

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-0063975-04-0

Permittee: Rickert Bros LLC, W9150 Lincoln Rd, Eldorado, WI, 54932

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Rickert Bros LLC, 9150 Lincoln Road Eldorado

Receiving Water And Location: Eldorado Marsh-Fond Du Lac River and Eightmile Creek watersheds, and groundwater of the state

Brief Facility Description : Rickert Bros LLC (Rickert Bros) is an existing Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) for dairy cattle located in the Town of Eldorado in Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. Rickert Bros consists of three production sites, Main Site, Heifer Site, and Steer Site. The Main Site is at located W9150 Lincoln Road, Eldorado, WI 54932. The Heifer Site is located at W9135 Lincoln Road, Eldorado, WI 54932. The Steer Site is located at W8959 Lincoln Road, Eldorado WI 54932. Rickert Bros is owned and operated by Greg Rickert. The current herd size is 2,212 animal units. The proposed herd size by 2028 is 2,772 animal units. Approximately 12,246,933 million gallons of liquid manure and process wastewater, and 3,483 tons of solid manure is produced annually at the current herd size. Rickert Bros has approximately 191 days of storage capacity. Rickert Bros owns or rents 2081 acres of cropland, of which approximately 2,029.5 acres are available for manure application.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Jean Weaver, 1155 Pilgrim Road, Plymouth, WI, 53073, (920) 400-7014, jeanm.weaver@wisconsin.gov

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be reissued. 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 (920) 400-7014 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 OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: The Reporter

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: PO Box 630 Fond Du Lac, WI 54935

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, March 6, 2025