State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
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WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

10/2/2024

Betty Rettig, Village President
P O Box 97
Curtiss, WI 54422

Subject: Conditional approval of a multi-discharger phosphorus variance
Receiving Stream: Tributary to E. Fork Popple River in Clark County
Permittee: Village of Curtiss, WPDES WI-0031445

Dear Ms. Rettig:

In accordance with s. 283.16 of the Wisconsin Statutes, you have requested coverage under Wisconsin's multi-discharger phosphorus variance for the Village of Curtiss Wastewater Treatment Facility in an application dated 9/18/2023. Wisconsin's multi-discharger phosphorus variance was approved by EPA on February 6, 2017. Coverage under the multi-discharger phosphorus variance may only be granted to an existing source that demonstrates a major facility upgrade is necessary to achieve phosphorus compliance and the upgrade will result in economic hardship as defined in the federally approved variance. The water quality criterion for which you are seeking a variance is contained in s. NR 102.06, Wis. Adm. Code.

After review of the application materials, the Department is tentatively approving coverage under the phosphorus multi discharger variance because the applicant has demonstrated that a major facility upgrade would be required to comply with the phosphorus water quality based effluent limitation, and the applicant meets the economic hardship eligibility criteria delineated in the federally approved variance. In addition, the permitted facility has agreed to comply with the interim limitations that will be included in the WPDES permit, and has agreed to reduce the amount of phosphorus entering surface waters by making payments to the counties pursuant to s. 283.16(6)(b)1., Wis. Stats.

Public comment on this decision will be solicited at the time of permit reissuance after which a final decision will be made. The Department appreciates your attention and interest in Wisconsin's multi-discharger phosphorus variance. Should you have further questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (608) 400 – 5596 or by email at matthew.claucherty@wisconsin.gov

Sincerely,

Matt Claucherty, MDV Point Source Coordinator
Bureau of Water Quality

e-cc Larry Swarr, Village of Curtiss
Holly Heldstab, WDNR
Jenna Monahan, WDNR
Tim Elkins, EPA Region 5
Micah Bennett, EPA Region 5