



WPDES PERMIT NONCONTACT COOLING WATER AND/OR BOILER WATER BLOWDOWN

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

GENERAL PERMIT TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM

In compliance with the provisions of Chapter 283, Wis. Stats., any facility discharging noncontact cooling water and/or boiler water blowdown located in the State of Wisconsin and meeting the applicability criteria listed in Section 1 and the application requirements in Section 2 of this General Permit, is permitted to discharge these wastewaters to a water of the state in accordance with the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements, and other conditions set forth in this permit.

State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (hereafter department)
For the Secretary

By _____
Adrian Stocks
Director, Bureau of Water Quality

Date Permit Signed/Issued

PERMIT TERM:

EFFECTIVE DATE – January 1, 2027

EXPIRATION DATE – December 31, 2031

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1 Applicability Criteria

1.1 Discharge Activities Covered

This general permit is applicable to point source discharges of pollutants to a surface water of the state, either directly, via a separate storm sewer system, or other point source outfall except those discharge activities excluded from coverage under Section 1.2 and Section 1.3 of this permit:

1. Discharges of noncontact cooling waters, boiler water (blowdown and bleed-off), or other similar wastewaters to surface waters and wetlands;
2. Discharges of air compressor or air conditioning unit condensation or other similar wastewaters to surface waters and wetlands is included under this permit when combined with other discharges covered in this permit;
3. On a case-by-case basis, discharges of reverse osmosis permeate to surface waters and wetlands provided the permeate is not from dairy processing of Condensate of Whey (COW) water.

1.2 Discharge Activities Not Covered

The wastewater discharge activities listed in this Section are not applicable to this general permit and may require application under another general permit or individual WPDES permit. In accordance with s. NR 205.08(5), Wis. Adm. Code, the department may deny coverage or revoke coverage under this permit and issue an individual WPDES Permit to a facility if the department determines that discharges are more appropriately covered under an individual WPDES Permit. The following discharge activities are not applicable to this general permit:

1. Discharges to groundwater;
2. Discharges to a lake, impoundment, river or Great Lake directly or via storm sewer or connected wetland with effluent flows greater than the values in Table 1a for existing discharges or Table 1b for discharges beginning after January 1, 2027. Flow rates are sorted by the location of the outfall, along the shoreline, offshore on lakebed or in a harbor.

Note: The effluent flow is the combined maximum flow rate for all outfalls discharging to the receiving water.

Table 1a - Lake, Impoundment, or Great Lake Flow Thresholds in Million Gallons per Day (MGD) for Existing Discharges

	Shoreline	Offshore	Harbor
Northern Inland Lakes = lakes and impoundments north of State Highway 10	0.090	0.18	-
Southern Inland Lakes = lakes and impoundments south of State Highway 10	0.095	0.19	-
Green Bay – south = waters south of the Brown County line to the Fox River mouth (downtown Green Bay)	18.0	18.1	0.090
Green Bay – north = waters north of the Brown County line to the northernmost point on Washington Island	15.4	15.5	0.077
Lake Michigan – north = waters north of the Milwaukee River mouth	15.7	15.8	0.079
Lake Michigan – south = waters south of the Milwaukee River mouth	14.7	14.8	0.074
Lake Superior = waters in Lake Superior except those in Chequamegon Bay	11.8	11.9	0.059
Chequamegon Bay = waters within the region enclosed by Chequamegon Point and a straight-line west to the mainland	16.3	16.4	0.081

Table 1b - Lake, Impoundment, or Great Lake Flow Thresholds in MGD for Discharges Beginning After January 1, 2027

	Shoreline	Offshore	Harbor
Northern Inland Lakes = lakes and impoundments north of State Highway 10	0.046	0.092	-
Southern Inland Lakes = lakes and impoundments south of State Highway 10	0.047	0.095	-
Green Bay – south = waters south of the Brown County line to the Fox River mouth (downtown Green Bay)	9.2	9.2	0.046
Green Bay – north = waters north of the Brown County line to the northernmost point on Washington Island	8.5	8.5	0.043
Lake Michigan – north = waters north of the Milwaukee River mouth	8.6	8.6	0.043
Lake Michigan – south = waters south of the Milwaukee River mouth	8.3	8.3	0.042
Lake Superior = waters in Lake Superior except those in Chequamegon Bay	7.3	7.3	0.037

	Shoreline	Offshore	Harbor
Chequamegon Bay = waters within the region enclosed by Chequamegon Point and a straight-line west to the mainland	8.7	8.7	0.043

3. Discharges of process wastewaters including reverse osmosis concentrate;
4. Discharges of reverse osmosis permeate and/or any Condensate of Whey (COW) recovered from the dairy industry;
4. Discharges of water from boiler cleaning operations;
5. Discharges consisting solely of air compressor or air conditioning condensates;
6. Discharges of wastewater containing un-neutralized biocides, other than chlorination;
7. Discharges to a wetland where the department has determined that the discharge of pollutants will not meet the wetland protection requirements of ch. NR 103, Wis. Adm. Code;
8. Discharges to a geographically isolated wetland that does not have a direct or permanent surface water connection to navigable lakes or rivers;
9. Discharges containing domestic or municipal wastewater;
10. Discharges containing water treatment additives where the water treatment additive use is not approved in writing by the department;
 Note: Water treatment additives already present in the water supply system do not need to be reviewed and approved by the department. A list of previously reviewed additives can be found on the department additives webpage: [Additives Information https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/Additives.html](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/Additives.html).
11. Discharges directly to outstanding resource waters identified in s. NR 102.10, Wis. Adm. Code, or discharges that would lower the water quality of downstream outstanding resource waters;
12. Discharges directly to exceptional resource waters identified in s. NR 102.11, Wis. Adm. Code, or discharges that would lower the water quality of downstream exceptional resource waters;
13. Any new or increased discharge where the permittee is found to not have the treatment capability to treat any proposed new or increased discharge and maintain treatment levels sufficient to meet the effluent limitations in this general permit;
14. Any new or increased discharge that results in the significant lowering of water quality in waters designated as fish and aquatic life communities identified in s. NR 102.04(3), Wis. Adm. Code, Great Lakes system waters, and variance waters identified within ss. NR 104.05 through 104.10, Wis. Adm. Code;
15. Discharges that will contain a pollutant of concern that will contribute to the impairment of a 303(d) listed impaired water or be in noncompliance with an approved Total Daily Maximum Load (TMDL);
16. Discharges containing toxic or hazardous pollutants required to be reported under ch. NR 706, Wis. Adm. Code;

17. Discharges that will adversely impact endangered and threatened species, including causing an incidental take, unless the department determines that the discharges comply with the endangered and threatened resource protection requirements of s. 29.604, Wis. Stats., and ch. NR 27, Wis. Adm. Code;
18. Discharges that will adversely affect any historic property that is listed property, or on the inventory or on the list of locally designated historic places under s. 44.45, Wis. Stats., unless the department determines that the discharges will not have an adverse effect on any historic property pursuant to s. 44.40(3), Wis. Stats;
19. Discharge within Indian Country;
Note: Indian Country is defined under 18 USC §1151 and includes all lands within the exterior boundaries of federally recognized Indian reservations and on lands held in federal trust status. Facilities that are located within Indian Country shall contact the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to apply for permit coverage. Dischargers that previously held permit coverage under previous versions of this permit after September 30, 2001, are no longer eligible for coverage under this permit and must contact USEPA to apply for permit coverage.
20. Discharges where the department determines that the discharge of pollutants has reasonable potential to exceed the surface water quality standards in chs. NR 102, NR 104, NR 105, NR 106, NR 207, and NR 217 Wis. Adm. Code, or other applicable surface water quality standards;
21. Discharges of wastewater from any accidental or unplanned release, spill, leak, or overflow;
Note: Any accidental or unplanned release, spill, leak, or overflow of wastewater must be reported by the permittee under the noncompliance and other reporting requirements in Section 7.3.3 unless it is a discharge of a hazardous substance required to be reported under ch. NR 706, Wis. Adm. Code.
22. Discharges of pollutants not authorized under this permit in quantities that exceed water quality standards;
23. Discharges that operate a cooling water intake structure or receive cooling water from an independent supplier that operates an intake structure that has not already been found to meet best technology available (BTA) requirements by the department cannot be covered under this general permit unless the discharger can certify all of the following in writing to the department:
 - a. The discharger uses cooling water from one or more surface water intake structures that is cumulatively designed to withdraw no more than 2 MGD from a water of the state OR the discharger uses less than 25% of the water that they withdraw exclusively for cooling purposes;
 - b. Each cooling water intake structure has a maximum design intake velocity of 0.5 feet per second (fps) OR a maximum actual intake velocity of 0.5 fps, demonstrated via measured or calculated values which show the maximum intake velocity as water passes through the entrance to the intake system, measured perpendicular to the opening, does not exceed 0.5 fps.
 - c. The discharge meets at least one of the following:

- The cooling water intake structure is located on a river or stream and withdraws less than or equal to 5% of the mean annual flow of the source water.
 - The cooling water intake structure is located on a lake or reservoir where the total quantity of the water withdrawn is restricted to a level necessary to maintain the natural thermal stratification or turnover patterns (where present) except in cases where the disruption is determined beneficial.
24. Discharges that operate a cooling water intake structure or receive cooling water from an independent supplier that operates an intake structure that has not already been found to meet best technology available (BTA) requirements by the Department cannot be covered under this general permit unless the discharger can certify all of the following in writing to the Department:
- a. The discharger uses cooling water from one or more surface water intake structures that is cumulatively designed to withdraw no more than 2 MGD from a water of the state OR the discharger uses less than 25% of the water that they withdraw exclusively for cooling purposes;
 - b. Each cooling water intake structure has a maximum design intake velocity of 0.5 feet per second (fps) OR a maximum actual intake velocity of 0.5 fps, demonstrated via measured or calculated values which show the maximum intake velocity as water passes through the entrance to the intake system, measured perpendicular to the opening, does not exceed 0.5 fps.
 - c. The discharge meets at least one of the following:
 - The cooling water intake structure is located on a river or stream and withdraws less than or equal to 5% of the mean annual flow of the source water.
 - The cooling water intake structure is located on a lake or reservoir where the total quantity of the water withdrawn is restricted to a level necessary to maintain the natural thermal stratification or turnover patterns (where present) except in cases where the disruption is determined beneficial.
 - For power generating facilities only that operate at < 8% capacity utilization rate or at full capacity only for portions of days during a few months or less on an annual basis. If located in a spawning area, the period of cooling water intake operation must not correspond with times when spawning is occurring (depending on species present, typically April through August).
 - The facility operates a closed-cycle recirculating system that only requires make-up water (with > 3 cycles of concentration on at least a daily basis). Cycles of concentration (COC) can be measured as the ratio of chloride levels in the recirculated water or blowdown relative to the chloride levels in the source water, or makeup water; or the make-up water volume divided by the blowdown volume (provided there are no other water losses); or the blowdown water conductivity divided by the make-up water conductivity.
 - For power generating facilities operating at < 8% capacity utilization rate or at full capacity only for portions of days during a few months or less on an annual basis. If located in a spawning area, the period of cooling water intake operation must not correspond with times when spawning is occurring (depending on species present, typically April through August).

- The facility operates a closed-cycle recirculating system that only requires make-up water (with > 3 cycles of concentration on at least a daily basis). Cycles of concentration (COC) can be measured as the ratio of chloride levels in the recirculated water or blowdown relative to the chloride levels in the source water, or makeup water; or the make-up water volume divided by the blowdown volume (provided there are no other water losses); or the blowdown water conductivity divided by the make-up water conductivity.

25. Discharges of wastewater more appropriately covered by other WPDES general permits.

1.3 Permit Exclusions

The discharge activities listed below are excluded from requiring a WPDES Permit:

1. Discharges of wastewater to a holding tank that is pumped and hauled to a publicly owned treatment works (POTW);
2. Discharges of wastewater to a sanitary sewer system that conveys the wastewater to a POTW; and
3. Discharges of wastewater to a department approved storage pond or lagoon where the wastewater is recycled with no discharge to a water of the state and does not require a WPDES Permit pursuant to s. 283.31, Wis. Stats.

2 Application for Permit Coverage

An applicant shall comply with the following requirements to obtain coverage and authorization to discharge to a water of the state under this general permit.

2.1 New and Existing Permittees

2.1.1 Submittal of a Notice of Intent

Any new or existing permittee meeting the applicability criteria in Section 1 of this general permit that proposes a new or existing discharge shall submit a complete electronic Notice of Intent (eNOI) for coverage under this general permit. New permittees must submit the eNOI at least **30 days** prior to discharging to a water of the state and existing permittees at least **30 days** prior to the permit effective date.

The eNOI shall be certified electronically by a responsible executive or municipal officer, manager, partner or proprietor as specified in s. 283.37(3), Wis. Stats., or a duly authorized representative of the officer, manager, partner or proprietor that has been delegated signature authority pursuant to s. NR 205.07(1)(g)2., Wis. Adm. Code. The certification verifies that the eNOI is true, accurate, and complete.

Note: If the department notifies an applicant that a discharge is ineligible for coverage under this general permit but still requires WPDES permit coverage, the department shall notify the applicant in writing, and the applicant shall apply for and obtain coverage under an individual WPDES permit (or alternative general permit, if available) prior to discharging to a water of the state. The necessary steps to apply for coverage under an individual permit can be found at the department website: [WPDES Applications and Instructions https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PermitApplications.html](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PermitApplications.html).

2.1.2 Content of the eNOI

The applicant shall provide all the information requested in the eNOI per s. NR 205.08(3), Wis. Adm. Code, and include the following attachments with the eNOI submittal:

1. A site map with clearly marked discharge location, any conveyance to the receiving water (e.g., ditch or storm sewer), the receiving water, and distance to the receiving water;
2. A process flow diagram showing all processes that generate wastewater and any wastewater treatment and storage systems;
3. A Water Quality Additive Review Worksheet [Form 3400-213 https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3400-213.pdf](https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3400-213) and Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each water treatment additive that is used and not expected to be removed by wastewater treatment or best management practices.

2.1.3 Incomplete eNOI

The department will evaluate the information submitted in the eNOI to determine whether the eNOI is true, accurate, complete, and whether the facility is eligible for coverage under the general permit. The department may require an applicant to submit additional information if the department determines an eNOI is incomplete. The

applicant shall submit the requested information within 30 days from receipt of notification by the department. If the requested information is not received within 30 days, the department may dismiss the eNOI.

2.1.4 Granting Permit Coverage to New or Existing Permittees

The department will transmit a coverage letter via email addressed to the permittee stating that the discharge from the facility is granted coverage under this general permit. The applicant may not commence a point source discharge of pollutants to a water of the state until a coverage letter has been received from the department. Initial coverage under this permit will become effective at a new or existing facility beginning upon the start date specified by the department in the coverage letter. The coverage letter will include instructions on where to download the general permit from the department's website. Alternatively, a hard copy of the permit may be mailed to the permittee upon request.

3 Requirements for All Discharges

3.1 Surface Water Intake

The department has determined that the applicability requirements for cooling water intake structures in Section 1.2.23 constitute BTA for dischargers using water from a cooling water intake structure. The permittee shall always comply with these applicability criteria. The permittee shall report any noncompliance with these requirements to the department's district office within 24 hours after becoming aware of the noncompliance pursuant to Section 7.3.3.

4 Surface Water Discharge Requirements

The requirements of this section only apply to point source discharges to surface waters. Surface water discharge means any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance system including but not limited to any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, swale, or storm sewer that will carry wastewater to surface waters within the state of Wisconsin. Any discharge to a wetland is considered a surface water discharge. Discharges of wastewater to a storm water pond that is hydraulically connected to a surface water or to a wetland are considered surface water point source discharges.

Note: Any discharge of noncontact cooling water, boiler water, or condensate to groundwater may be eligible for coverage under the WPDES Low Impact Discharge General Permit.

4.1 Sampling Points

The discharges shall be limited to the waste types designated for the generalized sampling points listed. The department may state the specific location of sampling points in the coverage letter to the permittee.

Sampling Point Designations

Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Location, Waste Type/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)
001	Sampling Point 001 applies to the discharge of non-contact cooling waters. Samples collected in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified below shall be taken at each discharge location (outfall) following any applicable treatment and prior to discharge to surface water. The permittee shall sample the wastewater at a point and in a manner that will yield representative results of the wastewater that may enter surface water via Outfall 001. Monitoring is only required when wastewater is being discharged during the sampling frequency.
002	Sampling Point 002 applies to the discharge of boiler water (blowdown and bleed-off). Samples collected in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified below shall be taken at each discharge location (outfall) following any applicable treatment and prior to discharge to surface water. The permittee shall sample the wastewater at a point and in a manner that will yield representative results of the wastewater that may enter surface water via Outfall 002. Monitoring is only required when wastewater is being discharged during the sampling frequency.
003	Sampling Point 003 applies to the discharge of reverse osmosis permeate. Samples collected in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified below shall be taken at each discharge location (outfall) following any applicable treatment and prior to discharge to surface water. The permittee shall sample the wastewater at a point and in a manner that will yield representative results of the wastewater that may enter surface water via Outfall 003. Monitoring is only required when wastewater is being discharged during the sampling frequency.

Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Location, Waste Type/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)
004	Sampling Point 004 applies to the discharge of any combination of discharge types as specified in Sampling Point 001-003, combined with condensation water (including air compressor and/or air conditioning condensation), non-contact cooling waters, boiler water blowdown and/or bleed-off, and/or reverse osmosis permeate or other similar discharges. Samples collected in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified below shall be taken at each discharge location (outfall) following any applicable treatment and prior to discharge to surface water. The permittee shall sample the wastewater at a point and in a manner that will yield representative results of the wastewater that may enter surface water via Outfall 004. Monitoring is only required when wastewater is being discharged during the sampling frequency.

4.2 Monitoring Requirements and Effluent Limitations

The permittee shall comply with the following monitoring requirements and limitations for each applicable outfall.

4.2.1 Sampling Points (Outfalls) 001, 002, 003 and 004 – Surface Water Discharge

Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate	-	gpd	Daily	Estimate	See Section 4.4
Suspended Solids, Total	Daily Max	40 mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	Applicable if all samples are less than 30 mg/L. See Section 4.5, 4.5.1 and 4.5.2
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	40 mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	Applicable if all samples are less than 30 mg/L. See Section 4.5, 4.5.1 and 4.5.2
Suspended Solids, Total	Daily Max	40 mg/L	Monthly	Grab	Applicable if any sample is equal to or greater than 30 mg/L. See Sections 4.5 and 4.5.1
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	40 mg/L	Monthly	Grab	Applicable if any sample is equal to or greater than 30 mg/L. See Sections 4.5 and 4.5.1
pH Field	Daily Min	6.0 s.u.	Quarterly	Grab	See Section 4.6
pH Field	Daily Max	9.0 s.u.	Quarterly	Grab	See Section 4.6
Chlorine, Total Residual	Daily Max	38 µg/L	Monthly	Grab	See Section 4.7, 4.7.1 and 4.7.2

Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Chlorine, Total Residual	Monthly Avg	38 µg/L	Monthly	Grab	See Section 4.7, 4.7.1 and 4.7.2
Phosphorus, Total (No sources of Phosphorus present)	Monthly Avg	See Table 2 mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	See Sections 4.8.1, 4.8.3 and 4.8.4
Phosphorus, Total (Sources of Phosphorus present)	Monthly Avg	See Table 2 mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	See Sections 4.8.2, 4.8.3 and 4.8.4
Phosphorus, Total (Sources of Phosphorus present)	6-Month Avg	See Table 2 mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	Compliance with a 6-month average is measured each April and October. See Sections 4.8.2, 4.8.3 and 4.8.4
Arsenic, Total Recoverable	-	-	Quarterly	Grab	See Section 4.9 and 4.9.1
Oil and Grease	Daily Max	15 mg/L	Annual	Grab	Applicable if all samples are less than 7.5 mg/L. See Sections 4.10 and 4.11
Oil and Grease	Monthly Avg	15 mg/L	Annual	Grab	Applicable if all samples are less than 7.5 mg/L. See Sections 4.10 and 4.11
Oil and Grease	Daily Max	15 mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	Applicable if any sample is equal to or greater than 7.5 mg/L. See Sections 4.10
Oil and Grease	Monthly Avg	15 mg/L	Quarterly	Grab	Applicable if any sample is equal to or greater than 7.5 mg/L. See Sections 4.10
BOD ₅ , Total	-	mg/L	Annual	Grab	See Section 4.11
Nitrogen, Ammonia (NH ₃ -N) Total	-	mg/L	Annual	Grab	See Section 4.11
Temperature Maximum	Variable Daily Maximum or Daily Maximum and	See Tables 3 and 4a or 4b °F	Monthly	Multiple Grab or Continuous	See Sections 4.6, 4.12 and 4.12.1

Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
	Weekly Average				
Temperature, Variable Limit		°F	Monthly	See Table 4	Use Table 4a or 4b to determine the applicable temperature limit and report the variable limit on the eDMR. See Section 4.12.1
Water Treatment Additives	TBD	TBD	Monthly	Daily Log	See Section 5

4.3 Sample Type Descriptions

Estimate – Reasonable approximation of the total daily flow based on a water balance, an uncalibrated weir, readings of a water meter on the discharge, computation from the operating period of one or more calibrated pumps handling the flow, calculations from the velocity and cross section of the discharge or any other approved flow estimating methods in s. NR 218.04(15), Wis. Adm. Code. The permittee may request, in writing, the approval of an additional method for estimating flow.

Grab - A single sample taken at one moment of time or a combination of several smaller samples of equal volume taken in less than a two-minute period per s. NR 218.04(10), Wis. Adm. Code. This sample should represent the highest effluent concentration known or expected to occur under normal operating conditions. If the outfall location is not accessible, the permittee may approximate effluent concentrations based on influent concentrations. This estimation method may only be used for discharges that do not significantly concentrate the pollutant during the treatment process.

Continuous - A continuous in-line recording or monitoring at intervals of not more than 15 minutes per s. NR 218.04(13), Wis. Adm. Code.

Daily Log - The permittee shall maintain a daily log of the water treatment additive usage including the water treatment additive name, manufacturer, and daily maximum and monthly average amount used. Water treatment additive use may be recorded as the quantity of the pollutant added to the discharge.

4.4 Flow Rate Control

The permittee shall control the flow rate to minimize the stream bank erosion, resuspension of sediment, downstream flooding or property damage.

4.5 Total Suspended Solids (TSS) Monitoring

The sample frequency for TSS shall be quarterly, except if any sample result shows a discharge at or above 30 mg/L. If this occurs, the permittee shall inform their department general permit contact for their county ([WPDES General Permit Information](http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html) <http://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html>), and increase the

monitoring frequency to monthly for 1 year beginning the month following receipt of the sample result.

Note: An increased monitoring frequency is independent of the department's enforcement response to permit noncompliance should the result exceed the specified limit. More frequent monitoring or a different sample type may be specified in an order or stipulation resulting from enforcement of permit noncompliance.

4.5.1 TSS Optimization for Discharges to a TMDL

The permittee shall prepare and submit an optimization report to the department for approval that includes an evaluation of potential source reductions or pollutant minimization plans that could be installed to reduce TSS loadings. This may include modifications to the effluent flow, timing of discharge, alternative discharge locations, or changes in operation, among other things. **New permittees shall submit a report for approval within 12 months of coverage. An updated optimization report and a progress report shall be submitted each permit term as part of the application package.**

4.5.2 TSS Monitoring Reduction

Any monitoring reduction approved under WPDES Permit No WI-0044938-06-0 prior to the effective date of this general permit in a previous permit reissuance is no longer applicable. The department may approve in writing a TSS monitoring reduction to annual if the permittee is able to maintain discharge levels under 30 mg/L over two consecutive years of discharge. Permittees requesting a monitoring reduction will be notified by the department in writing. The reduction in monitoring frequency is only applicable during the WI-0044938-07 permit term; however, it may be extended into subsequent permit terms by following instructions in future permit reissuance letters. Permittees may only receive a monitoring reduction if they are compliant with all permit requirements.

4.6 pH Analyses, pH and/or Temperature Monitoring Reductions or Waivers

Permittees monitoring for pH Field shall comply with the following conditions:

1. The permittee shall perform pH testing required in this permit using an approved method from ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code, Table B,
2. The permittee shall utilize a pH probe/meter that incorporates and uses automatic temperature compensation,
3. The permittee shall analyze pH samples as soon as possible after collection not to exceed 15 minutes (this may mean transporting samples to an offsite laboratory is not an option), and the permittee shall calibrate the pH probe/meter daily, using unexpired 4, 7, and 10 buffers prior to use.

Any monitoring reduction or waivers approved under WPDES Permit No WI-0044938-06-0 prior to the effective date of this general permit are no longer applicable. The department may approve in writing a pH monitoring reduction to annually and temperature to quarterly or a waiver from monitoring if the permittee is able to demonstrate perfect compliance in two consecutive years of discharge. Permittees

requesting a monitoring reduction or waiver will receive a decision from the department in writing. The reduction in monitoring frequency or waiver is only applicable during the WI-0044938-07 permit term; however, it may be extended into subsequent permit terms by following instructions in future permit reissuance letters. Permittees may only receive a monitoring reduction or waiver if they are compliant with all permit requirements.

4.7 Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) Requirements

The permittee shall meet the effluent limits found in Table 4.2.1 prior to any discharge and monitor the discharge for TRC if the department determines that the permittee adds chlorine-based additives to the water prior to discharge or the source water contains chlorine or chlorine compounds except if the department approves a monitoring waiver in Section 4.7.2.

Note: To meet the limits prior to discharging the permittee may need to install a dechlorination system and obtain a certified operator under ch. NR 114, Wis. Adm. Code (see Section 7.3.2).

The department will specify the TRC monitoring requirements in the coverage letter or reissuance letter to the permittee. When TRC limits or monitoring are required, the permittee shall comply with the following conditions:

1. The permittee shall perform TRC monitoring required in this permit using an approved method from ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code, which produces a detection limit that is less than or equal to the permitted limit or produces the lowest economically feasible detection limit if the approved methods cannot meet the permit limit. If the facility cannot achieve a detection limit less than or equal to the permit limit using the approved methods, contact the laboratory accreditation program for guidance.
2. The permittee shall determine the limit of detection (LOD) as specified in s. NR 149.48 (2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, or the permittee shall contact the laboratory accreditation program for information on how to determine a verified detection limit allowed just for TRC. If the verified detection limit is determined using the special procedure, then the LOD and limit of quantitation (LOQ) shall be set to be equal to the verified detection limit determined from this special procedure.
3. The permittee shall determine compliance with the TRC limit(s) as follows:
 - a. If the facility determines a statistical LOD as specified in s. NR 149.48 (2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, and the measured TRC levels are less than the LOD, the permittee shall report the results as less than the LOD (<LOD). For this situation the LOQ shall be established at 3.33 times the LOD or at the concentration of the lowest standard in the calibration curve. TRC levels that are < LOD are in compliance with the TRC limit.
 - b. If the facility determines the verified detection limit using the laboratory accreditation program special procedure, this verified detection limit shall be reported as the LOD and LOQ. If the measured TRC levels are less than the LOD, the permittee shall report the results as < LOD. TRC levels that are < LOD are in compliance with the TRC limit.

- c. If the facility determines the statistical LOD as specified in s. NR 149.48 (2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, and the measured TRC levels are greater than the statistical LOD but less than the LOQ, TRC levels are in compliance with the TRC limit - except when the measured levels are consistently reported between the LOD and LOQ. When the measured TRC levels are consistently reported between the LOD and LOQ, the facility shall take action to determine the reliability of detected results (such as resampling and/or re-calculating dosages) and shall adjust the chemical feed system if necessary to reduce the chances of detecting levels between the statistical LOD and LOQ.
- d. If the facility determines the statistical LOQ as specified in s. NR 149.48 (3)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, or determines the verified detection limit using the laboratory accreditation program special procedure, TRC measured levels that are greater than the statistical LOQ and the TRC limit, are not in compliance with the TRC limit. The permittee shall report the level as a limit exceedance.
- e. If the facility determines the statistical LOD as specified in s. NR 149.48 (2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, and the measured level is < LOD, then a "0" (zero) value may be substituted for any test result less than the statistical LOD when calculating the average or mass discharge values. Calculated values shall then be compared directly to the average or mass limits to determine compliance.
- f. If the facility determines the verified detection limit using the laboratory accreditation program special procedure and the measured level is < LOD (set equal to the verified detection limit), then a "0" (zero) value may be substituted for any test result less than the LOD when calculating the average or mass discharge values. Calculated values shall then be compared directly to the average or mass limits to determine compliance.

4.7.1 Total Residual Chlorine Monitoring Reduction

Any monitoring reduction or waiver approved under WPDES Permit No WI-0044938-06-0 prior to the effective date of this general permit in a previous permit reissuance is no longer applicable. The department may approve in writing a TRC monitoring reduction to annual if the permittee is able to maintain discharge levels under 38 µg/L over two consecutive years of discharge and a dechlorination system is not present. The reduction in monitoring frequency is only applicable during the WI-0044938-07 permit term; however, it may be extended into subsequent permit terms by following instructions in future permit reissuance letters. Permittees may only receive a monitoring reduction if they are compliant with all permit requirements.

4.7.2 Total Residual Chlorine Monitoring Waiver

The department may approve in writing a monitoring waiver for TRC. Permittees requesting a waiver must comply with at least one of the following conditions:

1. The discharge is to a storm sewer that enters a surface water greater than 2,367 feet from the discharge point;
2. The permittee provides reasonable hydraulic calculations or sampling data to the department showing that the residual chlorine in the discharge will be dissipated below the chlorine limits prior to entering the surface water.

4.8 Total Phosphorus Monitoring

4.8.1 Phosphorus Additives Not Present

For discharges that do not use phosphorus-containing additives or municipal water containing polyphosphate additives, total phosphorus shall be monitored with a quarterly grab sample. Monthly limits shall be determined per Table 2. The department may approve in writing a phosphorus monitoring reduction to annual if the permittee is able to demonstrate perfect compliance in two consecutive years of discharge. Permittees may only receive a monitoring reduction if they are in compliance with all permit requirements. The reduction in monitoring frequency may be extended into subsequent permit terms by following instructions in future permit reissuance letters.

4.8.2 Phosphorus Additives Present

For discharges that use phosphorus-containing additives or municipal water containing polyphosphate additives, total phosphorus shall be monitored with a quarterly grab sample. Monthly and 6-month average limits shall be determined per Table 2. Any monitoring reduction or waiver approved under WPDES Permit No WI-0044938-06-0 prior to the effective date of this general permit in a previous permit reissuance is no longer applicable. The department may approve in writing a phosphorus monitoring reduction to annual if the permittee is able to demonstrate compliance in two consecutive years of discharge except for facilities that have:

1. Discharges that use phosphorus-containing additives and discharge to a surface water listed on the 303(d) impaired waters list for phosphorus impairment absent a total maximum daily load (TMDL)
2. Discharges that use municipal water containing polyphosphate additives as its source water and discharge to a surface water listed on the 303(d) impaired waters list for phosphorus impairment absent a TMDL
3. Discharges that operate a cooling tower or have other technology which could significantly concentrate phosphorus within the treatment process and discharge to a surface water listed on the 303(d) impaired waters list for phosphorus impairment absent a TMDL

Permittees may only receive a monitoring reduction if they are in compliance with all permit requirements. The reduction in monitoring frequency may be extended into subsequent permit terms by following instructions in future permit reissuance letters.

Table 2 - Phosphorus Water Quality Effluent Limits Based on Receiving Water Type

Description	Monthly Average	6-Month Average
Noncontact cooling water discharges where 100 percent of the phosphorus in the discharge originates from the receiving water as intake water (s. NR 217.10(2) Wis. Adm. Code)	N/A	N/A

Description	Monthly Average	6-Month Average
Discharges within a U.S. EPA approved TMDL watershed where NCCW general permit discharges are covered by a group allocation for phosphorus. (See Section 4.8.4 for additional requirements.)	N/A	N/A
Discharges to waters with low background phosphorus concentrations and available stream dilution.	N/A	N/A
Discharges to waters designated as Great Lakes described in s. NR 102.06(2)(d) and (e), Wis. Adm. Code.	N/A	1.0 mg/L
Discharges to waters designated as rivers described in s. NR 102.06(3)(a), Wis. Adm. Code.	0.3 mg/L	0.1 mg/L
Discharges to waters designated as drainage lakes, seepage lakes or reservoirs that are not stratified per s. NR 102.06(4), Wis. Adm. Code.	0.12 mg/L	0.04 mg/L
Discharges to waters designated as drainage lakes or reservoirs that are stratified per s. NR 102.06(4), Wis. Adm. Code.	0.09 mg/L	0.03 mg/L
Discharges to waters designated as stratified, seepage lakes per s. NR 102.06(4), Wis. Adm. Code.	0.06 mg/L	0.02 mg/L
Discharges to waters designated as stratified, two-story fishery lakes described in s. NR 102.06(4), Wis. Adm. Code.	0.045 mg/L	0.015 mg/L
Discharges to all other waterbody types not specified above.	0.225 mg/L	0.075 mg/L

Note: Compliance with a 6-month average is measured each April and October.

4.8.3 Existing Permittees Unable to Meet a Phosphorus Limit

On a case-by-case basis, existing permittees may request the schedule found in Appendix A to meet limitations found in Table 2.

4.8.4 Phosphorus Optimization for Discharges to a TMDL

The permittee shall prepare and submit to the department for approval an optimization report that includes an evaluation of potential source reductions or pollutant minimization plans that could be installed to reduce phosphorus loadings. This may include modifications to the effluent flow, timing of discharge, alternative discharge locations, or changes in operation, among other things. **New permittees shall submit a report for approval within 12 months of coverage. An updated optimization report and a progress report shall be submitted each permit term as part of the application package.**

4.9 Total Recoverable Arsenic Monitoring

The permittee shall monitor the discharge for total recoverable arsenic if discharges are directly to Lake Michigan or a harbor to Lake Michigan. Samples shall be analyzed using a method that enables the laboratory to quantitate effluent below criteria of 0.2 µg/L. If total recoverable arsenic cannot be quantitated by any of the methods available in ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code, then the method with the lowest level of detection shall be selected.

4.9.1 Total Recoverable Arsenic Monitoring Reduction

The department may approve in writing a total recoverable arsenic monitoring reduction to annual if the permittee is able to maintain discharge levels under 0.2 µg/L over two consecutive years of discharge. Permittees may only receive a monitoring reduction if they are in compliance with all permit requirements. The reduction in monitoring frequency may be extended into subsequent permit terms by following instructions in future permit reissuance letters.

4.10 Oil and Grease Monitoring

The sample frequency for oil and grease shall be annual, except if any sample result shows a discharge at or above 7.5 mg/L. If this occurs, the permittee shall inform their department general permit contact for their county [WPDES General Permit Information https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html), and increase the monitoring frequency to quarterly for 1 year beginning the quarter following receipt of the sample result.

Note: An increased monitoring frequency is independent of the department's enforcement response to permit noncompliance should the result exceed the specified limit. More frequent monitoring or a different sample type may be specified in an order or stipulation resulting from enforcement of permit noncompliance.

4.11 Oil and Grease, BOD₅ and Ammonia (NH₃) Monitoring Waiver

The department may waive, by letter, the monitoring requirement for Oil and Grease, BOD₅ and/or Ammonia Nitrogen if the permittee has shown there is no reasonable potential for the facility to discharge Oil and Grease, BOD₅ and/or Ammonia Nitrogen in amounts that would degrade the receiving water.

Permittees must submit a waiver request that includes supporting monitoring results or a request for the department to evaluate any electronically submitted data to the department general permit contact for their county [WPDES General Permit Information https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html). Permittees may only receive a monitoring waiver if they are in compliance with all permit requirements. The monitoring waiver may be extended into subsequent permit terms by following instructions in future permit reissuance letters.

4.12 Temperature Monitoring

The samples shall be representative of the discharge that consists solely of the effluent before mixing with any other water and on an unbiased sample day each month. Samples shall be taken at each outfall following treatment (if applicable) and prior to discharge to surface waters. For manually measuring effluent temperature, grab

samples should be collected at 6 evenly spaced intervals during the 24-hour period. Alternative sampling intervals may be approved if the permittee can show that the maximum effluent temperature is captured during the sampling interval. For monitoring temperature continuously, collect measurements in accordance with s. NR 218.04(13), Wis. Adm. Code. This means that discrete measurements shall be recorded at intervals of not more than 15 minutes during the 24-hour period. In either case, report the maximum temperature measured during the day on the eDMR. For seasonal discharges collect measurements either manually or continuously during the period of operation and report the daily maximum effluent temperature on the eDMR.

4.12.1 Temperature Limits

Dischargers shall meet the temperature requirements outlined in this section, including the effluent limitations and monitoring requirements for their discharge type as specified in Table 3 and, as applicable, Table 4a or 4b. The discharge requirements are based on the receiving water type (see Table 3) and/or the receiving water flow rate to effluent flow rate (Q_s-fQ_e): Q_e ratio (see Table 4a or 4b).

