

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0000035-10-0

Permittee: Foremost Farms USA Reedsburg, 501 S Pine St, Reedsburg, WI, 53959

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Foremost Farms USA Reedsburg, 501 S Pine St, Reedsburg, WI 53959

Receiving Water And Location: The Baraboo River via storm sewer

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The operations at the facility include receiving, transfer, and storage of bulk milk from dairy farms and receiving cream from other dairy plants. The plant receives 1,400,000 pounds of milk per day. These products are processed to produce butter with current production at 425,000 pounds per day. Also, currently produced are condensed skim milk and condensed buttermilk (300,000 pounds per day) through a mechanical vapor recompression evaporator prior to shipment to other Foremost Farms USA cheese plants. The evaporator generated excess condensate of whey (COW), is discharged to Outfall 001. The plant washes all trucks after unloading. Plant equipment is washed, either by hand or by clean-in-place (CIP) with all process wash water, boiler blow down and sanitary waste is discharged to the City of Reedsburg wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

Currently the non-contact cooling water and condensate of whey (COW) are discharged via outfall 001 to the Baraboo River via a storm sewer which turns into an unnamed tributary. The conductivity of the effluent is monitored continuously with a daily maximum value (umhos/cm) reported on the DMR. Any value that exceeds the set point is diverted to sanitary wastewater drain. High strength dairy waste is land applied under Outfall 002 on department approved landspreading sites.

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: Tanner Connors, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711, (608) 575-6891, Tanner.Connors@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 (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 AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Baraboo News Republic, 714 Matts Ferry Rd,
Reedsburg, WI, 53959

Date Notice Issued: Tuesday, May 21, 2024