

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0051241-10-1

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: the groundwaters of Fourmile Creek, Fivemile Creek, and Little Plover River drainage basins in the Southern Sub-basin of the Upper Wisconsin River Watershed located in Portage County.

Brief Facility Description: Facility Description: 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 has been managed through discharge to 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 small ½ pivot sprinkler system that covers 17 acres (Outfall 002), 3) a half pivot irrigation system that covers 49 acres (Outfall 007), and 4) a center pivot irrigation system on 112.6 acres (Outfall 008, approved during the last permit term and located just north of the factory). 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 56 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 31 MG annually on 16 acres (Outfall 003), and 2) infiltration of approximately 25 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 to 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 recycles vegetable processing wastewater and by-product solids via landspreading on Department approved fields.

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

Proposed Modification: Del Monte has requested this permit modification to add a fifth spray irrigation outfall (010) that will receive treated effluent from the WWTF. This outfall will have the same wastewater that goes to current Outfall 008 and is located directly north of Outfall 008. A requirement that the permittee install two new groundwater monitoring wells to track compliance and impacts to groundwater from the new spray irrigation outfall was required as part of the plan approval process for the new spray irrigation field, therefore those two wells and the associated groundwater PALs/Ess are also included. Because the permittee discontinued use of spray irrigation outfall 002, it has been removed from the permit in this modification. Also included in this modification is the requirement that the permittee submit updated Land Treatment and Land Application Management Plans.

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 (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.

PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Stevens Point Journal, PO Box 7, Stevens Point, WI 54481-0007

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, July 11, 2024