

State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
South Central Region Headquarters
3911 Fish Hatchery Rd
Fitchburg, WI 53711-5397

Tony Evers, Governor
Telephone (608) 275-3266
Toll Free 1-888-936-7463
TTY Access via relay - 711



December 18, 2024

Andy Selle
City Engineer
City of Fort Atkinson
101 N Main Street
Fort Atkinson WI, 53538

Subject: City of Fort Atkinson Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) – WPDES Permit No. WI-S050075-3 – Water Quality Trading Plan – **CONDITIONAL APPROVAL**

Dear Mr. Selle:

On behalf of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), the WDNR has conditionally approved the proposed Water Quality Trading plan dated September 26, 2022. The Water Quality Trading (WQT) plan from the City of Fort Atkinson (Fort Atkinson) is designed to make progress on Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended Solids Rock River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) per MS4 permit requirements.

Based on WNDNR review, the final WQT plan, dated September 2022, is in general conformance with WDNR Water Quality Trading guidance and Section 283.84 of the Wisconsin State Statutes.

The WQT plan indicates Fort Atkinson will utilize WQT to help achieve WLAs. Fort Atkinson's WQT plan proposes the MS4 conduct a trade with the municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) for excess treatment of Total Phosphorus and Total Suspended Solids per the WLAs with the WWTF discharging under a lowered permit limit in Rock River TMDL Reach 60. Table 1 below provides the amount of credit that will be available to Fort Atkinson's MS4.

Table 1

Pollutant	Credits
Total Phosphorus	376 lbs/year
Total Suspended Solids	15.6 tons/year

WDNR conditionally approves the WQT plan as a basis for water quality trading during the next WPDES permit term. This approval is not to be construed as an approval for any activities requiring permit coverage under ch. 30 or 31, Wis. Stats. The Department has assigned the WQT plan a tracking number of **WQT-2024-0030** and will be referenced as such in the MS4 General Permit at the time of reissuance. The final WQT plan will be included as part of its own public notice and the final approval of the plan will be the issuance of the MS4 GP with Fort Atkinson's Plan referenced.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 608-445-3078 or at sean.spencer@wisconsin.gov.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sean Spencer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'S'.

Sean Spencer
Stormwater Specialist
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources