

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0021245-10-1

Permittee: City of New Richmond, 156 East 1st St, New Richmond, WI 54017

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: New Richmond Wastewater Treatment Facility, 636 Doar Drive, New Richmond, WI 54017

Receiving Water And Location: The Willow River in the Lower Willow River Watershed of the St. Croix River Basin in St. Croix County

Brief Facility Description: The City of New Richmond owns and operates the New Richmond Wastewater Treatment Facility (New Richmond). The facility has an annual average design flow of 0.98 million gallons per day (MGD) and had an actual annual average influent flow of 0.63 MGD in 2021. Treatment consists of a grit channel and automatic screening, primary clarification, secondary clarification, biological and chemical phosphorus removal and a single stage nitrification activated sludge process. Alum is added for phosphorus removal with ultraviolet (UV) light for disinfection of the effluent prior to discharge to the Willow River. Sludge is shipped after thickening to the West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility (WCWBF). Centrate from the WCWBF is then returned to New Richmond where it's stored in a holding tank and reintroduced through the treatment plant.

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: Adebowale Adesanwo, DNR, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 492-4047, adebowale.adesanwo@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: Star-Observer

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 2760 N Service Dr, PO Box 15, Red Wing, MN, 55066-0015

Date Notice Issued: August 14, 2025