

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INFORMATIONAL HEARING AND INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN
POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0002381-07-0

Permittee: Wisconsin Power and Light Company - Nelson Dewey Generating Station, 11999 Cty Hwy VV,
Cassville, WI 53806-9722

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Nelson Dewey Generating Station, NWQ Section 19, T3N, R5W - Cassville,
Grant County, Wisconsin

Receiving Water and Location: Mississippi River and the Groundwater of the Grant-Platte River Basin

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: Historically the Nelson Dewey Generating Station consisted of a two-unit coal-fired electric generating station near Cassville, Wisconsin. Discharges were to the Mississippi River via four outfalls and to the groundwater via one outfall. The proposed permit is similar to the current permit; however, the permittee is in the process of retiring the facility. All coal-fired electric generation has been eliminated at this time.

A detailed description of changes and the facility can be found in the fact sheet which may be requested as described below. The Department has also made a determination that the design, location, and operation of the cooling water intake structure represents "best technology available" for minimizing environmental impact. This determination can also be found in the fact sheet.

Permit Drafter: Keith Pierce, DNR, 101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, (608) 266-1198,
Keith.Pierce@Wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer: Timothy Ryan, DNR, 3911 Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg, WI 53711, (608) 275-3277,
Tim.Ryan@Wisconsin.gov

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

Proposed Mercury Variance: The Department has determined that a water quality-based effluent limitation (WQBEL) of 1.3 ng/L mercury is needed to protect wildlife and human health in the above-named receiving water. The permittee has submitted an application for an alternative mercury effluent limitation (AMEL). The application included a pollutant minimization program (PMP) plan for mercury as required under s. NR 106.145(8), Wis. Adm. Code. The Department concludes that the permittee is eligible for a variance based on the information submitted, information on file and the findings provided in s. NR 106.145(1), Wis. Adm. Code. The Department and the permittee have mutually agreed upon an AMEL of 4.68 ng/L, expressed as a daily maximum, continued influent and effluent monitoring, and permit language requiring implementation of the PMP. The Department proposes to grant the AMEL, which represents a variance to the water quality standard used to derive the WQBEL, as provided for under s. NR 106.145(6), Wis. Adm. Code. The designated use of the receiving water will not change as a result of the variance. This mercury variance must be approved by USEPA prior to its inclusion in the final reissued permit.

Hearing Date, Time, and Location: Wednesday, May 25, 2016, 2:00 p.m., Eckstein Memorial Library, 1034 East Dewey, Cassville.

Hearing Officer: Keith Pierce, DNR, 101 S. Webster St. PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, (608) 266-1198,
Keith.Pierce@wisconsin.gov

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to Section 283.49, Wisconsin Statutes, has scheduled for the time and place listed above, a public hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the above announced permit action for this existing discharge.

A hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly and speedy way and will use procedures specified in Subchapter II of ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, necessary to insure broad public participation in the hearing. The hearing officer will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be used during the course of the hearing. The hearing officer shall explain the method of notification of the final decision to grant or deny the permit and the methods by which the decision may be reviewed in a public adjudicatory hearing.

The hearing officer may put limits on individual oral statements to insure an opportunity for all persons present to make statements in a reasonable period of time and to prevent undue repetition. The hearing officer may also limit the number of representatives making oral statements on behalf of any person or group. Informational and clarifying questions and oral statements shall be directed through the hearing officer. Cross-examination shall not be allowed.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the permit drafter's address. All comments or suggestions received from members of the public no later than 7 days following the date of this public hearing will be used, along with other information on file and testimony presented at the hearing, in making a final determination. 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.

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 (608) 266-1198 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: Grant County Herald Independent, PO Box 310, Lancaster, WI 53813-0310
Notice Issued: April 7, 2016