

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT NO. WI-0026085-10-0

Permittee: Neenah-Menasha Sewerage Commission, 101 Garfield Avenue, Menasha, WI, 54952-3397

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Neenah Menasha Sewerage Commission, 101 Garfield Avenue, Menasha, Wisconsin

Receiving Water and Location: The Menasha Channel of the Fox River (WBIC 129800), in the Little Lake Butte des Morts Watershed (LF06), in the Lower Fox River Basin, in Winnebago County with discharge outfall is located at SW ¼, NW ¼ of Section 22, Township 20 North, Range 17 East, City of Menasha, Winnebago County, WI

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Neenah Menasha Sewerage Commission (NMSC) owns and operates the NMSC Wastewater Treatment Facility that treats residential, commercial, and industrial wastewater from the sanitary sewage collection systems owned and operated by the cities of Neenah and Menasha, the Villages of Fox Crossing and Harrison, and Town of Neenah Sanitary District 2. The NMSC wastewater treatment facility has an annual average design flow rate of 13 MGD. The wastewater treatment facility consists of fine screening, grit removal, primary clarification, aeration basins, chemical phosphorus removal system, secondary clarification, and seasonal disinfection with chlorination and dechlorination. The final effluent flows by gravity to the Menasha Channel of the Fox River via Outfall 001. Class B sludge is generated from the wastewater treatment facility. The sludge treatment processes include gravity belt thickeners, two stage anaerobic digester system, and centrifuges. The centrifuged sludge is loaded onto trucks and where it can be sent to offsite storage, another permitted facility, or land applied on department approved sites via Outfall 002. The sludge at the off-site storage can also be land applied on department approved sites via Outfall 002. The facility does have a high strength food waste receiving station to be feed to the two-stage anaerobic digester system. However, this receiving station has been taken offline and is not currently in use.

The major changes from the previous permit include effluent flow rate monitoring that will become effective per a compliance schedule; fecal coliform monitoring and limits have been replaced with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits; changes to weekly average limits for ammonia nitrogen; effluent limitations for total recoverable mercury are no longer required but quarterly monitoring will continue throughout the permit; monthly effluent PFOA and PFOS monitoring has been added; a chronic WET monthly average limit has been added; and annual sludge PFAS monitoring has been added.

For specific information and explanation about the proposed conditions of the permit and proposed changes from the previous permit, please see the permit fact sheet.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Trevor Moen, 625 E County Road Y, Suite 700, Oshkosh, WI, 54901, (920) 410-5192, Trevor.Moen@wisconsin.gov

Compliance Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Mark Stanek, 625 E County Road Y, Suite 700, Oshkosh, WI 54901, (920) 808-0670, Mark.Stanek@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 compliance 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 compliance engineer's

office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or compliance 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) 410-5192 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: Post Crescent, 306 W. Washington St., Appleton, WI 54911-4745

Date Notice Issued: Monday, November 4, 2024