



# WPDES PERMIT

*STATE OF WISCONSIN*  
*DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES*  
**PERMIT TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE  
 ELIMINATION SYSTEM**

**Wisconsin Public Service Corp**

is permitted, under the authority of Chapter 283, Wisconsin Statutes, to discharge from a facility  
 located at  
 2491 Old Hwy 51, Kronenwetter, Wisconsin  
 to  
**the Wisconsin River (Bull Junior Creek Watershed in the Central Wisconsin Basin)**

in accordance with the effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set  
 forth in this permit.

The permittee shall not discharge after the date of expiration. If the permittee wishes to continue to discharge after this expiration date an application shall be filed for reissuance of this permit, according to Chapter NR 200, Wis. Adm. Code, at least 180 days prior to the expiration date given below.

State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
 For the Secretary

By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jason Knutson  
 Wastewater Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Permit Signed/Issued

**PERMIT TERM: EFFECTIVE DATE - July 01, 2024**  
**EFFECTIVE DATE of MODIFICATION – January 01, 2025**

**EXPIRATION DATE - June 30, 2029**

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# 1 Influent Requirements - Cooling Water Intake Structure (CWIS)

## 1.1 Sampling Point(s)

Sampling Point Designation	
Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Location, WasteType/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)
701	INTAKE: River water intake sampling point for Wisconsin River supply for Weston units 3 and 4.

## 1.2 Monitoring Requirements and BTA Determinations

The permittee shall comply with the following monitoring requirements.

The intake(s) has been reviewed for compliance with BTA (Best Technology Available) standards and the BTA determination(s) is listed below.

### 1.2.1 Sampling Point 701 - INTAKE WATER FOR UNITS 3 & 4

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Mercury, Total Recoverable		ng/L	Monthly	Grab	See Mercury Monitoring section for more details
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Continuous	
Intake Water Used Exclusively For Cooling		% Flow	Annual	Estimated	
Phosphorus, Total		mg/L	Weekly	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	

#### 1.2.1.1 Mercury Monitoring

The permittee is encouraged, but not required to collect and analyze river water samples for mercury.

The permittee shall collect and analyze all mercury samples according to the data quality requirements of ss. NR 106.145(9) and (10), Wisconsin Administrative Code. The limit of quantitation (LOQ) used for the effluent and field blank shall be less than 1.3 ng/L, unless the samples are quantified at levels above 1.3 ng/L. The permittee shall collect at least one mercury field blank for each set of mercury samples (a set of samples may include combinations of intake, influent, effluent or other samples all collected on the same day). The permittee shall report results of samples and field blanks to the Department on Discharge Monitoring Reports.

#### 1.2.1.2 CWIS - Authority to Operate and Description

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all water intake facilities. The permittee shall give advance notice to the Department of any planned changes in the location, design, operation, or capacity of the intake structure. The permittee is authorized to use the units 3 & 4 cooling water intake system which consists of the following:

- Location: On the eastern bank of the Wisconsin River approximately 0.7 miles south of the U.S. Highway 51 bridge in Rothschild, WI at 44° 51' 41.51" N, 89° 39' 18.69" W

- **General Description:** Water is withdrawn through the south, north, and west sides of the structures. The north side of the CWIS is has a 30.5-foot-long opening that is angled from the shore and covered with a trash rack made of 0.5-inch bars spaced 3 inches on center. The water on the north side then splits into two 11-foot-wide intake bays. The southern side of the CWIS is perpendicular to the shore and the western side is parallel to the shore. Both the southern and western sides of the CWIS are comprised of two 11-foot-wide intake bays. Water from all three sides then typically comingles, but if desired the water can be kept separated through the use of stop logs. From the combined area the water then splits into two intake bays that each have 10-foot wide screens. The material captured on the intake screens is removed by a high pressure backwash stream.
- **Major Components:** This intake consists of trash racks, traveling screens, and two cooling towers, which need to be operated optimally to minimize the amount of water withdrawn to meet cooling needs.
- **Maximum Design Intake Flow (DIF): 14.4 MGD**

### 1.2.1.3 Cooling Water Intake BTA (Best Technology Available) Determination

The Department believes that the units 3&4 cooling water intake, as described above in subsection 1.2.1.1, represents BTA for minimizing adverse environmental impact in accordance with the requirements in section s. 283.31(6), Wis. Stats. and section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act.

## 1.3 Cooling Water Intake Structure Standard Requirements

The following requirements and provisions apply to all water intake structures identified as sampling points in subsection 1.1.

### 1.3.1 Future BTA for Cooling Water Intake Structure

BTA determinations for entrainment and impingement mortality at cooling water intake structures will be made in each permit reissuance, in accordance with ch. NR 111, Wis. Adm. Code. **In subsequent permit reissuance applications, the permittee shall provide all the information required in ss. NR 111.41(1) through (7) and (13), Wis. Adm. Code.**

**S. NR 111.41(13) requires submittal of an alternatives analysis report for compliance with the entrainment BTA requirements with the permit application.** This alternatives analysis for entrainment BTA shall examine the options for compliance with the entrainment BTA requirement and propose a candidate entrainment BTA to the Department for consideration during its next BTA determination. The analysis must, at least narratively, address and consider the factors listed in s. NR 111.41(13)(a), Wis. Adm. Code, and may consider the factors listed in s. NR 111.41(13)(b), Wis. Adm. Code. The analysis must evaluate, at a minimum, closed-cycle recirculating systems, fine mesh screens with a mesh size of 2mm or smaller, variable speed pumps, water reuse or alternate sources of cooling water, and any additional technology identified by the department at a later date.

Exemptions from some permit application requirements are possible in accordance with s. NR 111.42(1), Wis. Adm. Code, where information already submitted is sufficient. If an exemption is desired, a request for reduced application material requirements must be submitted at least 2 years and 6 months prior to permit expiration. Past submittals and previously conducted studies may satisfy some or all of the application material requirements.

### 1.3.2 Visual or Remote Inspections

The permittee shall conduct a weekly visual inspection or employ a remote monitoring device during periods when the cooling water intake is in operation. The inspection frequency shall be weekly to ensure the intakes are maintained and operated to function as designed.

### 1.3.3 Reporting Requirements for Cooling Water Intake

The permittee shall adhere to the reporting requirements listed below:

### **1.3.3.1 Annual Certification Statement and Report**

Submit an annual certification statement signed by the authorized representative with information on the following, no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> for the previous year:

- Certification that water intake structure technologies are being maintained and operated as set forth in this permit, or a justification to allow a modification of the practices. Include a summary of the required Visual or Remote Inspections.
- If there are substantial modifications to the operation of any unit that impacts the cooling water withdrawals or operation of the water intake structure, provide a summary of those changes.
- If the information contained in the previous year's annual certification is still applicable, the certification may simply state as such.

### **1.3.4 Intake Screen Discharges and Removed Substances**

Floating debris and accumulated trash collected on the cooling water intake trash rack shall be removed and disposed of in a manner to prevent any pollutant from the material from entering the waters of the State pursuant to s. NR 205.07 (3) (a), Wis. Adm. Code, except that backwashes may contain fine materials that originated from the intake water source such as sand, silt, small vegetation or aquatic life.

### **1.3.5 Endangered Species Act**

Nothing in this permit authorizes take for the purpose of a facility's compliance with the Endangered Species Act.

## 2 In-Plant Requirements

### 2.1 Sampling Point(s)

Sampling Point Designation	
Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Location, WasteType/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)
102	IN PLANT: Discharge from the metal wastewater treatment pond that includes wastewaters from boiler water acid/caustic demineralizer regeneration, reverse osmosis membrane cleaning, and non-chemical metal surface cleaning that are equalized and treated for metals precipitation, suspended solids removal and pH control
103	IN PLANT: Discharge from the Weston 3 low volume wastewater pond that includes quench water from the ash handling system, stormwater, floor & equipment drain water, and reverse osmosis reject water from groundwater (treated to supply the boiler), that is equalized, treated to remove solids and adjusted for pH control.
104	IN PLANT: The blowdown discharge from the Weston 3 recycled water, condenser cooling tower system to control the concentration of dissolved solids
105	IN PLANT: The blowdown discharge from the Weston 4 recycled water, condenser cooling tower system to control the concentration of dissolved solids
109	BLANK: Effluent field blank sample needed to check for contamination of samples collected from outfall 002
112	IN PLANT: Discharge from the coal pile runoff containment/detention pond that is treated for metals precipitation, suspended solids removal and pH control.

