

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES)
PERMIT No.WI-0020613-10-0

Permittee: City of Nekoosa, 951 Market St, Nekoosa, WI, 54457

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Nekoosa Wastewater Treatment Facility, 1348 Basse Ave, Nekoosa, WI

Receiving Water And Location: Wisconsin River in Wisconsin Rapids of Wisconsin River (upper) in Wood County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Nekoosa Wastewater Treatment Facility treats domestic wastewater from the City of Nekoosa and the Ho-Chunk Nation Cex' Ha Ci development. The facility has an annual average design flow of 0.43 million gallons per day (MGD) and had an actual annual average flow of 0.406 MGD in 2024. The plant is an activated sludge type wastewater treatment facility. It has grit removal, mechanical screening, primary clarification, solids contact tanks, trickling filters, an anaerobic digester, final clarification and chemical phosphorus removal by addition of ferric chloride with a polymer. Effluent is disinfected seasonally via chlorination (and then dechlorination) prior to discharge to the Wisconsin River. Sludge is stored onsite and then hauled to another permitted storage facility or landspread. Significant effluent monitoring and/or limitation changes proposed for the upcoming permit term are as follows: 1) influent flow monitoring has been added, 2) effluent fecal coliform monitoring and limits are replaced with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits, 3) additional copper and chlorine weekly and monthly average limits to comply with the expression of limits requirements in ss. NR 106.07 and NR 205.065(7), Wis. Adm. Codes, 4) multi-discharger variance (MDV) effluent phosphorus limits have been replaced with WI River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) phosphorus limits, 5) additional sludge requirements were added when sludge is landspread, 6) PFAS sludge sampling has been included in the WPDES permit pursuant to ss. NR 214.18(5)(b) and NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code to quantitate risk, and 7) a sludge management plan update is required prior to the start of any sludge landspreading activities.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Angela Parkhurst, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI, 54701, (715) 839-3836, Angela.Parkhurst@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Logan Rubeck, 1300 W Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 450-5967, logan.rubeck@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 (715) 839-3836 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 Tribune

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 220 1st Ave. S., Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-8090

Date Notice Issued: September 19, 2025