

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0001163-11-0

Permittee: Seneca Foods Corporation Ripon, 477 S Douglas St, Ripon, WI, 54971

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Seneca Foods Corporation Ripon, 477 South Douglas Street, Ripon, (Sec 27 T16N R14E)

Receiving Water And Location: Groundwater in Fond Du Lac County

Brief Facility Description: Seneca Food's Ripon facility processes canned green and wax beans, Italian beans, beets, carrots and potatoes. The normal processing season will start in June and conclude in November. The facility normally processes one vegetable at a time, however during the peak canning season of late July through September two vegetables can be produced on the same day. The vegetables are trucked to the processing facility and are processed in a timely manner. The approximate usage for each commodity is as follows: Beans 480 tons/day, 32,000 tons/year; Beets 225 tons/day; Potatoes 240 tons/day; and Carrots 500 tons/day, 15,000 tons/year. In recent years, Beets and/or Potatoes have only been run on an as needed basis at SFC--Ripon. Other SFC Plants have been scheduled to run 100% of SFC's Beet and Potato needs. The vegetables proceed through a cleaning, cutting, washing, blanching and cooling process, the majority of which is inside an enclosed facility. Actual processing and spray field activities generally occur over a 150 - 170-day period. The facility normally is in operation 20 hours/day and 6 days/week. The total wastewater generated varies between 44 and 70 million gallons/year. Wastewater includes vegetable wash water, blanching water, water generated during equipment and floor clean-up and occasionally storm water. The wastewater is pumped over solids removal screens and pumped to a 600,000-gallon holding tank prior to application to one of three spray fields. Sanitary wastes are discharged to the City of Ripon's wastewater treatment facility (WWTF). Water softener regeneration and boiler blowdown are also discharged to sanitary sewer to be treated at the City of Ripon's WWTF.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Laura Rodriguez Alvarez, DNR, 101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921, Madison, WI, 53701, (608) 381-2628, laura.rodriguezalvarez@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 (608) 381-2628 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: Ripon Commonwealth Press

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 656 S Douglas Street, PO Box 6, Ripon, WI, 54971-0006

Date Notice Issued: August 28, 2025