### 2.2 Monitoring Requirements and Limitations

The permittee shall comply with the following monitoring requirements and limitations.

#### 2.2.1 Sampling Point 102 - METAL TREATMENT WASTEWATER

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Total Daily	
Suspended Solids, Total	Daily Max	100 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	30 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Comp	
Oil & Grease (Hexane)	Daily Max	20 mg/L	Weekly	Grab	
Oil & Grease (Hexane)	Monthly Avg	15 mg/L	Weekly	Grab	
Iron, Total Recoverable	Daily Max	1.0 mg/L	Weekly	24-Hr Comp	
Iron, Total Recoverable	Monthly Avg	1.0 mg/L	Weekly	24-Hr Comp	

Copper, Total Recoverable	Daily Max	1.0 mg/L	Weekly	24-Hr Comp	
Copper, Total Recoverable	Monthly Avg	1.0 mg/L	Weekly	24-Hr Comp	
pH (Minimum)	Daily Min	4.0 su	Daily	Continuous	
pH (Maximum)	Daily Max	11 su	Daily	Continuous	
pH Total Exceedance Time Minutes	Monthly Total	446 minutes	Daily	Continuous	
pH Exceedances Greater Than 60 Minutes	Monthly Total	0 Number	Daily	Continuous	

### 2.2.1.1 Continuous pH Monitoring

The permittee shall maintain the pH of the discharge within the range of 6.0 to 9.0 standard units (s.u.) except excursions are permitted subject to the following conditions:

- The pH is monitored continuously;
- The total time during which the pH is outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. shall not exceed 446 minutes in any calendar month;
- No individual pH excursion outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. shall exceed 60 minutes in duration;
- No individual pH excursion shall be outside the range of 4.0 to 11.0 s.u.; and
- On a daily basis, the permittee shall report the minimum and maximum pH, the total time that the pH is outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. and the number of pH excursions outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 that exceed 60 minutes in duration.

### 2.2.2 Sampling Point 103 – Low Volume Wastewater

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Total Daily	
Suspended Solids, Total	Daily Max	100 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Comp	
Suspended Solids, Total	Monthly Avg	30 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Comp	
Oil & Grease (Hexane)	Daily Max	20 mg/L	Weekly	Grab	
Oil & Grease (Hexane)	Monthly Avg	15 mg/L	Weekly	Grab	
pH (Minimum)	Daily Min	4.0 su	Daily	Continuous	
pH (Maximum)	Daily Max	11 su	Daily	Continuous	
pH Total Exceedance Time Minutes	Monthly Total	446 minutes	Daily	Continuous	
pH Exceedances Greater Than 60 Minutes	Monthly Total	0 Number	Daily	Continuous	



### 2.2.2.1 Continuous pH Monitoring

The permittee shall maintain the pH of the discharge within the range of 6.0 to 9.0 standard units (s.u.) except excursions are permitted subject to the following conditions:

- The pH is monitored continuously;
- The total time during which the pH is outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. shall not exceed 446 minutes in any calendar month;
- No individual pH excursion outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. shall exceed 60 minutes in duration;
- No individual pH excursion shall be outside the range of 4.0 to 11.0 s.u.; and
- On a daily basis, the permittee shall report the minimum and maximum pH, the total time that the pH is outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. and the number of pH excursions outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 that exceed 60 minutes in duration.

### 2.2.3 Sampling Point 104 - COOLING TOWER 3 BLOWDOWN; 105- COOLING TOWER 4 BLOWDOWN

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Total Daily	
Chlorine, Total Residual	Daily Max	200 µg/L	Daily	Grab	This limit applies when discharges containing chlorine last 120 minutes or less.
Chlorine, Total Residual	Daily Max	38 µg/L	Daily	Grab	This limit applies when discharges containing chlorine last longer than 120 minutes.
Chlorine, Total Resdl Discharge Time	Daily Max	120 min/day	Daily	See Permit	See Time of Chlorine Discharge section below
pH (Maximum)	Daily Max	9.0 su	Daily	Grab	
pH (Minimum)	Daily Min	6.0 su	Daily	Grab	

#### 2.2.3.1 Time of Chlorine Discharge

Neither free available chlorine nor total residual chlorine shall be discharged for more than 2 hours per unit per day, except when chlorinating for macro-invertebrate control (as allowed in s. NR 290.12(2)(c), Wisconsin Adm. Code) in accordance with a Department approved macro-invertebrate management plan. The time of chlorine discharge shall be reported as the time that detectable levels of chlorine, using the analysis methods specified in this permit's "Chlorine Compliance and Analysis Methods" Standard Condition, are present in the cooling water discharge. The time of total residual chlorine discharge shall be monitored and summed for each day that chlorine is added to the condenser cooling water system.

#### 2.2.3.2 Chlorine Sampling Procedure

At least one grab sample for total residual chlorine shall be collected during the peak chlorine discharge of each chlorination event. The discharge monitoring reported value shall be the maximum of the chlorination events for that

day. A continuous monitor may be used to determine the peak value and length of chlorine discharge as long as it duplicates the accuracy of a NR 219 approved method.

**2.2.3.3 Total Residual Chlorine Limitations**

The daily maximum limit for total residual chlorine is 200 µg/L when chlorine is discharged for 160 minutes per day or less. If chlorine is discharged for more than 160 minutes per day, the daily maximum limit is 38 µg/L.

**2.2.3.4 Cooling Tower Maintenance Chemicals**

Discharge of cooling tower blowdown shall be limited to no detectable amount of the 126 priority pollutants contained in chemicals added for cooling tower maintenance.

**2.2.3.5 Use of Cooling System Water for Dust Suppression**

Weston 3 & 4 condenser cooling water may be used for fugitive dust control on roads and parking lots within the Weston power plant site. The application of this water shall be limited so the dust control water seeps into the ground within the Weston power plant site.

**2.2.4 Sampling Point 109 - EFFLUENT FIELD BLANK**

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Mercury, Total Recoverable		ng/L	Monthly	Grab	

**2.2.4.1 Mercury Monitoring**

The permittee shall collect and analyze all mercury samples according to the data quality requirements of ss. NR 106.145(9) and (10), Wisconsin Administrative Code. The limit of quantitation (LOQ) used for the effluent and field blank shall be less than 1.3 ng/L, unless the samples are quantified at levels above 1.3 ng/L. The permittee shall collect at least one mercury field blank for each set of mercury samples (a set of samples may include combinations of intake, influent, effluent or other samples all collected on the same day). The permittee shall report results of samples and field blanks to the Department on Discharge Monitoring Reports.

**2.2.5 Sampling Point 112 - TREATED COAL PILE RUNOFF**

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Total Daily	
Suspended Solids, Total	Daily Max	50 mg/L	3/Week	24-Hr Comp	
pH (Minimum)	Daily Min	4.0 su	Daily	Continuous	
pH (Maximum)	Daily Max	11 su	Daily	Continuous	
pH Total Exceedance Time Minutes	Monthly Total	446 minutes	Daily	Continuous	
pH Exceedances Greater Than 60 Minutes	Monthly Total	0 Number	Daily	Continuous	

### **2.2.5.1 Continuous pH Monitoring**

The permittee shall maintain the pH of the discharge within the range of 6.0 to 9.0 standard units (s.u.) except excursions are permitted subject to the following conditions:

- The pH is monitored continuously;
- The total time during which the pH is outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. shall not exceed 446 minutes in any calendar month;
- No individual pH excursion outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. shall exceed 60 minutes in duration;
- No individual pH excursion shall be outside the range of 4.0 to 11.0 s.u.; and
- On a daily basis, the permittee shall report the minimum and maximum pH, the total time that the pH is outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 s.u. and the number of pH excursions outside the range of 6.0 to 9.0 that exceed 60 minutes in duration.

### 3 Surface Water Requirements

#### 3.1 Sampling Point(s)

The discharge(s) shall be limited to the waste type(s) designated for the listed sampling point(s).

Sampling Point Designation	
Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Location, WasteType/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)
002	EFFLUENT: Wastewater discharge to the Wisconsin River that is a combination of the process wastewater discharges from sample points 112, 102, 103, 104, and 105
004	EFFLUENT: River water discharged while backwashing the water intake traveling screens for intake 701.
005	EFFLUENT: Discharge of once-through noncontact cooling water to the Wisconsin River. Water discharged at this outfall consists of water from miscellaneous uses in the power plant, such as air conditioning, pump cooling, and air compressor cooling. The discharge also includes overflow from the surge tank which supplies cooling tower make-up water.

#### 3.2 Monitoring Requirements and Effluent Limitations

The permittee shall comply with the following monitoring requirements and limitations.

