

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0024261-11-1

Permittee: Village of Holmen, PO Box 158, Holmen, WI 54636-0158

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Holmen Wastewater Treatment Facility, W7215 Remus Rd, Holmen, WI

Receiving Water And Location: Halfway Creek in the Lower Black River Watershed of the Black River Basin located in La Crosse County

Brief Facility Description: The Village of Holmen owns and operates an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant which consists of primary screening, settling, aerobic digestion and clarification. In 2020 the wastewater treatment facility site was upgraded with a new oxidation ditch wastewater treatment system and associated unit treatment process upgrades and improvements. The improvements incorporated enhanced biological phosphorus reduction capability, as well as utilizing tertiary sand filters charged with ferric chloride. The wastewater is seasonally disinfected with UV light prior to discharge into Halfway Creek. The facility accepts domestic wastewater from the Village as well as industrial wastewater from Northern Engraving Co., Pamela Tietz Innovations, Inc and Holmen Cheese. The annual average design flow of the current facility is 0.863 million gallons per day (MGD) and had an actual annual average influent flow of 0.609 MGD in 2021. The permittee has two sludge landspreading outfalls; one outfall for liquid sludge and the other for cake sludge. Sludge is aerated, thickened, then put in drying beds or stored before it is hauled. During the last permit term, the permittee began having all sludge hauled by a licensed hauler. Holmen wishes to retain the option to land apply sludge on their own approved fields, however. The SOMAT was replaced with a Huber Screw Press during the last permit term.

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: Katherine Jerzak, DNR, 1300 W Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 491-0207, katherine.jerzak@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: La Crosse Tribune

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 401 N. Third St., La Crosse, WI 54601-3281

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, December 19, 2024