

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) GENERAL PERMIT NO. WI-0044938-07-0

General Permit Name: Noncontact Cooling Water and/or Boiler Water Blowdown (WI-0044938-07-0)

Receiving Water and Location: Surface waters and/or wetlands in the state of Wisconsin

Brief Description of Facilities Covered under the General Permit: This permit is applicable to discharges from non-residential facilities with non-contact cooling water, noncontact condensates, and boiler blowdown and bleed-off discharges that are discharged directly to surface waters, including wetlands connected to navigable lakes or rivers.

Proposed Permit Overview: This general permit establishes applicability criteria, application for permit coverage requirements, wastewater discharge requirements, and standard requirements for facilities with discharges from non-contact cooling water, condensates, boiler water (blow-down and bleed-off), and reverse osmosis permeate. The permit requirements are provided to protect human health and protect and maintain the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of waters of the state by eliminating or minimizing the discharge of pollutants.

Significant changes from the previous permit include: [1] Discharges to groundwater or isolated wetlands are no longer covered under this permit. [2] Discharges of condensate of whey (COW) and those consisting solely of air compressor or air conditioning condensates will no longer be covered under this permit. [3] There is an effluent flow threshold dependent on the receiving water location. Those above the threshold will need to obtain an individual WPDES permit. [4] New and existing permittees shall request coverage under an electronic Notice of Intent. [5] All discharges will be assigned one or more of four sample point designations. [6] Numerous changes have been made to the sample point frequencies and limitations, including the addition of phosphorus and thermal limits. [7] Appendices A-G have been removed and the requirements in those appendices have been moved to various sections of the permit or removed.

Note: For specific details and information about rationale and assumptions used in deriving the conditions and requirements set forth in the general permit, please see the permit fact sheet.

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

Comment Submittal Address: Attention – Leila Jenkins, NCCW GP Comment, DNR, 810 W. Maple St, Spooner, WI 54801, phone: 715-416-5067 or email: Leila.Jenkins@wisconsin.gov

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit(s) action may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the Comment Submittal 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.

The department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule an 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 permits and fact sheets may be reviewed on the internet at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html> Information on this permit may also be obtained by writing the department or by calling or emailing the above-named permit drafter. 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.