##### 3.2.1 Sampling Point (Outfall) 002 - UNIT 3/4 PROCESS WATER

Monitoring Requirements and Effluent Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Continuous	
Temperature Maximum		deg F	Weekly	Grab	
Mercury, Total Recoverable	Daily Max	11 ng/L	Monthly	Grab	This is an interim limit. See mercury monitoring section below for more information.
Copper, Total Recoverable	Daily Max	47 µg/L	Quarterly	Composite	
Copper, Total Recoverable	Monthly Avg	47 µg/L	Quarterly	Composite	
Copper, Total Recoverable	Daily Max	1.5 lbs/day	Quarterly	Calculated	
Hardness, Total as CaCO <sub>3</sub>		mg/L	Annual	24-Hr Comp	
Acute WET		TU <sub>a</sub>	See Listed Qtr(s)	24-Hr Flow Prop Comp	See WET Testing section below for listed quarters and more information.
Phosphorus, Total		mg/L	Weekly	24-Hr Comp	See TMDL section below for more information.

<b>Monitoring Requirements and Effluent Limitations</b>					
<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Limit Type</b>	<b>Limit and Units</b>	<b>Sample Frequency</b>	<b>Sample Type</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/day	Weekly	Calculated	See TMDL section below for more information.
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/month	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the total monthly mass of phosphorus discharged and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL section below for more information.
Phosphorus, Total		lbs/yr	Monthly	Calculated	Calculate the 12-month rolling sum of total monthly mass of phosphorus discharged and report on the last day of the month on the DMR. See TMDL section below for more information.
PFOS		ng/L	Monthly	Grab	Monitoring only. See PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need schedule.
PFOA		ng/L	Monthly	Grab	Monitoring only. See PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need schedule.

**3.2.1.1 Mercury Monitoring**

The permittee shall collect and analyze all mercury samples according to the data quality requirements of ss. NR 106.145(9) and (10), Wis. Adm. Code. The limit of quantitation (LOQ) used for the effluent and field blank shall be less than 1.3 ng/L, unless the samples are quantified at levels above 1.3 ng/L. The permittee shall collect at least one mercury field blank for each set of mercury samples (a set of samples may include combinations of intake, influent, effluent or other samples all collected on the same day). The permittee shall report results of samples and field blanks to the Department on Discharge Monitoring Reports.

**3.2.1.2 Mercury Variance – Implement Pollutant Minimization Program Plan**

This permit contains a variance to the water quality-based effluent limit (WQBEL) for mercury approved in accordance with s. 283.15, Stats. As conditions of this variance the permittee shall (a) maintain effluent quality at or below the interim effluent limitation specified in the table above, (b) implement the mercury pollutant minimization measures specified below, (c) follow the Pollutant Minimization Program Plan dated December 22, 2023, and (d) perform the actions listed in the schedule (See the Schedules section herein):

- Evaluate improvements and optimization opportunities that will result in increased treatment system efficiency
- Implement one or more of the improvements or optimization opportunities that were evaluated
- Sample the Wisconsin River Intake and Outfall 002 monthly

- Sample the effluent from the river water treatment clarifiers and influent to the Bottom Ash Treatment System quarterly
- Sample points 102, 112, 103, 104, and 105 quarterly
- Sample influent to the Waste Treatment System when aligned with metal waste treatment and when aligned with coal pile runoff quarterly
- Conduct an inventory of mercury containing equipment
- Evaluate options for operational, maintenance, or management practices that would result in the reduction of mercury if specific sources are identified as contributing high concentrations of mercury
- Evaluate measures to reduce mercury concentrations in cooling tower blowdown water if any sources of mercury are identified
- Implement options for operational, maintenance, or management practices that would result in the reduction of mercury if they are technically able to reduce mercury concentrations and are feasible to implement
- Eliminate the generation of bottom ash transport water by replacing the existing bottom ash sluicing system with a submerged grind conveyor
- Make upgrades and improvements to the coal pile runoff and metal cleaning wastewater treatment systems
- Make upgrades to the sludge handling system
- Continue replacing mercury containing equipment as is allowed through normal maintenance and upon equipment failure
- Continue all current BMPs and SRMs

### **3.2.1.3 Effluent Temperature Monitoring**

For manually measuring effluent temperature, grab samples should be collected at 6 evenly spaced intervals during the 24-hour period. Alternative sampling intervals may be approved if the permittee can show that the maximum effluent temperature is captured during the sampling interval. For monitoring temperature continuously, collect measurements in accordance with s. NR 218.04(13). This means that discrete measurements shall be recorded at intervals of not more than 15 minutes during the 24-hour period. In either case, report the maximum temperature measured during the day on the DMR. For seasonal discharges collect measurements either manually or continuously during the period of operation and report the daily maximum effluent temperature on the DMR.

### **3.2.1.4 Copper Analysis Method**

The permittee shall utilize test methods listed in Ch. NR 219, Wis. Code, when analyzing for Total Recoverable Copper, except that use of other equivalent analysis methods may be approved in writing by the Department. The selected Total Recoverable Copper test shall have a method detection level of 1 ug/L or less. Measurement of total metals and total recoverable metals shall be considered to be equivalent.

### **3.2.1.5 Composite Sample**

A representative composite sample of the wastewater discharge shall be created by combining at least three individual grab samples of equal volume taken at approximately equal intervals over a 24 hour period. There shall be at least 1 hour between individual grab samples. The permittee may collect a 24 hour composite sample in lieu of a composite sample.

### 3.2.1.6 24 hour Composite Sample

A representative composite sample of the wastewater discharge shall be created by combining individual grab samples in proportion to the volume of discharge flow during the 24 hour period as specified in s. NR 218.04(12), Wis. Adm. Code.

### 3.2.1.7 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Limitations for Total Phosphorus

The Wisconsin River Basin TMDL for total phosphorus was approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on April 26, 2019. Additional Site-Specific Criteria (SSC) for Lakes Petenwell, Castle Rock, and Wisconsin and the related Waste Load Allocation (WLA) included in Appendix K of the TMDL report were adopted by rule in s. NR 102.06 (7), Wis. Adm. Code, on June 1, 2020, and approved by the U.S. EPA, according to s. NR 217.16, Wis. Adm. Environmental Protection Agency on July 9, 2020. In developing the Wisconsin River TMDL the department did not provide the Weston Power Plant a WLA for phosphorus. Effluent results shall be calculated as follows:

**Total Monthly Discharge (lbs/month):** = monthly average concentration (mg/L) x total flow for the month (MG/month) x 8.34.

**12-Month Rolling Sum of Total Monthly Discharge (lbs/yr):** =the sum of the most recent 12 consecutive months of Total Monthly Discharges.

Background phosphorus is present in the effluent from the source water. The point source is not contributing phosphorus beyond that which is present in the intake, therefore no phosphorus reductions are necessary to meet TMDL targets.

### 3.2.1.8 PFOS/PFOA Sampling and Reporting Requirements

For grab samples, as defined per s. NR 218.04(10), Wis. Adm. Code, a single sample at a location as defined by the sample point description shall be taken during the time of the day most representative to capture all potential discharges. If extra equipment besides the sample bottle is used to collect the sample, it is recommended that a one-time equipment blank is collected with the first sample. An equipment blank would be collected by passing laboratory-verified PFAS-free water over or through field sampling equipment before the collection of a grab sample to evaluate potential contamination from the equipment used during sample.

If any equipment blanks are performed, these results shall be reported in the comments section of the eDMR and shall also be documented in the reports submitted as part of the PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need schedule of the permit.

### 3.2.1.9 PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need

The permittee shall monitor PFOS and PFOA as specified in the table above and report on the effluent concentrations including trends in monthly and annual average PFOS and PFOA concentrations as specified in the PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need Schedule.

If, after reviewing the data, the Department determines that a minimization plan for PFOS and PFOA is necessary based on the procedures in s. NR 106.98(4), Wis. Adm. Code, the Department will notify the permittee in writing that a PFOS and PFOA minimization plan that satisfies the requirements in s. NR 106.99, Wis. Adm. Code, is required. The permittee shall submit an initial plan for Department approval no later than 90 days after written notification was sent from the Department in accordance with s. NR 106.985(2)(a), Wis. Adm. Code. Pursuant to s. NR 106.985(2)(b), Wis. Adm. Code, as soon as possible after Department approval of the PFOS and PFOA minimization plan, the Department will modify or revoke and reissue the permit in accordance with public notice procedures under ch. 283, Wis. Stats., and ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, to include the PFOS and PFOA minimization plan and other related terms and condition.

