

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0050971-11-0

Permittee: DairiConcepts LP, 832 East Arthur Avenue, Bruce, WI, 54819

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: DairiConcepts LP, NEQ, NWQ, SECTION 8, T34N-R7W

Receiving Water And Location: The Groundwater of the Soft Maple and Hay Creeks Watershed in the Upper Chippewa Drainage Basin in Rusk County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: DairiConcepts (Dairy Farmers of America) produces powdered dairy and non-dairy products. The facility has a ridge and furrow system covering approximately 6.2 acres containing 14 cells. Wastewater discharged is composed of noncontact cooling water, process water, storm water, boiler blowdown and cooling tower blowdown. These combined components are considered "normal" flow which is identified and reported as sample point 101. Periodic clean-ups of the entire dry blending and dryer system produce "Clean In Place" (CIP) wastewater. This wastewater has different characteristics than the normal discharge and is monitored separately in the permit under sample point 102. There are seven monitoring wells located around the ridge and furrow system to assess any groundwater impacts of the discharge. Domestic wastewater from the facility is segregated from process wastewater and discharged to a separate sub-soil absorption system and is not regulated by the permit.

It is the Department's intention to renew the permit for another term. The proposed new permit expiration date will be June 30, 2030. Limitations and conditions which the Department believes adequately protect the receiving water are included in the proposed permit. Changes from the previous permit include:[1] Nitrogen and chloride max applied on any zone has been transferred from the annual report to sample point 001 for the ridge and furrow system. The annual report is no longer required. [2] The groundwater Preventative Action Limit (PAL) and Enforcement Standard (ES) limits remain the same except pH field and total dissolved solids have been adjusted based on background water quality. [3] Groundwater alkalinity and hardness monitoring are no longer needed and have been removed from the permit.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Sheri A. Snowbank, DNR, 810 W Maple St, Spooner, WI, 54801, (715) 635-4131, Sheri.Snowbank@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Arthur Ryzak, DNR, N4103 Highway 27, