

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0022233-08-0

Permittee: Oostburg Village of, 816 N 10th St, Oostburg, WI, 53070-1189

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: OOSTBURG WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, 816 North 10th Street

Receiving Water And Location: Black River (Black River Watershed, Sheboygan River Basin) in Sheboygan County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes:

The Village of Oostburg operates a traditional carousel oxidation ditch wastewater treatment facility with an annual average design flow of 0.437 MGD. The plant serves approximately 3,500 residents with no significant industrial loading. Treatment consists of fine screening, grit removal, 2 carousel oxidation ditches with vertical brushes, 3 final clarifiers, and final step aeration at the effluent channel. Alum is added at the head of the oxidation ditch for phosphorus removal. Treated effluent is discharged to the headwaters of the Black River. Sludge is aerobically digested and then thickened by a screw press. Solids are hauled to another permitted facility for further treatment.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Victoria Ziegler, 141 NW Barstow St, Waukesha, WI, 53188, (414) 391-8946, Victoria.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Curtis Nickels, 1155 Pilgrim Road, Plymouth, WI 53073, (920) 893-8530, Curtis.Nickels@wisconsin.gov

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

Proposed Chloride Variance: The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) for chloride is needed in this permit to protect aquatic life. As allowed under s. NR 106.83(2), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee has requested a variance to the chloride WQBEL. In support of this request, the permittee has submitted documentation intended to demonstrate that the cost of complying with the WQBEL through the use of end-of-pipe wastewater treatment may cause substantial and widespread adverse social and economic impacts in the area where the discharger is located. The Department concurs with that assessment; however, this concurrence is subject to USEPA approval before the variance limit may be included in the final reissued permit. In an effort to achieve chloride effluent reductions that are practically and economically achievable within the term of the proposed permit, the Department and the permittee have mutually agreed upon specific permit terms that include an interim limitation, a target limit (or value, as the case may be), and certain source reduction activities. As allowed under s. NR 106.83(3), Wis. Adm. Code, these requirements are contained in the proposed permit.

The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) for chloride is needed in this permit to protect aquatic life. While the permittee requested a variance to the chloride WQBEL pursuant to s. NR 106.83(2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee and the Department have been unable to agree on voluntary source reduction activities and both an interim limitation and a target value/target limitation to be included as permit requirements. Consequently, pursuant to s. NR 106.83(3)(c), Wis. Adm. Code, the Department has included a chloride WQBEL in the proposed permit.

Hearing Date, Time, and Location: February 21, 2025 at 10AM via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpdeyvqT4uEtzRyUiew1jDjP92So6SaAp1>

Hearing Officer, Name, Address, City/State/Zip, and Phone: Victoria Ziegler, 141 NW Barstow St, Waukesha, WI, 53188, (414) 391-8946, Victoria.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats, has scheduled for the time and place listed above, a public hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the above announced permit action for this **Enter 'new' or 'existing'** discharge.

A hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly and speedy way and will use procedures specified in Subchapter II of ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, necessary to insure broad public participation in the hearing.

The hearing officer will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be used during the course of the hearing. The hearing officer shall explain the method of notification of the final decision to grant or deny the permit and the methods by which the decision may be reviewed in a public adjudicatory hearing.

The hearing officer may put limits on individual oral statements to ensure an opportunity for all persons present to make statements in a reasonable period of time and to prevent undue repetition. The hearing officer may also limit the number of representatives making oral statements on behalf of any person or group.

Informational and clarifying questions and oral statements shall be directed through the hearing officer. Cross-examination shall not be allowed.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received from members of the public no later than 7 days following the date of this public hearing will be used, along with other information on file and testimony presented at the hearing, in making a final determination. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above-named permit drafter's office or the above named basin engineer's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (414) 391-8946 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wastewater/PublicNotices.html>. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodation, including the provision of informational material in an alternative format, will be made to qualified individuals upon request.

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Sheboygan Press

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 632 Center Ave, Sheboygan, WI 53081

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, December 19, 2024