If, however, the Department determines that a PFOS and PFOA minimization plan is unnecessary based on the procedures in s. NR 106.98(4), Wis. Adm. Code, the Department shall notify the permittee that no further action is required. Per s. NR 106.98(3)(a), Wis. Adm. Code, the Department may reduce monitoring frequency to once every 3 months (quarterly) on a case-by-case basis, but only after at least 12 representative results have been generated. If the permittee requests a reduction in monitoring and the Department agrees a reduction would be appropriate, the permit may be modified in accordance with public notice procedures under ch. 283, Wis. Stats., and ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, to incorporate this change.

### 3.2.1.10 Polychlorinated Biphenyls

There shall be no discharge of polychlorinated biphenyl compounds such as those commonly used for transformer fluid.

### 3.2.1.11 Additives

The permittee shall maintain a record of the dosage rate of all additives used on a monthly basis. The approved additives may be changed during the term of the permit following procedures in the 'Additives' subsection of the Standard Requirements. The water treatment additives approved for use as of the start of this permit term are listed below.

<u>Additive</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Aqua Ammonia Solution 26 Deg	Boiler Water pH adjustment
Aluminum Chlorohydrate Hydriclear 1010	Wastewater treatment solids removal
Caustic Soda Liquid 50%	Demineralizer reagent
Sodium Hypochlorite	Cooling tower treatment biocide
Sodium Bisulfite	Cooling tower blowdown dechlorination
Muriatic Acid 20 Deg	Wastewater pH adjustment
Sulfuric Acid	Demineralizer regeneration Cooling tower pH control Bottom ash treatment pH adjustment
Trisodium phosphate	Boiler water pH adjustment
Vitec 3000	Ro Antiscalant
Foamtrol AF2290	Cooling tower defoamer
Spectrus OX1201	Recirculating cooling water system biocide
Steamate PAP7010	W3 Boiler water system corrosion protection
Cortrol IS050	W3 Aux Boiler oxygen scavenger
Solus AP26	W3 Aux Boiler pH adjustment
Polyfloc AP 1720	River water clarification, wastewater treatment, Flocculant
Aluminum Sulfate	River water clarification
BT-205W	Coal dust suppressant
BT-922	Coal Belt De-icer- Crusher House
Sodium Nitrite	Closed cooling water-corrosion inhibitor



Calcium Hydroxide Hydrated Lime  
Klairaid C1172  
Polyfloc CD1436  
Omni Gard

Wastewater treatment-solids removal  
Coal Pile Runoff- Coagulant  
Coal Pile Runoff- Flocculant  
Closed cooling water system corrosion inhibitor

### 3.2.1.12 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing

**Primary Control Water:** The Wisconsin River, upstream of the WPS Weston discharges. The control samples shall be collected from areas outside of the mixing zone of any other discharger, if possible.

**Instream Waste Concentration (IWC):** NA

**Acute Mixing Zone Concentration:** NA

**Dilution series:** At least five effluent concentrations and dual controls must be included in each test.

- **Acute:** 100, 50, 25, 12.5, 6.25% and any additional selected by the permittee.

#### WET Testing Frequency:

**Acute** tests are required during the following quarters:

- **Acute:** July 1<sup>st</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, January 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, April 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, October 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027, July 1<sup>st</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2028

Acute WET testing shall continue after the permit expiration date (until the permit is reissued) in accordance with the WET requirements specified for the last full calendar year of this permit. For example, the next test would be required in July 1<sup>st</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2029.

**Testing:** WET testing shall be performed during normal operating conditions. Permittees are not allowed to turn off or otherwise modify treatment systems, production processes, or change other operating or treatment conditions during WET tests.

**Reporting:** The permittee shall report test results on the Discharge Monitoring Report form, and also complete the "Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Report Form" (Section 6, "*State of Wisconsin Aquatic Life Toxicity Testing Methods Manual, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*"), for each test. The original, complete, signed version of the Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Report Form shall be sent to the Biomonitoring Coordinator, Bureau of Water Quality, 101 S. Webster St., P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921, within 45 days of test completion. The Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form shall be submitted electronically by the required deadline.

**Determination of Positive Results:** An acute toxicity test shall be considered positive if the Toxic Unit - Acute (TU<sub>a</sub>) is greater than 1.0 for either species. The TU<sub>a</sub> shall be calculated as follows:  $TU_a = 100 \div LC_{50}$ .

**Additional Testing Requirements:** Within 90 days of a test which showed positive results, the permittee shall submit the results of at least 2 retests to the Biomonitoring Coordinator on "Whole Effluent Toxicity Test Report Forms". The 90-day reporting period shall begin the day after the test which showed a positive result. The retests shall be completed using the same species and test methods specified for the original test (see the Standard Requirements section herein).

### 3.2.2 Sampling Point (Outfall) 004 - UNIT3&4 SCREEN BACKWASH WATER

Monitoring Requirements and Effluent Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		MGD	Monthly	Estimated	

### 3.2.2.1 Intake Screen Backwash Discharges

Trash and coarse debris accumulated on the condenser cooling (river) water intake screen shall be captured so it is not returned to the river with the intake screen backwash discharge. The captured material shall be stored and disposed of in a manner to prevent any pollutant from the materials from entering the waters of the State pursuant to s. NR 205.07(3)(a), Wis. Adm. Code. Fine debris, aquatic organisms and vegetation may be returned to the river if they cannot reasonably be captured from the screen backwash water discharge.

### 3.2.3 Sampling Point (Outfall) 005 - NCCW TO WIS RIVER

Monitoring Requirements and Effluent Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Temperature Maximum		deg F	Weekly	Grab	
Chlorine, Total Residual	Daily Max	200 µg/L	Daily	Grab	This limit applies when discharges containing chlorine last 120 minutes or less.
Chlorine, Total Residual	Daily Max	38 µg/L	Daily	Grab	This limit applies when discharges containing chlorine last longer than 120 minutes.
Chlorine, Total Residl Discharge Time	Daily Max	120 min/day	Daily	Record of Addition	See Time of Chlorine Discharge section below
Flow Rate		MGD	Daily	Total Daily	
Mercury, Total Recoverable		ng/L	Quarterly	Grab	

#### 3.2.3.1 Mercury Monitoring

The permittee shall collect and analyze all mercury samples according to the data quality requirements of ss. NR 106.145(9) and (10), Wis. Adm. Code. The limit of quantitation (LOQ) used for the effluent and field blank shall be less than 1.3 ng/L, unless the samples are quantified at levels above 1.3 ng/L. The permittee shall collect at least one mercury field blank for each set of mercury samples (a set of samples may include combinations of intake, influent, effluent or other samples all collected on the same day). The permittee shall report results of samples and field blanks to the Department on Discharge Monitoring Reports.

#### 3.2.3.2 Time of Chlorine Discharge

Neither free available chlorine nor total residual chlorine shall be discharged for more than 2 hours per unit per day, except when chlorinating for macro-invertebrate control (as allowed in s. NR 290.12(2)(c), Wisconsin Administrative Code) in accordance with a Department approved macro-invertebrate management plan. The time of chlorine discharge may be reported as being equivalent to the time of chlorine addition or, alternatively, as the time that detectable levels of chlorine, using the analysis methods specified in this permit's "Chlorine Compliance and Analysis Methods" Standard Condition, are present in the cooling water discharge. The time of total residual chlorine discharge shall be monitored and summed for each day that chlorine is added to the condenser cooling water system.

### **3.2.3.3 Chlorine Sampling Procedure**

At least one grab sample for total residual chlorine shall be collected during the peak chlorine discharge of each chlorination event. The discharge monitoring reported value shall be the maximum of the chlorination events for that day. A continuous monitor may be used to determine the peak value and length of chlorine discharge as long as it duplicates the accuracy of a NR 219 approved method.

### **3.2.3.4 Total Residual Chlorine Limitations**

The daily maximum limit for total residual chlorine is 200 µg/L when chlorine is discharged for 120 minutes per day or less. If chlorine is discharged for more than 120 minutes per day, the daily maximum limits are 38 µg/L and 1.1 lbs/day.

### **3.2.3.5 Effluent Temperature Monitoring**

For manually measuring effluent temperature, grab samples should be collected at 6 evenly spaced intervals during the 24-hour period. Alternative sampling intervals may be approved if the permittee can show that the maximum effluent temperature is captured during the sampling interval. For monitoring temperature continuously, collect measurements in accordance with s. NR 218.04(13). This means that discrete measurements shall be recorded at intervals of not more than 15 minutes during the 24-hour period. In either case, report the maximum temperature measured during the day on the DMR. For seasonal discharges collect measurements either manually or continuously during the period of operation and report the daily maximum effluent temperature on the DMR.