Limits based on Table 4a or 4b for the daily maximum and weekly average limits vary based on the month and the (Q_s-fQ_e): Q_e ratio. Record the applicable variable thermal limit (daily maximum and weekly average limits) from Table 4 on the eDMR in the "Temperature Variable Limit" columns. Report the effluent temperature sample result in the "Temperature" column. Compare the variable temperature limits to the reported temperature result, record the number of exceedances in the box to the right of the "Limit in Effect," "Daily Max" and "Weekly Ave" rows in the "Summary" tables at the end of the eDMR.

Note: Q_s = Receiving water flow rate equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ 7-Q10 or $\frac{1}{4}$ 4-day, 3-year biological flow as specified in s. NR 106.53 (1)(a), Wis. Adm. Code. Q_e = effluent flow as specified in s. NR 106.53 (2)(b) to (d), Wis. Adm. Code. And f = Fraction of the effluent flow that is withdrawn from the receiving water, where " f " ranges from 0 to 1 and is unitless.

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements shall be taken at each outfall following treatment (if applicable) and prior to discharge to surface waters. The samples shall be representative of the discharge that consists solely of the effluent before mixing with any other water.

4.12.2 Cold Shock Standard

Water temperature of discharges shall be controlled in a manner to protect fish and aquatic life uses from the deleterious effects of cold shock.

Table 3 - Temperature Limits Based on Receiving Water Type

Receiving Water Type	Daily Maximum Limit	Weekly Average Limit
Limited Aquatic Life (LAL)	86°F	-
Effluent Channels or Storm Sewers	120°F	-
Inland lakes, impoundments, or Great Lakes when the effluent flows are less than the rates listed in Tables 1a or 1b	120°F	-

Receiving Water Type	Daily Maximum Limit	Weekly Average Limit
Other waters not designated as LAL (e.g., rivers and waters with unidirectional flow)	See Table 4a for existing discharges or 4b for discharges beginning after January 1, 2027	See Table 4a for existing discharges or 4b for discharges beginning after January 1, 2027

4.12.3 Receiving Water Definitions

Discharges include those directly to the receiving water, via a storm sewer system or to wetlands connected to the receiving water.

1. Storm sewer systems can include any combination of enclosed, network of pipes, and manholes ending in a surface water.
26. See the Wetlands surface water classification in s. NR 104.02(1)(c), Wis. Adm. Code. Applicants that wish to discharge to a geographically isolated wetland that does not have a direct or permanent surface water connection to navigable lakes or rivers are required to apply for an individual WPDES permit as well as meet all water quality standards found in ch. NR 103, Wis. Adm. Code, including a Practicable Alternatives Analysis.

Limited Aquatic Life (LAL) - The surface water classification is found in ch. NR 104, Wis. Adm. Code, and quality standards in s. NR 106.55(2), Wis. Adm. Code.

Effluent Channels - Permittees must provide documentation that the receiving water meets the definition of an effluent channel per s. NR 104.02(1)(d), Wis. Adm. Code, at the time of application. If adequate documentation is not provided the limitations of the downstream receiving waters will be implemented. See the Effluent Channels surface water quality standards in s. NR 106.55(3), Wis. Adm. Code.

Inland Lakes, Impoundments and Great Lakes - See the surface water quality standards in s. NR 106.55 (7), Wis. Adm. Code.

Unidirectional Flow - See the water quality standards in s. NR 106.55(6), Wis. Adm. Code.

Table 4a – Monthly Temperature Limits for Existing Dischargers in Degrees Fahrenheit Based on stream flow (Qs) to effluent flow (Qe) ratio (Qs-fQe):Qe)

Month and limit type	< 0.5	≥ 0.5 and < 1.5	≥ 1.5 and < 2.3	≥ 2.3 and < 3.9	≥ 3.9 and < 5.4	≥ 5.4 and < 7.9	≥ 7.9 and < 9.0	≥ 9.0
January - Daily Max	76	97	120	120	120	120	120	120
January - Weekly Avg	49	57	73	86	110	NA	NA	NA
February - Daily Max	76	97	120	120	120	120	120	120
February - Weekly Avg	50	58	74	87	111	NA	NA	NA
March - Daily Max	77	96	120	120	120	120	120	120
March - Weekly Avg	52	59	73	84	105	NA	NA	NA
April - Daily Max	79	94	120	120	120	120	120	120
April - Weekly Avg	55	58	66	71	82	90	110	NA
May - Daily Max	82	94	118	120	120	120	120	120
May - Weekly Avg	65	68	76	81	92	103	NA	NA
June - Daily Max	84	93	111	120	120	120	120	120
June - Weekly Avg	76	81	91	99	114	NA	NA	NA
July - Daily Max	85	93	110	120	120	120	120	120
July - Weekly Avg	81	87	99	108	NA	NA	NA	NA
August - Daily Max	84	92	115	120	120	120	120	120
August - Weekly Avg	81	88	102	113	NA	NA	NA	NA
September - Daily Max	82	93	120	120	120	120	120	120
September - Weekly Avg	73	79	93	103	NA	NA	NA	NA
October - Daily Max	80	95	120	120	120	120	120	120
October - Weekly Avg	61	66	78	86	103	NA	NA	NA
November - Daily Max	77	95	120	120	120	120	120	120
November - Weekly Avg	49	53	63	70	83	97	NA	NA
December - Daily Max	76	96	120	120	120	120	120	120
December - Weekly Avg	49	56	70	81	102	NA	NA	NA

Table 4b - Temperature Limits for Discharges Beginning After January 1, 2027, in Degrees Fahrenheit Based on stream flow (Qs) to effluent flow (Qe) ratio (Qs-fQe):Qe)

Month and limit type	< 0.5	≥ 0.5 and < 9	≥ 9 and < 18	≥ 18 and < 35	≥ 35 and < 70	≥ 70 and < 140	≥ 140 and < 285	≥ 285
January - Daily Max	36	56	75	114	120	120	120	120
January - Weekly Avg	34	41	49	64	93	NA	NA	NA
February - Daily Max	36	56	75	114	120	120	120	120
February - Weekly Avg	34	42	50	66	97	NA	NA	NA
March - Daily Max	39	58	76	113	120	120	120	120
March - Weekly Avg	37	44	52	67	96	NA	NA	NA
April - Daily Max	47	63	78	109	120	120	120	120
April - Weekly Avg	45	50	55	65	84	NA	NA	NA
May - Daily Max	58	65	72	86	114	120	120	120
May - Weekly Avg	57	60	63	69	81	106	NA	NA
June - Daily Max	63	67	72	81	98	120	120	120
June - Weekly Avg	63	65	67	71	80	97	NA	NA
July - Daily Max	65	69	73	81	96	120	120	120
July - Weekly Avg	64	66	67	70	75	85	106	NA
August - Daily Max	64	68	73	82	99	120	120	120
August - Weekly Avg	63	64	65	67	70	77	91	NA
September - Daily Max	59	65	72	85	111	120	120	120
September - Weekly Avg	57	59	60	63	68	78	99	NA
October - Daily Max	51	61	70	89	120	120	120	120
October - Weekly Avg	49	51	53	57	63	77	105	NA
November - Daily Max	43	60	77	111	120	120	120	120
November - Weekly Avg	40	45	50	60	79	117	NA	NA
December - Daily Max	37	57	76	115	120	120	120	120
December - Weekly Avg	33	42	49	63	91	NA	NA	NA

4.13 Surface Water Narrative Requirements

To preserve and enhance the quality of waters, surface water uses and criteria are established to govern water management decisions. Practices attributable to municipal, industrial, commercial, domestic, agricultural, land development, or other activities shall be controlled so that all surface waters, including the mixing zone, meet the following conditions at all times and under all flow and water level conditions:

1. Substances that will cause objectionable deposits on the shore or in the bed of a body of water shall not be present in such amounts as to interfere with public rights in waters of the state.
2. Floating or submerged debris, oil, scum, or other material shall not be present in such amounts as to interfere with public rights in waters of the state.
3. Materials producing color, odor, taste, or unsightliness shall not be present in such amounts as to interfere with public rights in waters of the state.
4. Substances in concentrations or in combinations which are toxic or harmful to humans shall not be present in amounts found to be of public health significance, nor shall substances be present in amounts which are acutely harmful to animal, plant or aquatic life.

4.14 Wetland Narrative Requirements

The permittee shall meet the following conditions at all times so that wetland water quality related functional values or uses of wetlands as stated in s. NR 103.03(1), Wis. Adm. Code, are protected:

1. Liquids, fill, or other solids or gas may not be present in amounts which may cause significant adverse impacts to wetlands.
2. Floating or submerged debris, oil, or other material may not be present in amounts which may interfere with public rights or interest, or which may cause significant adverse impacts to wetlands.
3. Materials producing color, odor, taste, or unsightliness may not be present in amounts which may cause significant adverse impacts to wetlands.
4. Concentrations or combinations of substances which are toxic or harmful to human, animal or plant life may not be present in amounts which individually or cumulatively may cause significant adverse impacts to wetlands.
5. Hydrological conditions necessary to support the biological and physical characteristics naturally present in wetlands shall be protected to prevent significant adverse impacts on:
 - a. Water currents, erosion, or sedimentation patterns;
 - b. Water temperature variations;
 - c. The chemical, nutrient, and dissolved oxygen regime of the wetland;
 - d. The movement of aquatic fauna;
 - e. The pH of the wetland; and
 - f. Water levels or elevations.

