

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0067318-01-0

Permittee: SONOCO PRODUCTS CO - WISCONSIN RAPIDS, 1 N 2nd St, Hartsville, SC, 29550

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: SONOCO PRODUCTS WISCONSIN RAPIDS, 310 3rd Ave N Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495

Receiving Water And Location: Wisconsin River of Wisconsin River (upper) in Wood County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Wisconsin Rapids Mill (WRM) is situated on the western shore of the Wisconsin River in downtown Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. The mill was designed to withdraw water from the Wisconsin River through six different intake structures from an impoundment created by a dam that was constructed as part of the mill in the 1950s. Since August 2020, WRM has been shut down except for Sonoco's BM 12 paper machine, with ND Paper's Biron Mill and Sonoco Products both sending process wastewater to the Water Quality Center (WQC), ND Paper also discharges cooling waters under the WQC's WPDES permit.

Sonoco Products Wisconsin Rapids ('Sonoco') submitted a permit application to discharge vacuum pump seal water under its own WPDES permit under existing Outfall 015. This permit is also created to move the North and South intake structures and Outfall 015 to Sonoco's individual WPDES permit. Process wastewaters from BM12 are still sent to be treated at the WQC.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Nate Willis, DNR, 101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921, Madison, WI, 53707-7921, (608) 535-2369, Nathaniel.Willis@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Logan Rubeck, 1300 W Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 450-5967, logan.rubeck@wisconsin.gov

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

Cooling Water Intake Structure: The proposed permit contains a determination regarding use of the best technologies available for minimizing impingement mortality and entrainment at the permittee's cooling water intake structure, subject to ch. NR 111, Wis. Adm. Code, and section 316(b) of the federal Clean Water Act.

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) 893-5566 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: Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 101 W Riverview Expy Suite 131, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495-3367

Date Notice Issued: May 28, 2025