STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0031577-09-0

Permittee: Gibbsville Sanitary District, N3018 State Rd 32, Oostburg, WI, 53070

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Gibbsville Sanitary District, CTH OK, Lima Township

Receiving Water And Location: Onion River (Onion River Watershed, Sheboygan River Basin) in Sheboygan County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Gibbsville Sanitary District services approximately 500 residents with no industrial contributors. The wastewater treatment plan has an average design flow of 0.054 MGD and is fed by two collection system pump stations. The main pump station sends raw wastewater to the plant via a force main that then discharges to a two-cell influent septic tank where heavy organics settle out. From the septic tanks, the wastewater discharges to the recirculating sand filter pump station where it is pumped up to the sand filter beds and distributed by two-inch header pipes to eight filter cells. Each cell is dosed with wastewater two times per hour in series. The wastewater then filters by gravity through several feet of sand and course gravel to collection pipes. It is then forced by gravity back to the recirculation tank where it either mixes with septic tank decant or is diverted to ultraviolet disinfection before being discharged to the Onion River. Accumulated solids from the septic tank are removed consistent with recommended removal rates and hauled offsite for disposal by a licensed septage hauler. The Department has found the facility to be in substantial compliance with the current permit.

Permit Drafter’s Name, Address, Phone and Email: Lisa Creegan, DNR, 1027 W St Paul Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53233, (414) 897-5701, Lisa.Creegan@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer’s Name, Address, Phone and Email: Curtis Nickels, DNR, 1155 Pilgrim Road, Plymouth, WI 53073, (920) 893-8530, Curtis.Nickels@wisconsin.gov

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Proposed Phosphorus Variance: The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) for phosphorus is needed in this permit to protect water quality. As allowed under s. 283.15, Wis. Stats., Variance to Water Quality Standard, the permittee has requested a variance to the phosphorus WQBEL. In support of this request, the permittee has submitted documentation intended to demonstrate eligibility for the variance based on applicable factors. The Department concurs with the demonstration; however, this concurrence is subject to US EPA approval before the variance limit may be included in the final reissued permit. In an effort to achieve phosphorus effluent reductions that are practically and economically achievable within the term of the proposed permit, the Department and permittee have mutually agreed upon specific permit conditions that include a variance limitation, monitoring of phosphorus at the frequency described in the permit and submittal of reports on source reduction measures oriented toward attainment of the phosphorus water quality standard. The designated use of the receiving water will not change as a result of the variance.

Hearing Date, Time, and Location: September 19, 2022, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87374927596

Meeting ID: 873 7492 7596

One tap mobile
833 548 0276 US Toll-free

Hearing Officer, Name, Address, City/State/Zip, and Phone: Lisa Creegan, 1027 W Saint Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, WI, 53233, (414) 897-5701

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to Section 283.49, Wisconsin Statutes, has scheduled for the time and place listed above, a public hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the above announced permit action for this existing discharge.

A hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly and speedy way and will use procedures specified in Subchapter II of ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, necessary to insure broad public participation in the hearing.

The hearing officer will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be used during the course of the hearing. The hearing officer shall explain the method of notification of the final decision to grant or deny the permit and the methods by which the decision may be reviewed in a public adjudicatory hearing.
The hearing officer may put limits on individual oral statements to ensure an opportunity for all persons present to make statements in a reasonable period of time and to prevent undue repetition. The hearing officer may also limit the number of representatives making oral statements on behalf of any person or group.

Informational and clarifying questions and oral statements shall be directed through the hearing officer. Cross-examination shall not be allowed.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the above-named permit drafter’s address. All comments or suggestions received from members of the public no later than 7 days following the date of this public hearing will be used, along with other information on file and testimony presented at the hearing, in making a final determination. 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.

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 (414) 897-5701 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: Sheboygan Press, 632 Center Ave., Sheboygan, WI 53081-4621

Date Notice Issued: August 2, 2022