

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0066010-02-0

Permittee: Schmidt Farms West LLC, 31553 Slow Lane, Lone Rock, WI, 53556

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Schmidt Farms West LLC, 29281 Fairview Road Lone Rock

Receiving Water And Location: Surface water and groundwater within the **Pine River** Watershed

Brief Facility Description : Schmidt Farms West, LLC is a family owned dairy operation located in two sites in the Township of Buena Vista. The West Farm includes a freestall barn, maternity barn, milking parlor, several young stock and heifer barns, a sand settling system, a feed storage area and a liquid waste storage facility. The Henpeck Farm includes a heifer barn, solid stacking pad and a liquid waste storage facility. The farm has a total of 6,771 animal units consisting of 4,200 milking and dry cows, 900 heifers, and 1,375 calves and has no plans for expansion during the proposed permit term. Manure generation and spreading records indicate that this herd size will generate approximately 56,200,000 gallons of manure and process wastewater and 4,960 tons of solid manure in the first year of the permit term. The operation currently has 4,895 acres (1,526 owned and 3,369 rented) of which 4,472.3 are spreadable acres. Submitted reissuance application information states that Schmidt Farms West has 188 days of liquid waste storage. The proposed operating permit will have a duration of approximately five years with a proposed expiration date of March 31, 2027. This will be the first WPDES permit reissuance for the facility.

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

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Claire O'Connell, 1500 N Johns St, Dodgeville, WI, 53533, (608) 963-1463, Claire.OConnell@wisconsin.gov

Informational Hearing Date, Time, and Location:

**June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, 1:00pm, Virtual Hearing using Zoom. If you want to attend the hearing, please fill out the registration form at the following link:**

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vcO2grjosHdNq0dYUBT8EJ\\_3CnI\\_DdHN3](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vcO2grjosHdNq0dYUBT8EJ_3CnI_DdHN3)**

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to Section 283.49, Wisconsin Statutes, has scheduled a public informational hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, and the application for this operation.

The hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly fashion 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 office will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be use 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 place limits on individual oral statements to insure 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, the terms of the nutrient management plan, or the application, 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. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision regarding permit coverage. 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 and fact sheet (if required), the operation's nutrient management plan and application may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (608) 963-1463 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 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: Richland Observer

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 172 E Court Street PO Box 31 Richland Center, WI 53581

Date Notice Issued: April 21, 2022