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-0022799-09-0

Permittee: City of Chilton, 42 School St, Chilton, WI 53014

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Chilton Wastewater Treatment Facility, 457 East Main St, Chilton, WI 53014

Receiving Water And Location: South Branch of the Manitowoc River in Calumet County

Brief Facility Description: The City of Chilton owns and operates the Chilton Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) that treats residential, commercial, and industrial wastewaters from the city sanitary sewer collection system and hauled waste from a hauled waste receiving station. The Chilton WWTF has an annual average design flow rate of 1.19 MGD. The permittee owns and operates an oxidation ditch type secondary wastewater treatment system. Phosphorous removal is conducted by chemical addition. Disinfection with chlorine, followed by dechlorination, is performed from May through September. Treated effluent from the facility is combined with softener regeneration wastewater from the municipal water softening plant prior to discharge. Sludge is aerobically digested then stored on-site until land application on Department approved sites.

Summary of Proposed Changes: 1) Sample Point 001 has been inactivated for the proposed permit term. All monitoring and reporting requirements previously applied to Sample Point 001 (Surface Water) have been moved and updated to Sample Point 105 (In-Plant). 2) Removed influent CBOD5 monitoring; the effluent limit for CBOD5 was removed so influent monitoring is not required. 3) Increased the influent sample frequency for BOD5 to 3/Week. 4) Changed in-plant sample type for chloride to Grab. 5) Reduced in-plant sample frequency for chloride to weekly. 6) Added in-plant weekly total phosphorus and total suspended solids monitoring. 7) There is no direct discharge of wastewater to surface waters at Sample Point 105 (previously 001) since all WWTF effluent is combined with the softener plant #8 effluent prior to discharge to surface waters. Changes to the in-plant monitoring at Sample Point 105 are listed here: Addition of flow rate monitoring; Changed CBOD5 monitoring to BOD5; Addition of weekly average and monthly average mass limits for BOD5; Increased the dissolved oxygen effluent limit; Fecal coliform monitoring and limits have been replaced with Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring and limits; Addition of PFOS/PFOA monitoring at a frequency of every other month in accordance with s. NR 106.98(2), Wis. Adm. Code; Updated the monitoring quarters for the chronic whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing and added a monthly average limit of 1.1 TUc; Addition of annual total nitrogen monitoring (TKN, NO2+NO3 and Total N) in rotating quarters throughout the permit term; Reduced sample frequency for chloride and total phosphorus to weekly; and Changed sample type to Continuous for pH and dissolved oxygen. 8) Changes to the effluent monitoring at Sample Point 002 are listed here: Decreased the chloride variance effluent interim limit to 560 mg/L as a weekly average and updated source reduction measures (SRMs) throughout the permit term; Updated the monitoring quarters for the acute whole effluent toxicity (WET) testing; Addition of temperature monitoring for one year; Addition of TMDL-based mass limits for total suspended solids (TSS); Addition of phosphorus monitoring and interim effluent limit; and Addition of TMDL-based mass limits for total phosphorus. 9) Removed land application PCB monitoring requirements. 10) Addition of land application annual PFAS (PFOA + PFOS) monitoring pursuant to s. NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code. 11) Addition of the following Schedules: Chloride Source Reduction Measures (Target Value); TMDL-Based Effluent Mass Limits for Total Phosphorus; PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need; Install Continuous Flow Recording Device; Dissipative Cooling Study; SS (Sanitary Sewage Collection System) Subclass; and Sludge Management Plan.

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.

The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) for chloride is needed in this permit to protect aquatic life. While the permittee requested a variance to the chloride WQBEL pursuant to s. NR 106.83(2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee and the Department have been unable to agree on voluntary source reduction activities and both an interim limitation and a target value/target limitation to be included as permit requirements. Consequently, pursuant to s. NR 106.83(3)(c), Wis. Adm. Code, the Department has included a chloride WQBEL in the proposed permit.

Hearing Date, Time, and Location: **Monday, February 3, 2025, at 2:00pm,**
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkduqrqzMoGtMesYnAJMnG3igBP-kiZfxf

Hearing Officer, Name, Address, City/State/Zip, and Phone: Sarah Donoughe, DNR, 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.

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Date Notice Issued: Thursday, December 19, 2024