

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0031445-10-0

Permittee: Village of Curtiss, 915 N Meridian, Curtiss, WI, 54422-0097

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Curtiss Wastewater Treatment Facility, Pine Lane Avenue, Curtiss, WI

Receiving Water And Location: unnamed wetland tributary to the E Fork of Popple River in Popple River Watershed of Black River Basin in Clark County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Village of Curtiss owns and operates the Curtiss Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) to treat domestic waste from the Village and industrial waste from the Abbyland Pork meat packing plant and Wisconsin's Drink LLC. The annual average design flow of the facility is 0.112 million gallons per day (MGD) and the actual annual average influent flow in 2023 was 0.09 MGD. The WWTF consists of two aerated lagoons, three stabilization ponds, a rock filter and two cascade aerators. Effluent is discharged on a fill and draw basis to an unnamed wetland tributary to the East Fork of the Popple River. No significant operational changes occurred during the last permit term other than a pilot study for chemical addition for phosphorus removal. The permittee is currently using ferric sulfate for phosphorus removal. Significant effluent monitoring and/or limit changes in the upcoming permit term are as follows: 1) addition of acute WET testing three times in the permit term, 2) addition of a daily maximum ammonia limit, 3) addition of seasonal Escherichia coli (E. coli) monitoring during one year of the permit term, 4) removal of the chloride limit (monitoring remains), 5) addition of annual monitoring for total nitrogen, nitrite + nitrate nitrogen and total Kjeldahl nitrogen, 6) an increase in the monitoring frequencies for BOD, TSS, phosphorus, ammonia, pH and DO, 7) the conditional reapproval of a multi-discharger variance (MDV) for phosphorus and the reduction in the interim MDV limit, along with a schedule to meet that lower limit, and 8) the sample frequency for flow has been changed from "continuous" to "daily" for eDMR reporting purposes (this same change has been made at the influent). The sample frequency for BOD and TSS at the influent from the Village of Curtiss has been increased. Radium sludge monitoring has been removed. Clarification language has been added notifying the permittee they must monitor sludge for List 2 nutrients and meet the requirements of List 3 (Pathogen Control) and List 4 (Vector Attraction Reduction) prior to landspreading if they remove sludge from the lagoon(s). A schedule has been included requiring the permittee submit a sludge management plan prior to removal and land application of sludge from the pond(s). Additionally, to quantitate the risk, PFAS sludge sampling has been included in the permit pursuant to ss. NR214.18(5)(b) and NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code. As schedule has also been included that requires the permittee conduct a leakage study on the lagoon/pond system.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Holly Heldstab, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI, 54701, (715) 492-0483, Holly.Heldstab@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Jenna Monahan, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 492-4323, jenna.monahan@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.

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 to reduce phosphorus. Comments on this determination are requested and additional supporting documentation and data are available upon request.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, or to request a public hearing, may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received no later than 30 days after the publication date of this public notice will be considered along with other information on file in making a final decision regarding the permit. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision when the permit is issued. 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. If no comments are received on the proposed permit from anyone, including U.S. EPA, the permit will be issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if requested by any person and shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from 5 or more persons or if response to this notice indicates significant public interest pursuant to s. 283.49, Wis. Stats. Requests for a public informational hearing shall state the following: the name and address of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the interest in the

proposed permit of the person(s) requesting the hearing; the reasons for the request; and the issues proposed to be considered at the hearing.

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 (715) 492-0483 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: Wednesday, January 22, 2025