

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0063827-04-0

Permittee: Drake Dairy Inc, N8870 Drake Court, Elkhart Lake, WI, 53020

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Drake Dairy Inc, N8870 Drake Court Elkhart Lake

Receiving Water And Location: Surface water and groundwater within the Sheboygan River-Frontal Lake Michigan Watershed

Brief Facility Description : Drake Dairy Inc is a proposed Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO). Drake Dairy Inc is owned and operated by Jim Drake, Brian Drake and Omar Guerrero. It currently has 4,750 animal units (3,000 milking/dry cows and 500 heifers) with no planned expansions during this permit term. It is estimated that approximately 37.9 million gallons of manure and process wastewater will be produced per year. The permittee owns 1,342 acres of cropland and has 4,246 acres controlled through contracts, rental agreements or leases, or under manure agreements. Of this acreage, Drake Dairy Inc has a total of 5,516 acres available for land application of manure and process wastewater.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Kate Markiewicz, DNR, 1027 W St Paul Ave, Milwaukee, WI, 53233, (608) 893-4046, Kate.Markiewicz@wisconsin.gov

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, or the application, or to request a public informational hearing may write to the Department of Natural Resources at the 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 re-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 re-issued as proposed.

The Department may schedule a public informational hearing if within 30 days of the public date of this notice, a request for a hearing is filed by any person. The Department shall schedule a public informational hearing if a petition requesting a hearing is received from USEPA or from 5 or more persons or if the Department determines there is significant public interest. 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 and fact sheet (if required), the operation's nutrient management plan and application may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (608) 893-4046 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 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 AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Sheboygan Press, 632 Center Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081-4621

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, December 19, 2024