### **3.2.3.6 Polychlorinated Biphenyls**

There shall be no discharge of polychlorinated biphenyl compounds such as those commonly used for transformer fluid.

### **3.2.3.7 Additives**

The permittee shall maintain a record of the dosage rate of all additives used on a monthly basis. The additives may be changed during the term of the permit following procedures in the 'Additives' subsection of the Standard Requirements.

### **3.2.3.8 Use of Noncontact Cooling Water for Dust Suppression**

Noncontact cooling water, including water allowed to be discharged through outfall 005, may be used for fugitive dust control on roads and parking lots within the Weston power plant site. The application of this water shall be limited so the dust control water seeps into the ground within the Weston power plant site.

## 4 Land Application Requirements

### 4.1 Sampling Point(s)

The discharge(s) shall be limited to land application of the waste type(s) designated for the listed sampling point(s) on Department approved land spreading sites or by hauling to another facility.

Sampling Point Designation	
Sampling Point Number	Sampling Point Location, WasteType/Sample Contents and Treatment Description (as applicable)
201	Water discharged as part of hydrant flushing, hydroexcavation, outside building wash water, and equipment wash water.

### 4.2 Monitoring Requirements and Limitations

The permittee shall comply with the following monitoring requirements and limitations.

#### 4.2.1 Sampling Point (Outfall) 201 - OUTSIDE WATER USE

Monitoring Requirements and Limitations					
Parameter	Limit Type	Limit and Units	Sample Frequency	Sample Type	Notes
Flow Rate		gpd	Per Occurrence	Estimated	

##### 4.2.1.1 Discharge Records

The permittee shall maintain records detailing the date, location, discharge volume, and any other monitoring of each discharge event. Records shall be available for inspection and submitted to the department upon request. Records shall be retained for a period of three years unless otherwise required by the department.

##### 4.2.1.2 Discharge Rate

The discharge flow rate shall be limited to a rate that can infiltrate into the soil surface.

##### 4.2.1.3 Runoff Control

The discharge flow rate shall be limited to prevent runoff. The water may not be discharged during any rainfall events that cause runoff from the site. Uncontaminated storm water may be allowed to drain from the site.

##### 4.2.1.4 Erosion Control

The discharge flow rate shall be limited to prevent erosion when the vegetative cover has not developed sufficiently to anchor the soil and create the filter mat necessary for effective wastewater treatment. This condition may occur during original or springtime system startup.

##### 4.2.1.5 Solids Removal

Solids shall be removed from seepage areas, if needed, to maintain the absorptive capacity of the soils and prevent plugging.

#### **4.2.1.6 Winter Operations**

Winter operation may be allowed as long as the soil surface remains unfrozen. Since treatment efficiency decreases in the winter, the department may require storage or additional treatment of the runoff during cold weather.

#### **4.2.1.7 Approval of Water Treatment Additives for Groundwater Discharge**

Permittees shall not place water treatment additives in hydrant test water that is not part of a water supply system unless the water treatment additive use is approved, in writing, by the Department. Whenever the quantity of a discharge containing additives is increased or the concentration of a water treatment additive is increased, the permittee shall obtain a separate written approval from the Department. The permittee shall maintain records of the monthly water treatment additive use including the additive name, manufacturer, and daily maximum amount used and such usage shall be reported as required by this permit. The permittee shall provide the following information regarding water treatment additives to receive Department approval:

- the commercial name of the additive and the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS);
- the proposed frequency of use;
- the amount or concentration to be used; and
- the anticipated discharge concentration

#### **4.2.1.8 Best Management Practices (BMPs)**

Activities covered by this permit shall implement applicable BMPs listed below to minimize or eliminate the discharge of contaminants to groundwater and/or surface waters. The permittee shall maintain a copy of BMPs at the site where washing is being performed.

##### **4.2.1.8.1 Degreasing chemicals**

Degreasing chemicals that contain halogenated hydrocarbons shall not be added to washing solutions.

##### **4.2.1.8.2 Chemical brighteners/cleaners**

Any such materials, such as hydrofluoric acid on stainless steel, shall be limited to maintain the pH of the washwater discharge between 6.0 and 9.0 standard units, inclusive.

##### **4.2.1.8.3 Oil and grease**

Oil and grease in discharges shall not exceed 15 mg/L (NOTE: visible oil sheen indicates the level of oil and grease has exceeded 15 mg/L). The permittee may attain this limit by implementing one or more of the following BMPs:

- Nonemergency steam or high-pressure water degreasing of engines or oily pieces of equipment shall occur on an impermeable surface (concrete, asphalt, or other impermeable barrier such as thick plastic sheeting). Washwater shall be retained and treated with an oil/water separator or oil absorbent material prior to discharge,
- Emergency degreasing of engines or oily pieces of equipment associated with equipment malfunction shall occur on an impervious surface (concrete, asphalt, or other barrier such as thick plastic sheeting) to the maximum extent feasible. Washwater retained shall be treated with an oil/water separator or oil absorbent material prior to discharge, and/or
- Grease and oil from other objects shall be physically removed to the maximum extent feasible and disposed of as a solid waste or recycled.

##### **4.2.1.8.4 Total Suspended Solids (TSS)**

The permittee shall implement one or more of the following BMPs:

- Washing activities shall occur on grass, soil, or gravel areas to the extent possible and infiltration of washwater shall be maximized.
- Solids and particulate matter collected in a settling device or area shall be periodically removed and properly managed to prevent discharge of this material to surface waters.
- Washing activities that occur primarily on impervious surfaces shall;
  - Direct washwater to a settling basin, tank, or other settling device to remove suspended solids and particulates prior to discharge to surface waters or an infiltration area,
  - Temporarily block, barricade, or plug areas of channeled flow to surface waters, such as storm sewers, and allow suspended solids and particulate matter to settle prior to discharge to a surface water or an infiltration area or,
  - Direct washwater to grass, soil, or gravel areas where the water and accompanying material can infiltrate.
- Washing activities that produce solids or particulate matter such as dirt, paint, and other particles that may contain toxic substances from the washing of buildings shall:
  - To the maximum extent feasible, prevent direct discharges to surface waters (diverting this washwater to the sanitary sewers is an approved disposal practice), and
  - To the maximum extent feasible, separate and/or collect the solids from the washwater at the site of the washing activity and properly dispose of the solids as a solid waste.

#### **4.2.1.8.5 Detergents**

The permittee shall implement one or more of the following BMPs:

- Only biodegradable soaps and detergents shall be used; the quantity of soaps and detergents used shall be limited to the minimum amount needed to clean the object.
- Only low (less than 0.5%) phosphate or nonphosphate soaps and detergents shall be used if the wastewater discharges directly to surface waters.

#### **4.2.1.8.6 Road deicing agents**

Deicing agents that have accumulated on vehicles and equipment associated with road deicing activities shall be physically removed to the extent practical and disposed as solid waste or returned to material storage. The number of vehicles and equipment containing significant amounts of these materials and washed at a site shall be limited to the maximum extent practicable.

#### **4.2.1.9 Oil and Grease**

Any discharge to groundwater that contains oil or grease, based on test result(s) or as evident by an oil sheen or oil film on the surface of the water within the seepage area, or by an accumulation of oil or grease on the soil surface within the seepage area is prohibited by this permit. Dewatering activities shall be halted or reduced or alternative disposal methods shall be implemented immediately upon identification of the conditions stated in this section. The visible or physical presence of oil and grease shall be reported on a daily log.

