

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0029394-11-0

Permittee: River Falls Municipal Utility WWTF, 222 Lewis St Suite 228, River Falls, WI, 54022

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: River Falls Municipal Utility WWTF, 432 S Apollo Rd, River Falls, WI

Receiving Water And Location: Kinnickinnic River in Kinnickinnic River Watershed of St Croix River Basin in Pierce County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The River Falls Municipal Utility wastewater treatment facility (River Falls WWTF) has an annual average design flow of 1.824 million gallons per day (MGD) and had an actual annual average influent flow of 1.38 MGD in 2024. River Falls WWTF treats domestic wastewater from the City of River Falls and industrial wastewater from Crystal Finishing, a metal finishing company, and Best Maid Baking, a maker of baked goods. Primary treatment consists of 2 comminutors/bar screen, 4 pump lift stations, magnetic flow metering, a Huber Rotomat, vortex grit removal, and classifier. Secondary treatment includes two parallel oxidation ditches, two final clarifiers, and a biological anaerobic phosphorus (Bio P) reduction unit. In addition to the Bio P unit, Alum from an Alum Tank is available for use if required. Chlorination is achieved in two baffled units, then dechlorinated by injecting sulfur dioxide into the baffled unit between the chlorination chamber and the effluent weir. Following de-chlorination, the treated wastewater is discharged through a 14" outfall pipe to the Kinnickinnic River, which discharges above the normal water level of the river over a rip-rap area. Biosolids are treated using a Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) unit, which transfers them to a holding tank, where the sludge undergoes further processing through a screw press, drying, and storage for land application or distribution. This process will produce Class A or Exceptional Quality (EQ) sludge. If the sludge does not meet Class A or EQ requirements, it is processed along the sludge treatment train. In that case, River Falls can, depending on which point along the wastewater treatment train it occurs, ship the sludge to the West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility (WCWBF) for further treatment and disposal, Land apply it as Class B Sludge, or send it to a landfill. Pressate and condensate from the River Falls sludge processing is fed back into the treatment train, in addition to at times centrate from the WCWBF which is projected to be infrequent. Changes in permit requirements proposed for this issuance include 1) the addition of monitoring for effluent PFOS and PFOA once every two months and an associated determination of need schedule in accordance with s. NR 106.98(2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code., 2) addition of effluent limit of mercury and an associated compliance schedule to address the new limit, 3) new sludge sample points to reflect class A sludge production, 4) new PFAS sludge sampling has been included in the permit pursuant to ss. NR 214.18(5)(b) and NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code to quantitate risk, 5) sludge monitoring frequency was increased to quarterly to conform to Table A, Ch NR 204, Wis. Adm. Code, and 6) an updated land management plan to address the class A sludge requirements.

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

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Adebawale Adesanwo, 1300 W Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 492-4047, adebowale.adesanwo@wisconsin.gov

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

Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Land application of waste shall be done in accordance with permit conditions and applicable codes. All land application sites shall be approved prior to their use. To receive a list of approved sites, or to be notified of potential approvals, contact the above-named basin engineer.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. Where designated as a reviewable surface water discharge permit, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is allowed up to 90 days to submit comments or objections regarding this permit determination. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit, fact sheet and permit application, may be inspected and copied at either the above-named permit drafter's office or the above named basin engineer's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter or basin engineer for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (715) 839-3836 or by writing to the Department. Reasonable costs (15 cents per page for copies and 7 cents per page for scanning) will be charged for information in the file other than the public notice, permit and fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at:

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

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Star Observer

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

Date Notice Issued: November 26, 2025