

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0063053-04-2

Permittee: GREATER BAYFIELD WWTP COMMISSION, P O Box 1170, Bayfield, WI 54814

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Greater Bayfield WWTP Commission, 85025 OLD SAN ROAD, BAYFIELD, WISCONSIN

Receiving Water And Location: A dry run tributary to Lake Superior within the Bayfield Peninsula Southeast Watershed in the Lake Superior Drainage Basin in Bayfield County

Brief Facility Description: The Greater Bayfield Wastewater Treatment Plant Commission (GBWTPC) owns and operates the Greater Bayfield Wastewater Treatment Plant. The plant serves the City of Bayfield and Pikes Bay Sanitary District and is designed to perform at a level which exceeds state and federal standards. Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Ontario identified Lake Superior as a zero discharge demonstration zone. The GBWTPC has agreed to provide a higher level of treatment to protect the water quality of Lake Superior.

The GBWTPC plant is designed to treat 300,000 gallons per day. Effluent is discharged year-round. The facility includes a mechanical bar screen followed by an anaerobic tank and oxidation ditches. Organic material is treated aerobically in the oxidation ditches through the activated sludge process. The system is also designed for biological phosphorous removal (BPR) and denitrification. Chemical (alum) addition is also used as needed to ensure compliance with phosphorous limits. The oxidation ditches include mixed anoxic zones to promote denitrification. Final clarifiers allow solids to settle out of the wastewater prior to additional filtration. Cloth disk filtration further polishes the wastewater, allowing the plant to reach its goals of <2mg/L BOD and TSS and further reduce particulate phosphorous concentrations. Effluent is treated seasonally (May 1st to October 31st annually) by an ultraviolet disinfection system before entering a dry run to Lake Superior.

The majority of settled sludge from the final clarifiers is returned to the beginning of the oxidation ditches as return activated sludge (RAS) and a portion of the sludge is sent to aerobic digesters as WAS. The digested solids are pumped to the Biosolids Native Reed Beds, where natural transpiration through the reeds allows the solids to dry in an energy efficient manner. Sludge management and storage provides for approximately 7 years or more of storage.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sarah Donoughe, DNR, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI 54313-6727, (920) 662-5148, Sarah.Donoughe@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Eric de Venecia, DNR, 1701 N 4TH ST, Superior, WI 54880, (715) 685-4155, Eric.DeVenecia@wisconsin.gov

Proposed Modification: The permit modification is proposed to reduce the effluent PFOS/PFOA sampling frequency from 1/ 2 months to annual, after a review of submitted data, pursuant to s. NR 205.066, Wis. Adm. Code

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

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) 662-5148 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: Superior Telegram

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 424 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802

Date Notice Issued: August 8, 2025