

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-0020443-10-0

Permittee: City of Brillion, 201 N Main St, Brillion, WI 54110

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Brillion Wastewater Treatment Facility, 1201 Clearwater Dr, Brillion, WI 54110

Receiving Water And Location: Unnamed tributary to Spring Creek in Calumet County

Brief Facility Description: The City of Brillion owns a tertiary wastewater treatment facility for treating domestic and industrial wastewater generated in the City. Treatment processes include preliminary treatment of grit removal and screening, primary clarification, biological treatment in an activated sludge system with aeration tanks operated in a step-feed mode and secondary clarification, phosphorus removal by chemical addition (ferric chloride) in the activated sludge system, and tertiary filtration with conventional sand filters and post-aeration. The system is designed to treat an average daily flow of 0.708 million gallons per day (MGD). Sludge is aerobically digested, then stored and treated further in beds employing common reed (*Phragmites australis*). The reed beds provide long-term storage capacity and sludge removal is not anticipated during the term of the proposed permit. In the event that sludge removal is necessary, the permittee plans to dispose of sludge in a landfill or apply it to agricultural fields.

Summary of Proposed Changes: 1) Addition of in-plant sample point 101 (other bypass) to approve an 'other bypass' as defined in s. NR 205.07(1)(u)3., Wis. Adm. Code, which may occur. 2) Addition of mass limits, and updated weekly average and monthly average limits for BOD₅, to become effective per the Effluent Limits for BOD, DO, and Ammonia Schedule. 3) Updated weekly average and monthly average limits for TSS, and the addition of TMDL-based mass limits. 4) Increased the daily minimum dissolved oxygen limit from 4.0 mg/L to 8.0 mg/L, to become effective per the Effluent Limits for BOD, DO, and Ammonia Schedule. 5) Addition of *Escherichia coli* (E. coli) monitoring and limits, to become effective per the Effluent Limitations for E. coli Schedule. 6) Updated chloride variance interim limits to 1,050 mg/L as a daily maximum and 780 mg/L as a weekly average, and updated source reduction measures (SRMs) throughout the permit term. 7) Addition of TMDL-based mass limits for total phosphorus, to become effective per the TMDL-Based Effluent Mass Limits for Total Phosphorus Schedule. 8) Updated ammonia nitrogen daily maximum (variable), weekly average and monthly average limits. Weekly average and monthly average ammonia limits for June-Sept are to become effective per the Effluent Limits for BOD, DO, and Ammonia Schedule. 9) Addition of annual total nitrogen monitoring (TKN, NO₂+NO₃ and Total N) in rotating quarters. 10) Addition of PFOS/PFOA monitoring at a frequency of every other month in accordance with s. NR 106.98(2)(a), Wis. Adm. Code. 11) Addition of a Chronic Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) testing effluent limit. 12) Addition of maximum temperature monitoring and limits to become effective per the Temperature Limits (Municipal Facilities) Schedule. 12) Removal of land application PCB monitoring consistent with the Department's Sludge Monitoring Guidance. 13) Addition of PFAS (PFOA + PFOS) land application monitoring pursuant to s. NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code. 14) Updated standard language.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sarah Donoughe, DNR, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI 54313-6727, (920) 366-6076, Sarah.Donoughe@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Trevor Moen, DNR, 625 E County Rd Y, Ste 700, Oshkosh, WI 54901, (920) 410-5192, Trevor.Moen@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 above-named basin engineer.

Proposed Chloride Variance: The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) for chloride is needed in this permit to protect aquatic life. As allowed under s. NR 106.83(2), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee has requested a variance to the chloride WQBEL. In support of this request, the permittee has submitted documentation intended to demonstrate that the cost of complying with the WQBEL through the use of end-of-pipe wastewater treatment may cause substantial and widespread adverse social and economic impacts in the area where the discharger is located. The Department concurs with that assessment; however, this concurrence is subject to USEPA approval before the variance limit may be included in the final reissued permit. In an effort to achieve chloride effluent reductions that are practically and economically achievable within the term of the proposed permit, the Department and the permittee have mutually agreed upon specific permit terms that include an interim limitation, a target limit (or value, as the case may be), and certain source reduction activities. As allowed under s. NR 106.83(3), Wis. Adm. Code, these requirements are contained in the proposed permit.

Hearing Date, Time, and Location: **Monday, April 14, 2025, at 3:00pm,**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/q8AfzMx6SF2pPdkK1KplTw>

Hearing Officer, Name, Address, City/State/Zip, and Phone: Sarah Donoughe, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI 54313-6727, (920) 366-6076

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 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 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) 662-5148 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: Brillion News

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 425 W Ryan St, Brillion, WI 54110

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, February 27, 2025