

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0052809-11-0

Permittee: Seneca Foods Corporation, W1102 Buttercup Court, BERLIN, WI, 54923

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Seneca Foods Corporation Berlin, NEQ NEQ SEC 34 T19N R13E

Receiving Water And Location: Willow River in Pine and Willow Rivers of Wolf River in Waushara County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: Seneca Foods Corporation Berlin (formerly "Leach Farms Inc.") is a vegetable processing and freezing operation. Celery is grown on leased acreage in the area and then brought to the facility for washing, processing, and freezing. Vegetables processed and prepared at other Seneca locations (such as green beans from Seneca – Ripon) are transported to Berlin for freezing. Wastewater is generated at the main processing plant which is held in a lagoon and spray irrigated on an area of reed canary grass adjacent to the lagoon. By-product solids are landspread on Department-approved sites. Outfall 005 consists of freezer defrost water that discharges to a ditch at the west side of the facility. The freezer defrost water may contain pieces of vegetables. Freezer defrost water flows through a series of ditches and channels, along with storm water and ground water, until it reaches Willow Creek approximately 3/4 miles northwest of the facility.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Ashley Clark, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI, 54313, (920) 857-0450, AshleyM.Clark@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Mark Stanek, 625 E County Road Y, Suite 700, Oshkosh, WI 54901, (920) 808-0670, Mark.Stanek@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 (920) 857-0450 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: Waushara Argus

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: PO Box 838 Wautoma, WI 54982

Date Notice Issued: November 20, 2025