

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN
POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0020371-09-0

Permittee: City of Reedsburg, 134 South Locust Street, Reedsburg, WI 53959

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Reedsburg Wastewater Treatment Facility, 802 Division Street, Reedsburg, Wisconsin

Receiving Water and Location: Baraboo River (Narrows Creek/Baraboo River Watershed, LW22- Lower Wisconsin River Basin) located at 802 Division Street NE 1/4 of Section 15, T12N, R4E Sauk County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The City of Reedsburg operates a wastewater treatment facility providing secondary treatment and nutrient removal to a combination of domestic, commercial and industrial wastewater. Treatment units include: influent screening and grit removal; primary settling; trickling filter; intermediate clarifier; activated sludge; chemical phosphorus removal; final clarifiers and seasonal ultraviolet effluent disinfection. The facility is designed to treat an average daily flow of 2.65 MGD. The POTW serves the community of Reedsburg and receives industrial and commercial discharge from Foremost Farms USA, Plateco Industries, Lakeside Foods Inc., and Saputo Cheese. The treated water is disinfected with ultraviolet light then discharged via outfall 001. Outfall 001 is in the NE 1/4 of Section 15 in the City of Reedsburg (T12N, R4E) in Sauk County. Limitations and/or monitoring for fecal coliform, total phosphorus, Chronic WET testing, temperature, and Nitrogen were updated. This permittee has requested a mercury variance and phosphorus variance under the multi-discharger variance (see below).

Permit Drafter: Jennifer Jerich, DNR, Horicon Service Center, N7725 Hwy 28, Horicon, WI 53032, (920) 387-7886, Jennifer.Jerich@wisconsin.gov

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

Proposed Mercury Variance: The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) of 5.5 ng/L for mercury is needed to protect wildlife and human health in the above-named receiving water. The permittee has submitted an application for an alternative mercury effluent limitation (AMEL). The application included a pollutant minimization program (PMP) plan for mercury as required under s. NR 106.145(8), Wis. Adm. Code. The Department concludes that the permittee is eligible for a variance based on the information submitted, information on file and the findings provided in s. NR 106.145(1), Wis. Adm. Code. The Department and the permittee have mutually agreed upon an AMEL of 5.5 ng/L, expressed as a daily maximum, continued influent and effluent monitoring, and permit language requiring implementation of the PMP. The Department proposes to grant the AMEL, which represents a variance to the water quality standard used to derive the WQBEL, as provided for under s. NR 106.145(6), Wis. Adm. Code. The designated use of the receiving water will not change as a result of the variance. This mercury variance must be approved by USEPA prior to its inclusion in the final reissued permit.

Phosphorus Multi-Discharger Variance: The Department has determined that the permittee is eligible for a phosphorus multi-discharger variance (MDV) in accordance with s. 283.16, Wis. Stats. The MDV provides a time extension for the permittee to comply with the final water quality based effluent limits for phosphorus while contributing funds towards nonpoint pollution control projects. Comments on this determination are requested and additional supporting documentation and data are available upon request.

Hearing Date, Time, and Location: April 23, 2018, 10 AM, Fitchburg DNR Office, Gathering Waters Room, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711

Hearing Officer: Jennifer Jerich, DNR, Horicon Service Center, N7725 Hwy 28, Horicon, WI 53032, (920) 387-7886, Jennifer.Jerich@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 (920) 387-7886 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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