

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0029017-11-0

Permittee: Village of Rib Lake, PO Box 205, Rib Lake, WI, 54470

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Village of Rib Lake, 1501 State Road, Rib Lake, Wisconsin

Receiving Water And Location: Sheep Ranch Creek within the Upper Rib Watershed in the Upper Wisconsin River Drainage Basin in Taylor County.

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Village of Rib Lake owns and operates a domestic wastewater treatment system. The plant designed to treat 200,000 gallons per day, currently treats an average of 97,000 gallons per day. The treatment system consists of an activated sludge plant with extended aeration and sequential anoxic and aerobic zones. The system provides fine screening, a selector tank with diffused air mixing, and two identical parallel treatment trains sharing common concrete walls. Each parallel treatment train contains the following process equipment: aeration tank with three separate stages/basins, a clarifier tank, an aerobic sludge digestion tank with coarse bubble diffusers, return activated sludge (RAS) and waste activated sludge (WAS) pumps, and a chemical feed system utilizing aluminum sulfate (alum) for phosphorus reduction. Excess digested sludge is stored in a sludge storage tank until it is land-applied on WDNR-approved agricultural sites or transported to the Medford Wastewater Treatment Facility for further treatment.

It is the Department's intention to renew the permit for another term. The proposed new permit expiration date will be December 31, 2029. Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Changes from the previous permit include: [1] An effluent E. coli schedule to comply with the limits and monitoring that begin at the end of the schedule. [2] An effluent variable daily maximum limit for ammonia was added. [3] A monthly average phosphorus limit based on the Wisconsin River TMDL assessment has been added. [4] Monitoring for temperature, zinc and chloride has been included in preparation for the next permit issuance. [5] Copper and hardness monitoring and a copper schedule to comply with limits have been included. [6] Annual monitoring for the Nitrogen Series (nitrate +nitrite, total Kjeldahl nitrogen and total nitrogen) has been added. [7] Two acute Wet tests and three chronic WET tests are required during the permit term. [8] Sludge monitoring for PFAS is required once during the permit term.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sheri A. Snowbank, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, (715) 635-4131, Sheri.Snowbank@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Arthur Ryzak, DNR, N4103 Highway 27, Ladysmith, WI 54848, (715) 403-2924, arthur.ryzak@wisconsin.gov

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 (715) 635-4131 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 AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: The Star News, PO Box 180, Medford WI 54451-0180

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, November 7, 2024