

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0023272-10-0

Permittee: City of Augusta, 145 W Lincoln PO Box 475, Augusta, WI, 54722

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Augusta Wastewater Treatment Facility, 800 STH 27 N Side Bridge Crk, Augusta, WI

Receiving Water And Location: Bridge Creek, in the Lower Eau Claire Watershed of the Lower Chippewa River Basin located in Eau Claire County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: The City of Augusta owns and operates an Enhanced Biological Nutrient Removal (EBNR) wastewater treatment facility that treats domestic wastewater from the City of Augusta. The facility consists of primary screening, preanoxic/anaerobic treatment tank, anoxic/aeration tanks, supplemental chemical feed, final clarification, ultraviolet disinfection, and a sludge storage tank. Biological treatment is the principal method of phosphorus removal with the option provided for additional removal with chemical (alum). Ultraviolet light treatment is used for seasonal disinfection prior to discharge. The annual average design flow of the facility is 0.212 MGD, with an actual average flow in 2022 of 0.181 MGD. Sludge generated in treatment and clarification is stored in a glass-fused-to-steel tank and land applied on Department approved sites. No upcoming operational changes are proposed. The City of Augusta has submitted a request for consideration of dissipative cooling, referencing a previous dissipative cooling study and a statement that there have been not substantial changes to the facility. Based on this information, the department has found that it is not necessary to include temperature limits in the reissued permit. However, temperature monitoring is required per the requirements of s. NR 106.59(7), Wis. Adm. Code. Proposed monitoring and/or limit changes for this permit issuance include the following: 1) the addition of annual effluent monitoring for total nitrogen, nitrite + nitrate nitrogen and TKN, 2) ammonia nitrogen monitoring frequency has increased to 3/Week to better align with the standard for similar facilities with limits, 3) seasonal fecal coliform limits have been replaced with E. coli limits, 4) copper and zinc monitoring, 5) addition of Chronic WET testing, and 6) phosphorus limit has changed from only a single monthly average limit to compliance with an approved water quality plan that includes other phosphorus mass reporting requirements that are consistent with tracking compliance with the water quality trading plan. In addition, a new receiving water sample point (601) with total recoverable and dissolved copper and total suspended solids sampling has been added to further support the dissolved-based copper compliance calculations for the next permit term. PFAS sludge sampling has also been included pursuant to ss. NR 214.18(5)(b) and NR 204.06(2)(b)9., Wis. Adm. Code to quantitate risk.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Angela Parkhurst, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI, 54701, (715) 839-3836, Angela.Parkhurst@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Adebowale Adesanwo, 1300 W Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 684-2914, adebowale.adesanwo@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.

Dissipative Cooling: The department may account for dissipative cooling of the permittee's treated domestic sewage effluent in determining the need for sub-lethal temperature limits pursuant to s. NR 106.59, Wis. Adm. Code. Based on the department's evaluation it has been determined that sub-lethal effluent limits for temperature are not necessary because the permittee's effluent thermal load is adequately dissipated. Comments on this determination are requested.

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) 839-3836 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.

NAME OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: Augusta Area Times

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: PO Box E, Augusta, WI 54722

Date Notice Issued: Thursday, February 8, 2024