

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION
SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0020737-09-1

Permittee: City of Sparta, 201 West Oak Street, Sparta, WI 54656-2369

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Sparta Wastewater Treatment Facility, 805 Richgruber Road, Sparta, WI

Receiving Water and Location: the La Crosse River in the Little La Crosse River Watershed of the Bad Axe – La Crosse River Basin in Monroe County

Brief Facility Description: The Sparta Wastewater Treatment Facility treats domestic and industrial wastewater from the City of Sparta, Northern Engraving Company, Foremost Farms, Century Foods and the leachate from the Monroe, Jackson and Vernon County landfills. The facility has an annual average design flow of 2.2 million gallons per day (MGD) and the actual annual average flow in 2010 was 1.0415 MGD. Treatment at the facility consists of fine screening, pista grit removal, cyclone grit separation & wash, four primary clarifiers, two trickling filters, activated sludge (three basins), two final clarifiers, caustic soda addition for pH adjustment and anaerobic digestion. Phosphorus is removed chemically with ferric chloride and sludge is thickened with polymer additional on a gravity belt thickener prior to land application on Department approved sites. Effluent is disinfected using ultraviolet light prior to discharge to the La Crosse River.

Permit Drafter: Holly Heldstab, DNR, WCR Headquarters, 1300 W. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 839-1634, holly.heldstab@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer: Julia Stephenson, DNR, 3550 Mormon Coulee Road, La Crosse, WI 54601, (608) 785-9981, julia.stephenson@wisconsin.gov

Proposed Modification: The permittee filed a request for review of the phosphorus limitation in section 3.2.1.3 and the compliance schedule in section 5.1 of the permit. The request is dated January 23, 2013, and was received by the Department electronically via email on January 23, 2013. The proposed modification is issued to resolve the city's contested case hearing request.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be modified.

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, permit information form (PIF), 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) 839-1634 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 and PIF. 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: Sparta Herald/Monroe County Democrat, PO Box 252, Sparta, WI 54656-0252
Date Notice Issued: November 7, 2013