

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0050687-11-0

Permittee: SENECA FOODS CORP Janesville La Prairie Plan, 418 E CONDE ST, JANESVILLE, WI, 53546-3004

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Seneca Foods Corp Janesville, 418 E Conde St. Janesville, WI

Receiving Water And Location: Rock River & Groundwaters of the Lower Rock River Basin (Blackhawk Creek Watershed, LR02) in Rock County. Sections 7, 8, 17, & 18 of T2N R13 E (Spray Irrigation Fields)

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Seneca Foods Janesville facility processes vegetables, dry beans, and other food products. Wastewater is generated during washing and processing of the vegetables and cleanup. The facility operates year-round. Process wastewaters are discharged to the City of Janesville Wastewater Utility POTW during the non-irrigation period. Vegetable wash water, blanching water, boiler blowdown, and plant equipment cleaning wastewater is irrigated on one of six spray fields during the months of April – November. The six spray fields total 493 acres and are surrounded by a groundwater monitoring system. The monitoring system consists of six monitoring well nests (a water table well and a piezometer well) and one lone water table well. An anaerobic digester (owned and operated by the City of Janesville) receives and digests some canning process wastewaters prior to spray irrigation. Digested wastewater typically comprises approximately 10-20% of the total discharge to the spray fields. The bulk of the wastewater discharged to spray irrigation is screened and settled to remove solids but otherwise receives no treatment. Can cooling water may be discharged to the Rock River via storm sewer, discharge from this outfall (002) has not occurred since 2005.

Vegetable by-product solids, sweet corn silage leachate, and liquid vegetable canning wastewater are land applied on department approved sites.

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.

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: The Gazette

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: One S Parker Drive, PO Box 5001, Janesville, WI, 53547-5001

Date Notice Issued: Friday, November 21, 2025