location: groundwater of Four Mile & Five Mile Creek Watersheds of the Upper Wisconsin River Basin in Portage County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: Del Monte Foods Plant #107 in Plover, WI produces canned vegetables for human consumption. Vegetables processed at the plant include green beans, wax beans, Italian beans, beets, potatoes and carrots at a rate of approximately 11 million common cases per year. The facility uses city-supplied and onsite well water for vegetable processing and equipment sanitation. On average, from June to December of each year the facility produces about 84 million gallons (MG) of process wastewater (not including cooling water). This process wastewater is discharged through the following four irrigation wastewater treatment systems located near the factory: 1) a full sweep center pivot irrigation system that covers 125 acres (Outfall 001), 2) a half pivot irrigation system that covers 49 acres (Outfall 007), 3) a center pivot irrigation system on 112.6 acres (Outfall 008) and 4) full pivot spray irrigation on 36 acres (Outfall 010). The process wastewater is applied in a load/rest cycle to hold the water in the top few feet of soil for treatment and uptake of the applied nutrients by the harvested cover crops. The cover crops are harvested two or more times each year and are used as cattle feed on nearby farms.

Two land treatment systems are in operation for the treatment of approximately 57.7 million gallons (MG) of non-process wastewaters annually: 1) Can cooling water is spray irrigated via the plant lawn sprinkler system with an average flow of 28.5 MG annually on 16 acres (Outfall 003), and 2) infiltration of approximately 29.2 MG annually of noncontact cooling water (NCCW) and can cooling water on a 3-acre grassed area 6600 feet north of the facility (Outfall 009). This helps enhance groundwater recharge in the vicinity of the Little Plover River.

All sanitary waste from the facility and overflow of brine from the lidding operation is segregated from the rest of the process wastewater and discharged to the Village of Plover municipal sewer system. A groundwater monitoring system is in place onsite to monitor impacts to groundwater from the spray irrigation systems. The facility also disposes of vegetable processing wastewater (Outfall 011) and by-product solids (Outfall 005) via land application on Department approved fields.

Three groundwater monitoring wells are no longer used for determining compliance, therefore a compliance schedule has been included in the permit that requires the permittee determine whether to abandon or annually inspect the well. Other compliance schedules included in the permit require the permittee submit updated land application and land treatment management plans, as well as investigate elevated concentrations of nitrite + nitrate nitrogen found in two groundwater monitoring wells.

See specific sections of the associated public noticed fact sheet for significant proposed changes to the permit requirements.

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: Michael Chang, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 491-3639, michael.chang@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 (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.

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Date Notice Issued: August 18, 2025