6. Existing habitats and the populations of wetland animals and vegetation shall be maintained by:
 - a. Protecting food supplies for fish and wildlife;
 - b. Protecting reproductive and nursery areas; and
 - c. Preventing conditions conducive to the establishment or proliferation of nuisance organisms.

5 Additives

5.1 Use of Water Treatment Additives

Permittees shall not add any substance or water treatment additive to the discharge unless the use of the water treatment additive is reviewed and approved in writing by the department. Examples of water treatment additives include biocides (e.g., algaecides, microbicides, fungicides, and molluscicides), water quality conditioners (e.g., scale and corrosion inhibitors, pH adjustment chemicals, oxygen scavengers, conditioning agents, and water softening compounds), dechlorination chemicals, erosion control products, and clarifying agents.

5.2 Approval of Water Treatment Additives Usage

A water treatment additive review and approval is necessary for substances that may enter surface water or groundwater without receiving treatment or substances that are used in a water treatment process but are not expected to be removed by wastewater treatment. Water treatment additive review and approval is not required for chlorine-based compounds and pH-adjusters. Water treatment additives already present in the water supply system do not need to be reviewed and approved. In addition, chemicals added as part of a water treatment process that are expected to remain with solids and not be discharged with the final effluent (such as ferric chloride, alum, or pickle liquor) are not considered water treatment additives and do not require a water treatment additive review if written procedures are in place and followed to ensure that the product is not overdosed and does not reach the surface water. For each water treatment additive used which requires department approval, the permittee shall submit a Water Quality Additive Review Worksheet [Form 3400-213](https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3400-213) <https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3400-213.pdf> and SDS to the department. If the permittee wishes to commence use of a new water treatment additive or increase the usage of an approved water treatment additive, the permittee shall submit a written request and receive written approval from the department prior to initiating such changes.

Water treatment additive discharge concentrations shall comply with applicable secondary values and standards in ss. NR 102.04 and NR 105.05 and, Wis. Adm. Code, for surface water discharges.

Information on the water treatment additive review process is available on the department's additives webpage: [Reviewed Additives List](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/Additives.html) <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/Additives.html>.

5.3 Water Treatment Additive Usage Record

Permittees shall maintain records of the monthly water treatment additive usage including the water treatment additive name, manufacturer, and daily maximum and monthly average amount used. Water treatment additive use may be recorded as the quantity of the pollutant added to the discharge.

5.4 Public Notice of Additive Use Restrictions

If the department determines that a water treatment additive requires a usage restriction and effluent limits, the department is required to public notice those proposed limits prior to the limits becoming effective and implemented through this general permit. The public notice period is to last 30 days and be issued in a newspaper of general circulation in the area affected by the discharge and on the department's public notice webpage: [WPDES permits on public notice https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/permits/water/notices.html](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/permits/water/notices.html). The effluent limitations, limit type, and sample type for substances will be stated in the additive use approval letter.

6 Antidegradation, Impaired Waters and TMDLs, and Wetland Requirements

6.1 Antidegradation Standard and Procedures

Any permittee proposing a new or increased discharge of wastewater to a surface water of the state is in compliance with the antidegradation policy in s. NR 102.045, Wis. Adm. Code and antidegradation evaluation procedures in ch. NR 207, Wis. Adm. Code if the department determines that the discharge is authorized for coverage under this general permit. Any new or increased discharge of wastewater would not be applicable to antidegradation evaluation procedures in ch. NR 207, Wis. Adm. Code if the discharge is in compliance with the effluent limitations or performance standards in this general permit.

6.2 Persistent, Bioaccumulating Toxic Pollutants

Any new or increased discharge of bioaccumulative chemicals of concern would be a significant lowering of water quality that is excluded from coverage, pursuant to Section 1.2.14 of this permit. In accordance with s. NR 102.12, Wis. Adm. Code, a new discharge and increased discharge as defined in ch. NR 207, Wis. Adm. Code, of persistent, bio-accumulating toxic substances, such as mercury and PCBs, to the Great Lakes waters or their tributaries shall be avoided or limited to the maximum extent practicable. Any new or increased discharge of these substances is prohibited unless the permittee certifies that the new or increased discharge is necessary after utilization of best technology in process or control using waste minimization, pollution prevention, municipal pretreatment programs, material substitution, or other means of commercially available technologies which have demonstrated capability for similar applications.

6.3 Impaired Water and TMDL Requirements

6.3.1 New Permittee Reporting a Discharge to an Impaired Water

Any new permittee or existing permittee that proposes a new discharge during the permit term that was not previously covered under WPDES Permit No. WI-0044938-06-0 prior to the **Effective Date** of this general permit, shall report on the eNOI if the water discharge has a detectable pollutant of concern (e.g., total suspended solids and total phosphorus) that discharges to an impaired surface water or a surface water with a State and EPA approved Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).

Note: The section 303(d) list of Wisconsin impaired surface water bodies may be obtained by contacting the department or by searching for the section 303(d) list on the department's website: [Water Condition List](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/WaterConditionList) <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/ConditionLists.html>. The department updates the section 303(d) list approximately every two years. State and Federal Approved TMDLs can be identified by contacting the department or by searching for the State and Federal Approved TMDL list on the department website: [Approved TMDL Information](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/TMDLs/TMDLReports.html) <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/TMDLs/TMDLReports.html>. General permit discharges located inside of a permitted Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System

(MS4) may be included in the wasteload allocation for MS4s pursuant to the approved TMDL.

Note: The department will confirm whether the discharge is within a federally approved TMDL and if Section 6.3 is applicable in the coverage letter to the permittee.

6.3.2 Existing Permittee Reporting a Discharge to an Impaired Water

Any existing permittee that had an existing water discharge to an impaired surface water or a surface water with a State and EPA approved TMDL that was previously covered under WPDES Permit No. WI-0044938-06-0 prior to the **Effective Date** of this general permit shall notify the department if the existing water discharge has a detectable pollutant of concern (e.g., total suspended solids and total phosphorus) that discharges to an impaired surface water or a surface water with a State and EPA approved TMDL.

6.3.3 Department Determinations

The permittee may not commence a new or increased discharge of a pollutant of concern to a surface water with a federally approved TMDL until the department has determined that the proposed discharge is consistent with the wasteload allocation specified in a federally approved TMDL. The department will make this determination by granting coverage of the discharge under this general permit by letter. If the department determines, by notification to the permittee, that the proposed discharge is inconsistent with the wasteload allocation in a federally approved TMDL, the permittee must perform one of the following actions and notify the department of the selected option:

1. Apply for coverage under an individual permit;
2. Find an alternative discharge location (e.g., discharging to groundwater or sanitary sewer). If the alternative discharge location is to another water of the state, the department will determine if the discharge will be eligible and grant coverage under this general permit by letter; or
3. Reduce or eliminate loadings or concentrations of the pollutant of concern so that the discharge meets the wasteload allocation in the approved TMDL for general permits. The department will determine if the discharge will be eligible and grant coverage under this general permit by letter.

6.4 Wetland Requirements

6.4.1 New Permittee Report Discharge to a Wetland

Any new permittee or existing permittee that proposes a new discharge during the permit term to a wetland with a direct or permanent surface water connection to navigable lakes or rivers not previously covered under WPDES Permit No. WI-0044938-06-0 prior to the **Effective Date** of this general permit shall report on the eNOI if the water discharge will be to a wetland. Any water discharge to a wetland is considered a surface water discharge and must comply with the surface water discharge requirements in Section 4. Additionally, the permittee shall provide "No Practicable Alternatives Analysis" documentation as an attachment to the eNOI in addition to those listed in Section 2.1.2.

Note: Discharges to a geographically isolated wetland that does not have a direct or permanent surface water connection to navigable lakes or rivers is not covered under this general permit.

6.4.2 Existing Permittee Report Discharge to a Wetland

Any existing permittee that had an existing water discharge to a wetland that was previously covered under WPDES Permit No. WI-0044938-06-0 prior to the **Effective Date** of this general permit shall notify the department if the existing water discharge will be to a wetland. If an existing discharge will be to a wetland, the permittee must comply with the surface water discharge requirements in Section 4.

6.4.3 No Practicable Alternatives Analysis

If the permittee proposes a discharge of water to a wetland, the permittee shall demonstrate the following in writing:

1. That no practicable alternatives exist that would avoid discharge to the wetland; and
2. That all practicable measures to minimize adverse impacts to the functional values of the affected wetlands will be taken.

6.4.4 Department Determinations

The permittee may not establish a new or increased discharge to a wetland until the department has determined that the proposed discharge meets the wetland requirements in this section and in ch. NR 103, Wis. Adm. Code, and the proposed discharge will not result in significant adverse impacts to wetland functional values, significant adverse impacts to water quality, or other significant adverse environmental consequences. If the department determines that the proposed discharge will not meet the wetland requirements in this section and in ch. NR 103, Wis. Adm. Code, and the proposed discharge will result in significant adverse impacts to wetland functional values, significant adverse impacts to water quality or other significant adverse environmental consequences, the permittee must apply for coverage under for an individual permit or find an alternative discharge location to potentially remain eligible for this general permit.

7 Standard Requirements

The conditions in ss. NR 205.07(1), NR 205.07(3), and NR 205.08, Wis. Adm. Code, and 40 CFR 122 are included by reference in this permit. Some of these requirements are outlined in the Standard Requirements section of this permit. Requirements not specifically outlined in the Standard Requirements can be found in ss. NR 205.07(1), 205.07(3), and NR 205.08, Wis. Adm. Code, and 40 CFR 122.