## 5 Schedules

### 5.1 PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need

Required Action	Due Date
<p><b>Report on Effluent Discharge:</b> Submit a report on effluent PFOS and PFOA concentrations and include an analysis of trends in monthly and annual average PFOS and PFOA concentrations. This analysis should also include a comparison to the applicable narrative standard in s. NR 102.04(8)(d), Wis. Adm. Code.</p> <p>This report shall include all additional PFOS and PFOA data that may be collected including any influent, intake, in-plant, collection system sampling, and blank sample results.</p>	07/01/2025
<p><b>Report on Effluent Discharge and Evaluation of Need:</b> Submit a final report on effluent PFOS and PFOA concentrations and include an analysis of trends in monthly and annual average PFOS and PFOA concentrations of data collected over the last 24 months. The report shall also provide a comparison on the likelihood of the facility needing to develop a PFOS/PFOA minimization plan.</p> <p>This report shall include all additional PFOS and PFOA data that may be collected including any influent, intake, in-plant, collection system sampling, and blank sample results.</p> <p>The permittee shall also submit a request to the department to evaluate the need for a PFOS/PFOA minimization plan.</p> <p>If the Department determines a PFOS/PFOA minimization plan is needed based on a reasonable potential evaluation, the permittee will be required to develop a minimization plan for Department approval no later than 90 days after written notification was sent from the Department. The Department will modify or revoke and reissue the permit to include PFOS/PFOA minimization plan reporting requirements along with a schedule of compliance to meet WQBELs. Effluent monitoring of PFOS and PFOA shall continue as specified in the permit until the modified permit is issued.</p> <p>If, however, the Department determines there is no reasonable potential for the facility to discharge PFOS or PFOA above the narrative standard in s. NR 102.04(8)(d), Wis. Adm. Code, no further action is required and effluent monitoring of PFOS and PFOA shall continue as specified in the permit.</p>	07/01/2026

### 5.2 Annual Certification Statements and Reports for Intake Structure

Submit Annual Reports by January 31st of each year in accordance with the Annual Reports subsection in Standard Requirements.

Required Action	Due Date
<b>Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #1:</b>	01/31/2025
<b>Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #2:</b>	01/31/2026
<b>Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #3:</b>	01/31/2027
<b>Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #4:</b>	01/31/2028
<b>Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #5:</b>	01/31/2029

<b>Ongoing Annual Certification Statements and Reports:</b> Continue to submit Annual Certification Statements and Reports until permit reissuance has been completed.	
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### 5.3 Mercury Pollutant Minimization Program

As a condition of the variance to the water quality based effluent limitation(s) for mercury granted in accordance with s. NR 106.145(6), Wis. Adm. Code, the permittee shall perform the following actions.

Required Action	Due Date
<p><b>Annual Mercury Progress Reports:</b> Submit an annual mercury progress report related to the pollutant minimization activities for the previous year. The annual mercury progress report shall:</p> <p>Indicate which mercury pollutant minimization activities or activities outlined in the Pollutant Minimization Program Plan have been implemented and state which, if any, activities from the Pollutant Minimization Program Plan were not pursued and why;</p> <p>Include an assessment of whether each implemented pollutant minimization activity appears to be effective or ineffective at reducing pollutant discharge concentrations and identify actions planned for the upcoming year;</p> <p>Identification of barriers that have limited program effectiveness and adjustments to the program that will be implemented during the next year to help address these barriers;</p> <p>Include an analysis of trends in total effluent mercury concentrations based on mercury sampling; and</p> <p>Include an analysis of how influent and effluent mercury varies with time and with significant loading of mercury.</p> <p>The first annual mercury progress report is to be submitted by the Due Date.</p>	01/31/2025
<p><b>Annual Mercury Progress Report #2:</b> Submit a mercury progress report, related to the pollutant minimization activities for the previous year, as defined above.</p>	01/31/2026
<p><b>Annual Mercury Progress Report #3:</b> Submit a mercury progress report, related to the pollutant minimization activities for the previous year, as defined above.</p>	01/31/2027
<p><b>Annual Mercury Progress Report #4:</b> Submit a mercury progress report, related to the pollutant minimization activities for the previous year, as defined above.</p>	01/31/2028
<p><b>Final Mercury Report:</b> Submit a final report documenting the success in reducing mercury concentrations in the effluent, as well as the anticipated future reduction in mercury sources and mercury effluent concentrations.</p> <p>The report shall:</p> <p>Summarize mercury pollutant minimization activities that have been implemented during the current permit term and state which, if any, activities from the Pollutant Minimization Program Plan were not pursued and why;</p> <p>Include an assessment of which pollutant minimization activities appear to have been effective or ineffective. Evaluate any needed changes to the pollutant reduction strategy accordingly;</p> <p>Identification of barriers that have limited program effectiveness and adjustments to the program that will be implemented during the next variance term (if applicable) to help address these barriers;</p> <p>Include an analysis of trends in mercury concentrations based on sampling and data during the current permit term; and</p>	01/31/2029



<p>Include an analysis of how influent and effluent mercury varies with time and with significant loadings of mercury.</p> <p>If the permittee intends to reapply for a mercury variance per s. NR 106.145, Wis. Adm. Code, for the reissued permit, a detailed Pollutant Minimization Program Plan outlining the pollutant minimization activities proposed for the upcoming permit term shall be submitted along with the final report. An updated pollutant minimization plan shall:</p> <p>Include an explanation of why or how each pollutant minimization activity will result in reduced discharge of the target pollutant;</p> <p>Evaluate any new available information on pollutant sources, timing, and concentration to update the mass balance assumptions and expected sources of the pollutant, and</p> <p>Identify any information needs that would help to better determine pollutant sources and make plans to collect that information.</p>	
<p><b>Annual Mercury Reports After Permit Expiration:</b> In the event that this permit is not reissued by the date the permit expires, the permittee shall continue to submit annual mercury reports for the previous year following the due date of Annual Mercury Progress Reports listed above. Annual Mercury Progress reports shall include the information as defined above.</p>	

## 6 Standard Requirements

**NR 205, Wisconsin Administrative Code (Conditions for Industrial Dischargers):** The conditions in ss. NR 205.07(1) and NR 205.07(3), Wis. Adm. Code, are included by reference in this permit. The permittee shall comply with all of these requirements. Some of these requirements are outlined in the Standard Requirements section of this permit. Requirements not specifically outlined in the Standard Requirement section of this permit can be found in ss. NR 205.07(1) and NR 205.07(3).

### 6.1 Reporting and Monitoring Requirements

#### 6.1.1 Monitoring Results

Monitoring results obtained during the previous month shall be summarized and reported on a Department Wastewater Discharge Monitoring Report. The report may require reporting of any or all of the information specified below under 'Recording of Results'. This report is to be returned to the Department no later than the date indicated on the form. A copy of the Wastewater Discharge Monitoring Report Form or an electronic file of the report shall be retained by the permittee.

Monitoring results shall be reported on an electronic discharge monitoring report (eDMR). The eDMR shall be certified electronically by a responsible executive or officer, manager, partner or proprietor as specified in s. 283.37(3), Wis. Stats., or a duly authorized representative of the officer, manager, partner or proprietor that has been delegated signature authority pursuant to s. NR 205.07(1)(g)2, Wis. Adm. Code. The 'eReport Certify' page certifies that the electronic report form is true, accurate and complete.

If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit, the results of such monitoring shall be included on the Wastewater Discharge Monitoring Report.

The permittee shall comply with all limits for each parameter regardless of monitoring frequency. For example, monthly, weekly, and/or daily limits shall be met even with monthly monitoring. The permittee may monitor more frequently than required for any parameter.

#### 6.1.2 Sampling and Testing Procedures

Sampling and laboratory testing procedures shall be performed in accordance with Chapters NR 218 and NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code and shall be performed by a laboratory certified or registered in accordance with the requirements of ch. NR 149, Wis. Adm. Code. Groundwater sample collection and analysis shall be performed in accordance with ch. NR 140, Wis. Adm. Code. The analytical methodologies used shall enable the laboratory to quantitate all substances for which monitoring is required at levels below the effluent limitation. If the required level cannot be met by any of the methods available in NR 219, Wis. Adm. Code, then the method with the lowest limit of detection shall be selected. Additional test procedures may be specified in this permit.

#### 6.1.3 Recording of Results

The permittee shall maintain records which provide the following information for each effluent measurement or sample taken:

- the date, exact place, method and time of sampling or measurements;
- the individual who performed the sampling or measurements;
- the date the analysis was performed;
- the individual who performed the analysis;
- the analytical techniques or methods used; and
- the results of the analysis.

#### **6.1.4 Reporting of Monitoring Results**

The permittee shall use the following conventions when reporting effluent monitoring results:

- Pollutant concentrations less than the limit of detection shall be reported as < (less than) the value of the limit of detection. For example, if a substance is not detected at a detection limit of 0.1 mg/L, report the pollutant concentration as < 0.1 mg/L.
- Pollutant concentrations equal to or greater than the limit of detection, but less than the limit of quantitation, shall be reported and the limit of quantitation shall be specified.
- For purposes of calculating NR 101 fees, the 2 mg/l lower reporting limits for BOD5 and Total Suspended Solids shall be considered to be limits of quantitation
- For the purposes of reporting a calculated result, average or a mass discharge value, the permittee may substitute a “0” (zero) for any pollutant concentration that is less than the limit of detection. However, if the effluent limitation is less than the limit of detection, the department may substitute a value other than zero for results less than the limit of detection, after considering the number of monitoring results that are greater than the limit of detection and if warranted when applying appropriate statistical techniques.
- If no discharge occurs through an outfall, flow related parameters (e.g. flow rate, hydraulic application rate, volume, etc.) should be reported as “0” (zero) at the required sample frequency specified for the outfall. For example: if the sample frequency is daily, “0” would be reported for any day during the month that no discharge occurred.

