

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION
SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0031852-05-1

Permittee: Aurora Sanitary District # 1, 2012 Herzog Rd. Aurora, Niagara, WI 54151

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Aurora Sanitary District # 1, 1 Laguna Drive, Aurora, Wisconsin

Receiving Water and Location: The Menominee River within the Pemebonwon and Middle Menominee River Watershed in the Green Bay Basin in Florence County.

Brief Facility Description: The Aurora Sanitary District wastewater treatment system utilizes a Biolac aeration system with a design flow of 0.03 MGD. This system consists of two aerated lagoon cells and one final quiescent cell. Effluent disinfection is not required because fecal coliform limits can be met without disinfecting. The effluent is discharged through a pipe and over a riprap cascade directly to the Menominee River.

Permit Drafter: Susan Scobell Watson, DNR, Rhinelander Service Center, 107 Sutliff Ave., Rhinelander, WI 54501, (715) 365-8945, susan.watson@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer: Daniel Peerenboom, DNR, Rhinelander Service Center, 107 Sutliff Avenue, Rhinelander, WI 54501, (715) 365-8953, daniel.peerenboom@wisconsin.gov

Proposed Modification: The WPDES permit WI-0031852-05-1 for Aurora Sanitary District was reissued on March 24, 2008 and contains a compliance schedule that is not appropriate because Aurora was granted the lagoon/pond variance. The footnote 2.2.1.2 for Ammonia Limit Variance for Pond/Lagoons on Page 2 of the current permit does have the correct variance language as did the original public notice. This modification proposes to replace the original compliance schedule with the appropriate one for "Ammonia-Related Evaluation for Ponds & Lagoons". The Operational Evaluation Report will be due April 1, 2011, thirty-six months from the effective date of the reissued permit. Within 36 months following permit reissuance, an operational evaluation report shall be submitted that evaluates the ability of the existing lagoon system to meet the ammonia effluent limits contained in the permit. The report shall evaluate holding capacity of the lagoon system and the results of operational changes and other minor system modifications that are designed to reduce ammonia discharges levels.

If, based on the operational evaluation, the Department determines the lagoon system cannot consistently meet the ammonia limits with operational changes the Department shall provide written notification to that affect. The variance will be renewed for the remaining term of the permit and the permittee shall, within 48 months of permit reissuance by April 1, 2012, submit a facilities plan that evaluates alternatives for meeting the ammonia effluent limits. The facilities plan shall satisfy the requirements in ss. NR 110.08 and 110.09.

If, based on the operational evaluation, the Department determines the lagoon system can consistently meet the ammonia limits with operational adjustments, the ammonia effluent limits shown in the permit shall become effective within 30 days of the Department's written notification of its determination. No further public noticing of this action will occur. In this case the permittee will not be required to submit a facilities plan for achieving ammonia limits.

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

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 and fact sheet (if required), may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's and 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) 365-8945 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 fact sheet. Permit information is also available on the internet at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/ww>. 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.

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