7.1 Monitoring, Reporting, and Record Keeping Requirements

7.1.1 Sampling and Testing Procedures

The permittee shall take samples and measurements that are representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge at points specified in the permit using sample types specified in the permit. The permittee shall also follow the effluent flow measurement and sample collection procedures in ch. NR 218, Wis. Adm. Code.

Samples collected under this permit shall be tested for the parameters listed in this permit and follow approved test methods and procedures specified in ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code. If the required level cannot be met by any of the methods available in ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code, then the method with the lowest limit of detection shall be selected. Additional test procedures may be specified in the permit.

7.1.2 Laboratory Certification or Registration

Samples collected under this permit shall be tested and analyzed by a laboratory certified or registered under ch. NR 149, Wis. Adm. Code. A list of Wisconsin DNR accredited laboratories can be found here: [Certified Lab List](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/labCert/certified-lab-lists) <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/labCert/certified-lab-lists>. The following tests are excluded from this requirement pursuant to s. NR 219.037, Wis. Adm. Code:

1. Temperature;
2. Turbidity;
3. Bacteria tests in wastewater effluent and sludges;
4. pH;
5. Chlorine residual;
6. Specific conductance;
7. Physical properties of soils and sludges;
8. Nutrient tests of solids and sludges; and
9. Flow measurements.

7.1.3 Recording of Results

The permittee shall maintain records which provide the following information for each effluent measurement or sample taken:

1. the date, exact place, method and time of sampling or measurements;
2. the individual who performed the sampling or measurements;
3. the date the analysis was performed;
4. the individual who performed the analysis;

5. the analytical techniques or methods used; and
6. the results of the analysis

7.1.4 Reporting of Monitoring Results

The permittee shall submit water discharge monitoring data as required by Section 4 on an electronic discharge monitoring report (eDMR) form in accordance with s. NR 205.07(1)(r), Wis. Adm. Code, upon the **Effective Date** of this general permit. The eDMR form is available through the DNR Switchboard: [Switchboard](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Switchboard) <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Switchboard>. The eDMRs are due 21 days following the end of the report frequency. For example, if a parameter is to be sampled monthly, the eDMRs are due 21 days following the end of each month. The eDMR shall be submitted to the department regardless of whether or not there is a discharge during any report frequency. Paper copies are no longer accepted.

To access the eDMR forms, the permittee must have a MyWisconsin ID and request access for each facility for which they intend to submit data. The Switchboard can be used to create a MyWisconsin ID and register with their contact information and user roles. If the permittee already has a MyWisconsin ID, then they do not need to create a new one. However, they must still request access to each facility for which they intend to submit data.

7.1.5 Reporting Conventions

The permittee shall use the following conventions when reporting effluent monitoring results:

1. For reporting periods with no sample point activity, the permittee shall indicate this on the eDMR start page by selecting “no” per sample point.
2. For days with no discharge, the flow rate shall be reported as “0” on those days.
3. When an effluent limitation for any substance in this permit is less than the limit of detection (LOD) or the limit of quantitation (LOQ), the following conditions shall apply:
 - a. The permittee shall perform monitoring required in this permit using an acceptable analytical methodology for that substance in the effluent which produces the lowest LOD and LOQ.
 - b. The permittee shall determine the LOD and LOQ using a test method specified in ch. NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code.
 - c. Pollutant concentrations less than the limit of detection shall be reported as < (less than) the value of the limit of detection. For example, if a substance is not detected at a detection limit of 0.1 mg/L, report the pollutant concentration as < 0.1 mg/L.
 - d. Pollutant concentrations equal to or greater than the limit of detection, but less than the limit of quantitation, shall be reported and the limit of quantitation shall be specified.
 - e. For the purposes of reporting a calculated result, average, or a mass discharge value, the permittee may substitute a value of 0 (zero) for any pollutant concentration that is less than the limit of detection. However, if the effluent

limitation is less than the limit of detection, the department may substitute a value other than zero for results less than the limit of detection after considering the number of monitoring results that are greater than the limit of detection and if warranted when applying appropriate statistical techniques.

4. Compliance with concentration limitations shall be determined as follows:
 - a. When the effluent limitation is less than the LOD, effluent levels less than the LOD are in compliance with the effluent limitation.
 - b. When the effluent limitation is less than the LOD, effluent levels greater than the LOD, but less than the LOQ are in compliance with the effluent limitation except when analytically confirmed and statistically confirmed by a sufficient number of analyses of multiple samples and use of appropriate statistical techniques.
 - c. When the effluent limitation is greater than the LOD, but less than the LOQ, effluent levels less than the LOD or less than the LOQ are in compliance with the effluent limitation.

7.1.6 More Frequent Monitoring

As specified in s. NR 205.07(1)(r), Wis. Adm. Code, if the permittee monitors any parameter more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures specified in ch. NR 204 or 219, Wis. Adm. Code, or as specified in the permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the discharge monitoring report.

7.1.7 Records Retention

The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including daily logs, calibration and maintenance records, original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by the permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for the permit for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application.

7.1.8 Other Information

When the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a notice of intent or submitted incorrect information in a notice of intent or in any report to the department, it shall promptly submit such facts or correct information to the department.

7.2 General Conditions for General Permits

7.2.1 Signatory Requirement

All permit notices of intent, reports, and other information requested by the department shall be signed by a responsible executive or municipal officer, manager, partner, or proprietor as specified in s. 283.37(3), Wis. Stats., or a duly authorized representative of the officer, manager partner or proprietor that has been delegated signature authority pursuant to s. NR 205.07(1)(g)2., Wis. Adm. Code.

7.2.2 Delegation of Signature Authority

The permittee must submit a completed delegation of signature authority (DSA) request (Form 3400-220) or equivalent to the department for a duly authorized representative to

submit specific permit documents on the behalf of the responsible executive or municipal officer, manager, partner, or proprietor of a permitted discharge. A responsible executive or municipal officer, manager, partner, or proprietor can only delegate signature authority to a duly authorized representative if that person is responsible for the overall operation of the facility or activity regulated by this general permit. The permittee shall specify the name of the individual or the employment position that has the signature authority and responsibility on the DSA. The permittee must submit an updated DSA to the department with the eNOI unless a DSA was previously submitted to the department or together with the submittal of any required documents. If there are any changes to this request, the permittee shall submit a new DSA request to the department.

Note: The DSA form (Form 3400-220) is available on the department website: [Form 3400-220 https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3400-220.pdf](https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3400-220.pdf) or via the [Wastewater General Permits Webpage https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html).

7.2.3 Permit Coverage Transfers

A permit is not transferable to any person except after notice to the department. Permittees that wish to transfer general permit coverage to a new permittee must submit a Transfer of Coverage (TOC, Form 3400-222) to the department. The TOC must be submitted at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date. All TOCs shall be completed by both the existing and new permittees, including the “Certification and Signature” section, and sent via mail or email to the department. The department will then send a letter to the existing permittee stating that their coverage is terminated under this general permit.

If the quality or quantity of the discharge has not changed at the facility, the department will send a letter of determination that grants coverage to the new permittee under this general permit. If there have been significant changes at the permitted facility, the new permittee shall submit a new eNOI to the department.

The TOC (Form 3400-222) is available on the department website: [Form 3400-222 https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3400-222.pdf](https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/doclink/forms/3400-222.pdf) or via the [Wastewater General Permits Webpage https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html)

7.2.4 Permit Coverage Terminations

Permittees that wish to terminate their general permit coverage must submit an electronic Notice of Termination (eNOT, Form 3400-221) to the department. All eNOTs must be completed by the permittee or duly authorized representative including the “Certification and Signature” section and submitted to the department via the online Water Permits system. The department will then send correspondence to the permittee stating that their coverage is terminated under this general permit.

Note: The eNOT is available at the department’s ePermitting website [Water Permits Application https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/permits/water](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/permits/water).

7.2.5 Continuation of an Expired General Permit

If a permittee submitted a complete and timely eNOI to be covered by this general permit, all conditions of an expired general permit shall continue to apply until the effective date of a new general permit.

7.2.6 Duty to Comply

The permittee shall comply with all conditions of the permit. Any permit noncompliance is a violation of the permit and is grounds for enforcement action, permit coverage termination, or denial of reapplying for permit coverage. If a permittee violates any terms of the permit, the permittee is subject to the penalties established in ch. 283, Wis. Stats.

7.2.7 Property Rights

The permit does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privilege. The permit does not authorize any injury or damage to private property, invasion of personal rights, or any infringement of federal, state or local laws or regulations.

7.2.8 Inspection and Entry

The permittee shall allow an authorized representative of the department, upon the presentation of credentials, to:

1. Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records are required under the conditions of the permit;
2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that are required under the conditions of the permit;
3. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices or operations regulated or required under the permit; and
4. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance, any substances or parameters at any location.

7.2.9 Duty to Mitigate

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent the likelihood of any adverse impacts to public health, the waters of the state, or the environment resulting from noncompliance with the permit.

7.2.10 Duty to Provide Information

The permittee shall furnish the department, within a reasonable time, any information which the department may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, terminating, suspending, revoking or reissuing the permit or to determine compliance with the permit. The permittee shall give advance notice to the department of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements. The permittee shall also furnish the department, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by the permittee.

