

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0002160-09-0

Permittee: SENECA FOODS CORPORATION - Clyman, 640 CAUGHLIN RD, CLYMAN, WI, 53016

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Seneca Foods Corporation, 640 CAUGHLIN ROAD

Receiving Water And Location: Clyman Creek and Groundwater in Sinissippi Lake Watershed of Upper Rock River Basin in Dodge County.

Brief Facility Description: Seneca Foods Corporation (Seneca) operates a vegetable processing plant in the Village of Clyman. Vegetables such as cabbage, beets, onions and potatoes are processed on a seasonal basis, usually late-June through mid-November. During the non-growing season, Seneca Clyman produces vegetable blends, salads, gravies, fruit cups, and tomato sauces. Wastewater from processing is collected and pumped to lagoons or holding tanks, from which it is sprayed to irrigation fields. There are currently six spray irrigation fields with approximately 265 approved acres receiving wastewater.

Initial wash water from rinsing root crops is stored in Mud Ponds 1 and 2, which are used in series. The wash water from the mud ponds is spray irrigated. Process wastewater is generated from washing and cooking vegetables and preparing other food products on a year-round basis with highest flows occurring during the peak season (late summer and fall). The wastewater flows into a sixty to twenty thousandths mesh screen system, where the vegetable solids are removed and then it flows into a lift station. Two submersible pumps with capacities of 600 gallons per minute each pump the wastewater out to the lagoons or the holding tank.

Normally process wastewater during the peak season goes first to Tank 1. From Tank 1, it can be distributed to Lagoon 4, Lagoon 5, Tank 2, or directly to spray irrigation. Wastewater can be stored in Tank 1, Tank 2, Lagoon 4, or Lagoon 5. Tank 1 is 141,000 gallons and Tank 2 is 151,000 gallons in capacity. The Lagoon 4 capacity is approximately 20 million gallons and Lagoon 5 capacity is 20.5 million gallons. From Tank 1, Tank 2, Lagoon 4, or Lagoon 5 wastewater is spray irrigated on department approved, dedicated sites.

Lagoons 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 are located in the NEQ of Section 33, T10N, R15E. Lagoons 1, 2, 3 and 4 are earthen lined lagoons that have been located at the Seneca Clyman facility for decades. Lagoon 5 was reconstructed and upgraded with an HDPE liner in 2017. Lagoons 1, 2 and 3 store can cooling water derived from one of Seneca Clyman's groundwater supply wells. Can cooling water is discharged from Lagoon 3 to the headwaters of Clyman Creek. Lagoon 5 now serves as the primary lagoon for storage of wastewater and Lagoon 4 acts as reserve capacity for storage of wastewater with periodic low volume discharges to the spray irrigation field. Solids from the lagoons may be land applied on department approved sites.

Groundwater monitoring wells have been installed around the spray fields and ensure groundwater limits are met. Fields are seeded with a grass mixture which is removed 2-3 times annually.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: BetsyJo Howe, 3911 Fish Hatchery Rd, Fitchburg, WI, 53711, (608) 419-4155, Betsyjo.Howe@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Zachary Watson, 1500 N Johns Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533, (608) 910-2822, zachary.watson@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.

Phosphorus Multi-Discharger Variance: The Department has determined that the permittee is eligible for a phosphorus multi-discharger variance (MDV) in accordance with s. 283.16, Wis. Stats. The MDV provides a time extension for the permittee to comply with the final water quality based effluent limits for phosphorus while contributing funds towards nonpoint pollution control projects to reduce phosphorus. Comments on this determination are requested and additional supporting documentation and data are available upon request.

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 (608) 419-4155 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: Watertown Daily Times

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 115 W Main Street, PO Box 140, Watertown, WI 53094-0140

Date Notice Issued: Friday, March 27, 2026