

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0022489-11-0

Permittee: CITY OF FORT ATKINSON, 101 North Main Street, Fort Atkinson, WI, 53538

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Fort Atkinson Wastewater Treatment Facility, 1600 FARMCO LANE, FORT ATKINSON, WISCONSIN

Receiving Water And Location: Rock River (Lower Koshkonong Creek Watershed, LR11 – Lower Rock River Basin) in Jefferson County. SW ¼ of SE ¼ Section 8, T5N, R14E.

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The City of Fort Atkinson operates a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) providing secondary treatment for a combination of domestic, commercial, and industrial wastewater. The facility is an activated sludge plant. Processes include perforated plate screens, raw wastewater pumping, grit removal, primary clarification, activated sludge aeration basins, secondary clarification, tertiary disk filters for phosphorus removal, and chlorine disinfection. Primary and secondary sludge are aerobically digested in three aerobic digesters. Secondary sludge is thickened prior to digestion with a gravity belt thickener. After digestion the sludge is further dewatered with a centrifuge. Solids are stored on a covered pad until land application on area farm sites. Treated effluent is discharged via outfall 001 to the Rock River. After a desk top review of all discharge monitoring reports, CMARs, land application reports, compliance schedule items, and a site visit on August 24, 2023, this facility has been found to be in substantial compliance with their current permit.

Monitoring effluent flow rate is included in the permit. The monthly average total suspended solids limit has been updated in accordance with WQT Plan No. WQT-2024-0030. Fecal coliform monitoring and limits have been replaced with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits. The monthly average phosphorus limit for February, March, April, May, and June have been updated in accordance with WQT Plan No. WQT-2024-0030. The sample frequency for temperature has changed to 'Daily' for eDMR reporting purposes. Monthly monitoring for chloride in 2029 is included in the permit. Monitoring once every two months for PFOS & PFOA is included in the permit. A monthly average chronic WET limit is included in the permit. Monitoring sludge annually for PFAS is included in the permit.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: BetsyJo Howe, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, Fitchburg, WI, 53711, (608) 419-4155, Betsyjo.Howe@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Ashley Brechlin, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711, (608) 438-9930, ashley.brechlin@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 (608) 419-4155 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: Daily Jefferson County Union

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 28 Milwaukee West, PO Box 801, Fort Atkinson, WI, 53538-0801

Date Notice Issued: Wednesday, March 26, 2025