7.2.11 Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense

It is not a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action to claim that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity to maintain compliance with the conditions of the permit.

7.3 System Operating Requirements

7.3.1 Proper Operation and Maintenance

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training as required in ch. NR 114, Wis. Adm. Code, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

7.3.2 Operator Certification for Facilities with Dechlorination Systems

The wastewater treatment facility shall be under the direct supervision of a state certified operator-in-charge holding a current and valid certificate, per s. NR 114.53, Wis. Adm. Code. The designated operator-in-charge shall be certified at the level and in all subclasses of the treatment plant, except laboratory. Treatment plant owners shall notify the department within 30 days of any changes in the operator-in-charge.

7.3.3 Noncompliance and Other Reporting

The permittee shall report the following types of noncompliance by telephone or email to the department's regional office within 24 hours after becoming aware of the noncompliance:

1. any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment;
2. any violation of an effluent limitation resulting from a bypass;
3. any violation of an effluent limitation resulting from an upset; and
4. any violation of a maximum discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the department in the permit.

A written report describing the noncompliance shall also be submitted to the department as directed in the Summary of Reports Due within 5 days after the permittee becomes aware of the noncompliance. The written report shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance; and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the length of time it is expected to continue.

A scheduled bypass approved by the department as specified in s. NR 205.07(1)(u)2., Wis. Adm. Code, shall not be subject to the reporting required under this section.

7.3.4 Bypass

Except for a controlled diversion as provided in s. NR 205.07(1)(v), Wis. Adm. Code, any bypass is prohibited and the department may take enforcement action against a permittee for such occurrences under s. 283.89, Wis. Stats. The department may approve a bypass if the permittee demonstrates all the following conditions apply:

1. The bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;

2. There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities or adequate back-up equipment, retention of untreated wastes, reduction of inflow and infiltration, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventative maintenance. When evaluating feasibility of alternatives, the department may consider factors such as technical achievability, costs and affordability of implementation and risks to public health, the environment and, where the permittee is a municipality, the welfare of the community served; and
3. The bypass was reported in accordance with the 'Noncompliance Reporting' section of this permit.

7.3.5 Spill Reporting

The permittee shall notify the department in accordance with ch. NR 706 (formerly NR 158), Wis. Adm. Code, in the event that a spill or accidental release of any material or substance results in the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the state at a rate or concentration greater than the effluent limitations established in this permit, or the spill or accidental release of the material is unregulated in this permit, unless the spill or release of pollutants has been reported to the department under this section.

Note: Section 292.11(2)(a), Wis. Stats., requires any person who possesses or controls a hazardous substance or who causes the discharge of a hazardous substance to notify the department **immediately** of any discharge not authorized by the permit. **The discharge of a hazardous substance that is not authorized by this permit or that violates this permit may be a hazardous substance spill. To report a hazardous substance spill, call DNR's 24-hour HOTLINE at 1-800-943-0003.**

7.3.6 Planned Changes

In accordance with ss. 283.31 (4)(b) and 283.59 (1), Wis. Stats., the permittee shall report to the department any facility expansion, production increase or process modifications which will result in new, different or increased discharges of pollutants. The report shall either be a new general permit notice of intent or, if the new discharge will not violate the effluent limitations of the general permit, a written notice of the new, different or increased discharge. The notice shall contain a description of the new activities, an estimate of the new, different or increased discharge of pollutants and a description of the effect of the new or increased discharge on existing waste treatment facilities. Following receipt of this report, the department may modify the general permit coverage letter to specify any discharges of pollutants not previously covered by the general permit.

7.3.7 Duty to Halt or Reduce Activity

Upon failure or impairment of treatment facility operation, the permittee shall, to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with its permit, curtail production or wastewater discharges or both until the treatment facility operations are restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided.

7.3.8 Enforcement

Any violation of this permit is enforceable under ss. 283.89 and 283.91, Wis. Stats.

7.3.9 Permit as Enforcement Shield

Compliance with a permit during its term constitutes compliance for purposes of enforcement with 33 USC §§ 1311, 1312, 1316, 1317, 1328, and 1345 (a) and (b), except for any toxic effluent standard or prohibition, and standards for sewage sludge use or disposal. If a new or revised toxic effluent standard or toxic prohibition becomes effective during the term of the permit, the permittee may be subject to enforcement action if the discharge exceeds the new or revised effluent standard for the toxic pollutant even though the discharge is in compliance with the existing permit. The permittee may also be subject to enforcement action standards for sewage sludge use or disposal. However, a permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated during its term for cause as set forth in ch. 283, Wis. Stats., and ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code.

7.3.10 Severability

The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provisions of this permit or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances and the remainder of this permit shall not be affected thereby.

7.4 General Conditions Specific to Non-POTW Permits

7.4.1 Removed Substances

Solids, sludges, filter backwash or other pollutants removed from or resulting from treatment or control of wastewaters or intake waters shall be stored and disposed of in a manner to prevent any pollutant from the materials from entering the waters of the state. Land disposal or application of treatment plant solids and sludges shall be at a site or operation licensed by the department under chs. NR 500 to 538, Wis. Adm. Code, or chs. NR 660 to 670, Wis. Adm. Code, or in accordance with chs. NR 204 or 214, Wis. Adm. Code.

7.4.2 Abandonment Conditions

Lagoons, storage structures and treatment structures which will no longer be used, shall be properly abandoned within two years of the date on which waste material was last stored, treated, or applied. A plan outlining the proposed method of abandonment shall be submitted to the department for approval prior to abandonment pursuant to s. NR 213.07, Wis. Adm. Code.

8 Summary of Reports Due

FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

Description	Due Date	Page
Notice of Intent (NOI)	New Permittees: 30 days prior to discharging to a water of the state. Existing Permittees: 30 days before the permit effective date.	8
TSS Optimization Report for Discharges to TMDL	New Permittees: 12 months after coverage. Existing Permittees: Submitted with each NOI.	15
Phosphorus Optimization Report for Discharges to TMDL	New Permittees: 12 months after coverage. Existing Permittees: Submitted with each NOI.	19
Electronic Discharge Monitoring Reports (eDMRs)	21 days following the end of the reporting period	33
Delegation of Signature Authority (Form 3400-220)	Submitted with the NOI or together with the submittal of any required documents. Or when requesting Discharge Monitoring Report Submit via Switchboard	34
Transfer of Coverage (Form 3400-222)	30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date	35
Notice of Termination (Form 3400-221)	After discontinuing permitted discharge	35
Noncompliance Notification and 5-Day Written Report	Notification within 24 hours after becoming aware of the noncompliance and written report within 5 days after becoming aware of the noncompliance	37
Planned Changes	30 days prior to any facility expansion, production increase or process modifications which will	38

Description	Due Date	Page
	result in new, different or increased discharges of pollutants	

Report forms shall be submitted electronically in accordance with the reporting requirements herein. Any facility plans or plans and specifications of industrial wastewater systems shall be submitted to the Wisconsin DNR, Wastewater Section, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921. All other submittals required by this permit shall be submitted to the department regional general permit contact. A listing of the general permit contacts for each region can be found at [WPDES General Permit Information \(https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html\)](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Wastewater/GeneralPermits.html).

APPENDIX A. PHOSPHORUS SCHEDULE FOR EXISTING DISCHARGERS ABSENT A U.S. EPA APPROVED TMDL

DISCHARGER APPLICABILITY CRITERIA

A.1.1 Must be an existing discharger previously permitted under WPDES Permit No. WI-0044938-06-0;

A.1.2 Discharges that use phosphorus-containing additives and discharge to a surface water absent a total maximum daily load (TMDL);

A.1.3 Discharges that use municipal water containing polyphosphate additives as its source water and discharge to a surface water absent a TMDL;

A.1.4 Discharges that operate a cooling tower or have other technology which could significantly concentrate phosphorus within the treatment process and discharge to a surface water absent a TMDL;

A.1.5 Other similar discharges expressly required in writing by the department at the time of permit coverage.

Phosphorus Limits Compliance

Required Action	Due Date
Operational Evaluation Report: The permittee shall prepare and submit to the department for approval an operational reduction report. The report shall include an evaluation of possible source reduction measures, operational improvements or other minor facility modifications (such as air-cooling, recycling, changing source water, discharge to groundwater or sanitary sewer) that will optimize reductions in phosphorus discharges from the facility to enable compliance with final phosphorus water quality based effluent limits (WQBELs). The report shall provide a plan and schedule for implementation of the measures, improvements, and modifications as soon as possible, but not later than 36 months after the date of coverage, and state whether the measures, improvements and modifications will enable compliance with final phosphorus WQBELs. If the plan concludes that upgrading of the permittee's facility is necessary to achieve final phosphorus WQBELs, the submittal shall include a preliminary engineering design report. If adaptive management or water quality trading will be pursued, the WPDES permit holder must apply for and obtain coverage under an individual permit. Once individual	12 months after permit effective date.

permit coverage is effective this general permit will be discontinued.	
Final Plans and Specifications: The permittee shall submit final construction plans to the department for approval pursuant to s. 281.41, Wis. Stats., specifying treatment plant upgrades that must be constructed to achieve compliance with final phosphorus WQBELs, and a schedule for completing construction of the upgrades by the complete construction date specified in this table, below.	24 months after permit effective date.
Complete Construction and Achieve Compliance: The permittee shall achieve compliance with final phosphorus WQBELs.	36 months after permit effective date.