

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION
SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0057541-06-0

Permittee: Foremost Farms USA Milan, 2294 Randall Rd., Athens, WI 54411

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Foremost Farms USA Milan, 2294 Randall Road, Athens, WI

Receiving Water and Location: tributary to Randall Creek in the Upper Big Eau Pleine River Watershed of the Central Wisconsin River Basin, and the groundwaters of the Upper Wisconsin River Basin in Marathon County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: Foremost Farms at Milan produces cheese and whey products which generates noncontact cooling wastewater (NCCW), condensate of whey (COW) wastewater, dairy high strength wastewater, plant biosolids, dairy whey, permeate, and antibiotic milk. The NCCW/COW wastewaters are pretreated prior to being discharged to the Milan Sanitary District. The pretreatment train includes equalization, screening of large solids with a strainer, aeration and then additional solids separation with a dissolved air flotation (DAF) system. Biosolids from the DAF is stored onsite and landspread on Department approved sites year round. Even though the facility has not used the surface water outfall designed to discharge the treated NCCW/COW directly to surface water in the past, the facility has requested to retain the outfall in the proposed reissuance. This inclusion gives the permittee the option to renew the direct NCCW/COW water discharge to the unnamed tributary of Randall Creek after notifying the Department and receiving approval prior to initiation of discharge. The remainder of the wastewaters generated are monitored prior to being discharged via landspreading. High strength wastewater is produced at a rate of 4.23 million gallons per year, a mix of biosolids and high strength wastewater a rate of 230 tons/year, and whey/permeate/antibiotic milk at 1.6 million gallons per year. Liquid wastes or sludge are stored in 3 vertical tanks with 90,000 gallon total capacity, a 318,000 gallon steel tank, or in manure pits prior to land application. No major changes in operations are proposed for this reissuance. Monitoring changes proposed for this issuance include 1) the addition of an 86F temperature limit if the surface water outfall will be used, and 2) a requirement to update the land management plan.

Permit Drafter: Angela Parkhurst, DNR, WCR Headquarters, 1300 W. Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 839-3836, angela.parkhurst@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer: Nathan Wells, DNR, 5301 Rib Mountain Drive, Wausau, WI 54401, (715) 359-5866, Nathan.Wells@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 basin engineer.

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 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, 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 the permit drafter's or 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 (usually 20 cents per page) will be charged for copies of 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: Wausau Daily Herald, PO Box 1286, Wausau, WI 54402-1286

Date Notice Issued: April 20, 2016