#### **6.1.5 Records Retention**

The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings or electronic data records for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by the permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for the permit for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application, except for sludge management forms and records, which shall be kept for a period of at least 5 years.

#### **6.1.6 Other Information**

Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the Department, it shall promptly submit such facts or correct information to the Department.

#### **6.1.7 Reporting Requirements – Alterations or Additions**

The permittee shall give notice to the Department as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is only required when:

- The alteration or addition to the permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source.
- The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification requirement applies to pollutants which are not subject to effluent limitations in the existing permit.
- The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee’s sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use of disposal sites not reported during the permit application process nor reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. Additional sites may not be used for the land application of sludge until department approval is received.

### **6.2 System Operating Requirements**

### 6.2.1 Noncompliance Reporting

The permittee shall report the following types of noncompliance by a telephone call to the Department's regional office within 24 hours after becoming aware of the noncompliance:

- any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment;
- any violation of an effluent limitation resulting from a bypass;
- any violation of an effluent limitation resulting from an upset; and
- any violation of a maximum discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Department in the permit, either for effluent or sludge.

A written report describing the noncompliance shall also be submitted to the Department as directed at the end of this permit within 5 days after the permittee becomes aware of the noncompliance. On a case-by-case basis, the Department may waive the requirement for submittal of a written report within 5 days and instruct the permittee to submit the written report with the next regularly scheduled monitoring report. In either case, the written report shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times; the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance; and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the length of time it is expected to continue.

A scheduled bypass approved by the Department under the 'Scheduled Bypass' section of this permit shall not be subject to the reporting required under this section.

**NOTE:** Section 292.11(2)(a), Wisconsin Statutes, requires any person who possesses or controls a hazardous substance or who causes the discharge of a hazardous substance to notify the Department of Natural Resources **immediately** of any discharge not authorized by the permit. **The discharge of a hazardous substance that is not authorized by this permit or that violates this permit may be a hazardous substance spill. To report a hazardous substance spill, call DNR's 24-hour HOTLINE at 1-800-943-0003.**

### 6.2.2 Bypass

Except for a controlled diversion as provided in the 'Controlled Diversions' section of this permit, any bypass is prohibited and the Department may take enforcement action against a permittee for such occurrences under s. 283.89, Wis. Stats. The Department may approve a bypass if the permittee demonstrates all the following conditions apply:

- The bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
- There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities or adequate back-up equipment, retention of untreated wastes, reduction of inflow and infiltration, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventative maintenance. When evaluating feasibility of alternatives, the department may consider factors such as technical achievability, costs and affordability of implementation and risks to public health, the environment and, where the permittee is a municipality, the welfare of the community served; and
- The bypass was reported in accordance with the 'Noncompliance Reporting' section of this permit.

### 6.2.3 Scheduled Bypass

Whenever the permittee anticipates the need to bypass for purposes of efficient operations and maintenance and the permittee may not meet the conditions for controlled diversions in the 'Controlled Diversions' section of this permit, the permittee shall obtain prior written approval from the Department for the scheduled bypass. A permittee's written request for Department approval of a scheduled bypass shall demonstrate that the conditions for unscheduled bypassing are met and include the proposed date and reason for the bypass, estimated volume and duration of the bypass, alternatives to bypassing and measures to mitigate environmental harm caused by the bypass. The department may require the permittee to provide public notification for a scheduled bypass if it is determined there is significant public interest in the proposed action and may recommend mitigation measures to minimize the impact of such bypass.

#### **6.2.4 Controlled Diversions**

Controlled diversions are allowed only when necessary for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation provided the following requirements are met:

- Effluent from the wastewater treatment facility shall meet the effluent limitations established in the permit. Wastewater that is diverted around a treatment unit or treatment process during a controlled diversion shall be recombined with wastewater that is not diverted prior to the effluent sampling location and prior to effluent discharge;
- A controlled diversion may not occur during periods of excessive flow or other abnormal wastewater characteristics;
- A controlled diversion may not result in a wastewater treatment facility overflow; and
- All instances of controlled diversions shall be documented in wastewater treatment facility records and such records shall be available to the department on request.

#### **6.2.5 Proper Operation and Maintenance**

The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training as required in ch. NR 114, Wis. Adm. Code, and adequate laboratory and process controls, including appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

#### **6.2.6 Operator Certification**

The wastewater treatment facility shall be under the direct supervision of a state certified operator. In accordance with s. NR 114.53, Wis. Adm. Code, every WPDES permitted treatment plant shall have a designated operator-in-charge holding a current and valid certificate. The designated operator-in-charge shall be certified at the level and in all subclasses of the treatment plant, except laboratory. Treatment plant owners shall notify the department of any changes in the operator-in-charge within 30 days. Note that s. NR 114.52(22), Wis. Adm. Code, lists types of facilities that are excluded from operator certification requirements (i.e. private sewage systems, pretreatment facilities discharging to public sewers, industrial wastewater treatment that consists solely of land disposal, agricultural digesters and concentrated aquatic production facilities with no biological treatment).

#### **6.2.7 Spill Reporting**

The permittee shall notify the Department in accordance with ch. NR 706 (formerly NR 158), Wis. Adm. Code, in the event that a spill or accidental release of any material or substance results in the discharge of pollutants to the waters of the state at a rate or concentration greater than the effluent limitations established in this permit, or the spill or accidental release of the material is unregulated in this permit, unless the spill or release of pollutants has been reported to the Department in accordance with s. NR 205.07 (1)(s), Wis. Adm. Code.

#### **6.2.8 Planned Changes**

In accordance with ss. 283.31(4)(b) and 283.59, Stats., the permittee shall report to the Department any facility expansion, production increase or process modifications which will result in new, different or increased discharges of pollutants. The report shall either be a new permit application, or if the new discharge will not violate the effluent limitations of this permit, a written notice of the new, different or increased discharge. The notice shall contain a description of the new activities, an estimate of the new, different or increased discharge of pollutants and a description of the effect of the new or increased discharge on existing waste treatment facilities. Following receipt of this report, the Department may modify this permit to specify and limit any pollutants not previously regulated in the permit.

### 6.2.9 Duty to Halt or Reduce Activity

Upon failure or impairment of treatment facility operation, the permittee shall, to the extent necessary to maintain compliance with its permit, curtail production or wastewater discharges or both until the treatment facility operations are restored or an alternative method of treatment is provided.

## 6.3 Surface Water Requirements

### 6.3.1 Permittee-Determined Limit of Quantitation Incorporated into this Permit

For pollutants with water quality-based effluent limits below the Limit of Quantitation (LOQ) in this permit, the LOQ calculated by the permittee and reported on the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) is incorporated by reference into this permit. The LOQ shall be reported on the DMRs, shall be the lowest quantifiable level practicable, and shall be no greater than the minimum level (ML) specified in or approved under 40 CFR Part 136 for the pollutant at the time this permit was issued, unless this permit specifies a higher LOQ.

### 6.3.2 Appropriate Formulas for Effluent Calculations

The permittee shall use the following formulas for calculating effluent results to determine compliance with average concentration limits and mass limits and total load limits:

**Weekly/Monthly/Six-Month/Annual Average Concentration** = the sum of all daily results for that week/month/six-month/year, divided by the number of results during that time period. [Note: When a six-month average effluent limit is specified for Total Phosphorus the applicable periods are May through October and November through April.]

**Weekly Average Mass Discharge (lbs/day):** Daily mass = daily concentration (mg/L) x daily flow (MGD) x 8.34, then average the daily mass values for the week.

**Monthly Average Mass Discharge (lbs/day):** Daily mass = daily concentration (mg/L) x daily flow (MGD) x 8.34, then average the daily mass values for the month.

**Six-Month Average Mass Discharge (lbs/day):** Daily mass = daily concentration (mg/L) x daily flow (MGD) x 8.34, then average the daily mass values for the six-month period. [Note: When a six-month average effluent limit is specified for Total Phosphorus the applicable periods are May through October and November through April.]

