

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0023914-10-0

Permittee: Village of Elk Mound, Village Hall Box 188, Elk Mound, WI, 54739

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Elk Mound Wastewater Treatment Facility, S210 Holly Avenue, Elk Mound, WI

Receiving Water And Location: wetland tributary to Muddy Creek in Muddy and Elk Creeks of Chippewa River (Lower) in Dunn County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The Elk Mound Wastewater Treatment Facility treats domestic wastewater from the Village of Elk Mound. The annual average design flow is 0.192 million gallons per day (MGD) and had an actual annual average effluent flow of 0.079 MGD in 2024. Raw wastewater flows through a bar screen before being pumped into an oxidation ditch consisting of two channels providing secondary treatment. From the ditch wastewater flows to a secondary clarifier and through a UV disinfection chamber and ultimately flows over a cascade aerator into the adjacent wetland that is tributary to Muddy Creek. Stored sludge is landspread on Department approved agricultural fields. During periods of extremely high flow, excess wastewater can be pumped from the main pump station at the head of the plant into a 0.665 million-gallon storage tank. As flow recedes this wastewater is fed back into the system for treatment. No significant operational changes occurred during the last permit term. A facility upgrade is planned during this next permit term that includes an influent flow meter, mechanical influent screen, sludge storage tank and pumping equipment. Electrical upgrades and SCADA system improvements will also take place. Upgrades for phosphorus removal will include a new selector tank, submerged mixing equipment and chemical dosing equipment. The permittee will be required to seasonally disinfect their effluent to meet new effluent *E coli* limits. Significant effluent monitoring and/or limit changes in this permit term are as follows: The sample frequency for flow has changed from “continuous” to “daily” for eDMR reporting purposes. *Escherichia coli* monitoring and limits added, along with a compliance schedule to meet the limits. Copper limits reduced, copper variance removed. Zinc limits removed, monitoring remains at an increased frequency. The permittee has applied for a multi-discharger variance (MDV) for phosphorus for this permit term and the application has been approved by the Department. Addition of chronic WET testing and annual total nitrogen series monitoring (TKN, N02+N03 and Total N). Additionally, to quantitate the risk, PFAS sludge sampling has been included in the permit pursuant to ss. NR 214.18(5)(b) and NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code. A schedule is included in the permit that requires the permittee have an operator in charge with the proper disinfection subclass.

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: Logan Rubeck, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 450-5967, logan.rubeck@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.

PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Leader Telegram, 701 S Farwell Street, PO Box 4001, Eau Claire, WI, 54702-4001

Date Notice Issued: Friday, February 14, 2025