

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL HEARING TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT
DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0002780-09-0

Permittee: Wisconsin Power and Light Co Columbia Energy Center, W8375 Murray Road, Pardeeville, WI 53954

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Wisconsin Power and Light Co Columbia Energy Center, W8375 Murray Rd, Pardeeville, Wisconsin

Receiving Water and Location: Wisconsin River and floodplain marsh

Brief Facility Description: The Wisconsin Power & Light Columbia Energy Center is a base-load facility (2 units, 510 MWe each) using steam from coal combustion to drive electrical generators. The WPDES permit continues to authorize one surface water discharge outfall for the facility, Outfall 001- the condenser cooling water overflow discharge from the cooling pond (no overflow since 2010).

Permit Drafter: Emma Lorenzen, DNR, 101 S. Webster St., PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921, (608) 267-7643, Emma.Lorenzen@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer: Tanner Connors, DNR, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711, (608) 275-3321, Tanner.Connors@Wisconsin.gov

Date of Public Notice of Intent to Reissue: November 16, 2018

Issues to be Considered at the Hearing: Removal of Outfall 002 and the associated surface water discharge of bottom ash transport waters from the permit.

Date, Time, and Location of Hearing: February 12, 2019 at 9:30 AM in the Bidwell Room of the Portage Public Library, 253 West Edgewater Street, Portage, WI 53901

Hearing Officer: Robin Nyffeler, DNR, 101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921, (608) 266-0024, Robin.Nyffeler@wisconsin.gov

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to Section 283.49, Wisconsin Statutes, 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 existing discharge.

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 insure 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 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 the permit drafter's or 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) 267-7643 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.

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