**Annual Average Mass Discharge (lbs/day):** Daily mass = daily concentration (mg/L) x daily flow (MGD) x 8.34, then average the daily mass values for the entire year.

**Total Monthly Discharge:** = monthly average concentration (mg/L) x total flow for the month (MG/month) x 8.34.

**Total Annual Discharge:** = sum of total monthly discharges for the calendar year.

**12-Month Rolling Sum of Total Monthly Discharge:** = the sum of the most recent 12 consecutive months of Total Monthly Discharges.

### 6.3.3 Effluent Temperature Requirements

**Weekly Average Temperature** – If temperature limits are included in this permit, Weekly Average Temperature shall be calculated as the sum of all daily maximum results for that week divided by the number of daily maximum results during that time period.

**Cold Shock Standard** – Water temperatures of the discharge shall be controlled in a manner as to protect fish and aquatic life uses from the deleterious effects of cold shock pursuant to Wis. Adm. Code, s. NR 102.28. ‘Cold Shock’ means exposure of aquatic organisms to a rapid decrease in temperature and a sustained exposure to low temperature that induces abnormal behavior or physiological performance and may lead to death.

**Rate of Temperature Change Standard** – Temperature of a water of the state or discharge to a water of the state may not be artificially raised or lowered at such a rate that it causes detrimental health or reproductive effects to fish or aquatic life of the water of the state pursuant to Wis. Adm. Code, s. NR 102.29.

### 6.3.4 Energy Emergency Events

The Department will use enforcement discretion whenever there are exceedances of effluent temperature limitations for the electric generating facility during an energy emergency warning or when an energy emergency event has been declared under a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission order (Standard EOP-002, North American Electric Reliability Corporation).

### 6.3.5 Visible Foam or Floating Solids

There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.

### 6.3.6 Surface Water Uses and Criteria

In accordance with NR 102.04, Wis. Adm. Code, surface water uses and criteria are established to govern water management decisions. Practices attributable to municipal, industrial, commercial, domestic, agricultural, land development or other activities shall be controlled so that all surface waters including the mixing zone meet the following conditions at all times and under all flow and water level conditions:

- a) Substances that will cause objectionable deposits on the shore or in the bed of a body of water, shall not be present in such amounts as to interfere with public rights in waters of the state.
- b) Floating or submerged debris, oil, scum or other material shall not be present in such amounts as to interfere with public rights in waters of the state.
- c) Materials producing color, odor, taste or unsightliness shall not be present in such amounts as to interfere with public rights in waters of the state.
- d) Substances in concentrations or in combinations which are toxic or harmful to humans shall not be present in amounts found to be of public health significance, nor shall substances be present in amounts which are acutely harmful to animal, plant or aquatic life.

### 6.3.7 Compliance with Phosphorus Limitation

Compliance with the concentration limitation for phosphorus shall be determined as a rolling twelve-month average and shall be calculated as follows:

First, determine the pounds of phosphorus for an individual month by multiplying the average of all the concentration values for phosphorus (in mg/L) for that month by the total flow for the month in Million Gallons times the conversion factor of 8.34.

Then, the monthly pounds of phosphorus determined in this manner shall be summed for the most recent 12 months and inserted into the numerator of the following equation.

$$\text{Average concentration of P in mg/L} = \frac{\text{Total lbs of P discharged (most recent 12 months)}}{\text{Total flow in MG (most recent 12 months) X 8.34}}$$

The compliance calculation shall be performed each month with a reported discharge volume after substituting data from the most recent month(s) for the oldest month(s). A calculated value in excess of the concentration limitation will be considered equivalent to a violation of a monthly average.

### 6.3.8 Additives

In the event that the permittee wishes to commence use of a water treatment additive, or increase the usage of the additives greater than indicated in the permit application, the permittee must get a written approval from the

Department prior to initiating such changes. This written approval shall provide authority to utilize the additives at the specific rates until the permit can be either reissued or modified in accordance with s. 283.53, Stats. Restrictions on the use of the additives may be included in the authorization letter.

### 6.3.9 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Monitoring Requirements

In order to determine the potential impact of the discharge on aquatic organisms, static-renewal toxicity tests shall be performed on the effluent in accordance with the procedures specified in the *"State of Wisconsin Aquatic Life Toxicity Testing Methods Manual, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition"* (PUB-WT-797, November 2004) as required by NR 219.04, Table A, Wis. Adm. Code). All of the WET tests required in this permit, including any required retests, shall be conducted on the *Ceriodaphnia dubia* and fathead minnow species. Receiving water samples shall not be collected from any point in contact with the permittee's mixing zone and every attempt shall be made to avoid contact with any other discharge's mixing zone.

### 6.3.10 Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Identification and Reduction

Within 60 days of a retest which showed positive results, the permittee shall submit a written report to the Biomonitoring Coordinator, Bureau of Water Quality, 101 S. Webster St., PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921, which details the following:

- A description of actions the permittee has taken or will take to remove toxicity and to prevent the recurrence of toxicity;
- A description of toxicity reduction evaluation (TRE) investigations that have been or will be done to identify potential sources of toxicity, including the following actions:
  - a) Evaluate the performance of the treatment system to identify deficiencies contributing to effluent toxicity (e.g., operational problems, chemical additives, incomplete treatment)
  - b) Identify the compound(s) causing toxicity. Conduct toxicity screening tests on the effluent at a minimum of once per month for six months to determine if toxicity recurs. Screening tests are WET tests using fewer effluent concentrations conducted on the most sensitive species. If any of the screening tests contain toxicity, conduct a toxicity identification evaluation (TIE) to determine the cause. TIE methods are available from USEPA "Methods for Aquatic Toxicity Identification Evaluations: Phase I Toxicity Characterization Procedures (EPA/600/6-91/003) and "Toxicity Identification Evaluation: Characterization of Chronically Toxic Effluents, Phase I" (EPA/600/6-91/005F).
  - c) Trace the compound(s) causing toxicity to their sources (e.g., industrial, commercial, domestic)
  - d) Evaluate, select, and implement methods or technologies to control effluent toxicity (e.g., in-plant or pretreatment controls, source reduction or removal)
- Where corrective actions including a TRE have not been completed, an expeditious schedule under which corrective actions will be implemented;
- If no actions have been taken, the reason for not taking action.

The permittee may also request approval from the Department to postpone additional retests in order to investigate the source(s) of toxicity. Postponed retests must be completed after toxicity is believed to have been removed.

### 6.3.11 Reopener Clause

Pursuant to s. 283.15(11), Wis. Stat. and 40 CFR 131.20, the Department may modify or revoke and reissue this permit if, through the triennial standard review process, the Department determines that the terms and conditions of this permit need to be updated to reflect the highest attainable condition of the receiving water.



## 7 Summary of Reports Due

FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

Description	Date	Page
PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need -Report on Effluent Discharge	July 1, 2025	20
PFOS/PFOA Minimization Plan Determination of Need -Report on Effluent Discharge and Evaluation of Need	July 1, 2026	20
Annual Certification Statements and Reports for Intake Structure -Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #1	January 31, 2025	20
Annual Certification Statements and Reports for Intake Structure -Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #2	January 31, 2026	20
Annual Certification Statements and Reports for Intake Structure -Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #3	January 31, 2027	20
Annual Certification Statements and Reports for Intake Structure -Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #4	January 31, 2028	20
Annual Certification Statements and Reports for Intake Structure -Submit Annual Certification Statement and Report #5	January 31, 2029	20
Annual Certification Statements and Reports for Intake Structure -Ongoing Annual Certification Statements and Reports	See Permit	21
Mercury Pollutant Minimization Program -Annual Mercury Progress Reports	January 31, 2025	21
Mercury Pollutant Minimization Program -Annual Mercury Progress Report #2	January 31, 2026	21
Mercury Pollutant Minimization Program -Annual Mercury Progress Report #3	January 31, 2027	21
Mercury Pollutant Minimization Program -Annual Mercury Progress Report #4	January 31, 2028	21
Mercury Pollutant Minimization Program -Final Mercury Report	January 31, 2029	21
Mercury Pollutant Minimization Program -Annual Mercury Reports After Permit Expiration	See Permit	22
Wastewater Discharge Monitoring Report	no later than the date indicated on the form	23

Report forms shall be submitted electronically in accordance with the reporting requirements herein. Any facility plans or plans and specifications for municipal, industrial, industrial pretreatment and non industrial wastewater systems shall be submitted to the Bureau of Water Quality, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921. All other submittals required by this permit shall be submitted to:

Central Office, 101 S Webster St, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921