

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND INTENT TO ISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0067199-01-0

Permittee: Wisconsin KD MVR Project LLC, PO Box 31, Sedro-Woolley, WA, 98284

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Wisconsin KD MVR Project LLC, N8247 Spruce Rd, Casco, WI

Receiving Water And Location: Unnamed Tributary (WBIC 91900) to Casco Creek (WBIC 91600), Village of Casco, Kewaunee County

Brief Facility Description: The Wisconsin KD MVR Project LLC site is a system designed to provide further treatment for digested animal waste (manure) generated by Kinnard Farms LLC. The manure has already been processed through anaerobic digesters located at Kinnard Farms LLC prior to entering the treatment system at the Wisconsin KD MVR Project LLC site. Digested manure (digestate) from Kinnard Farms LLC enters the infeed capacitance system which then supplies the digestate to the Varcor system designed by Sedron Technologies. The Varcor system utilizes mechanical vapor recompression (MVR) with advanced drying technology to achieve the treatment steps of dewatering, drying, and nitrogen removal of the digestate. The Varcor system produces two streams: (1) an ammonia-rich stream as the primary product and (2) a by-product condensate. The condensate is fed through a membrane bioreactor (MBR)/ultrafiltration (UF) system that facilitates the aerobic nitrification of ammonia to nitrate. This nitrate-rich stream is then mixed with the ammonia-rich stream in the liquid nitrogen mixing tank. The ammonia-nitrate mixture flows through a 2-stage, 2-pass reverse osmosis (RO) system, which produces a high-concentration nitrogen liquid and water permeate. The water permeate will be temporarily returned to the Kinnard Farms LLC lagoons only during the initial startup phase; post-startup phase, the water permeate will be discharged from the outfall as treated wastewater effluent to the receiving water, Unnamed Tributary to Casco Creek. The high-concentration nitrogen is diverted to a liquid nitrogen holding tank for storage and potential distribution offsite, and the sludge generated by the Varcor process will be dewatered and marketed as fertilizer. The sludge generated by the MBR unit is returned to the infeed capacitance tank for mixing with incoming digestate from Kinnard Farms LLC and processing again through the treatment system.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Heidi Schmitt Marquez, DNR, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI, 54313, (920) 662-5463, heidi.schmittmarquez@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Teresa Hall, 3369 Brewster St., Appleton, WI 54914, (920)841-6425, teresa.hall@wisconsin.gov

The Department has tentatively decided that the above-specified WPDES permit should be issued for this new discharge. Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit.

Hearing Date, Time, and Location: **Friday, July 24, 2026; 2:00 PM; Zoom Virtual Meeting**
(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86892876553>)

Hearing Officer, Name, Address, City/State/Zip, and Phone: Heidi Schmitt Marquez, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI 54313, (920) 662-5463

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats, has scheduled for the time and place listed above, a public hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the above announced permit action for this new discharge. Pursuant to s. NR 203.06(2)(L), Wis. Adm. Code, the department may schedule and notice a public hearing for less than 30 days from the public notice date. The reasons this has occurred for the above-specified permit include program staffing limitations, additional time required to review permit documents and respond to inquiries due to the novelty of the system, and delays as a result of unexpected increased workload due to historic flooding across the state in April 2026.

A hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly and speedy way and will use procedures specified in Subchapter II of ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, necessary to insure broad public participation in the hearing.

The hearing officer will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be used during the course of the hearing. The hearing officer shall explain the method of notification of the final decision to grant or deny the permit and the methods by which the decision may be reviewed in a public adjudicatory hearing.

The hearing officer may put limits on individual oral statements to ensure an opportunity for all persons present to make statements in a reasonable period of time and to prevent undue repetition. The hearing officer may also limit the number of representatives making oral statements on behalf of any person or group.

Informational and clarifying questions and oral statements shall be directed through the hearing officer. Cross-examination shall not be allowed.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received from members of the public no later than 7 days following the date of this public hearing will be used, along with other information on file and testimony presented at the hearing, in making a final determination. 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.

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 (920) 662-5187 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.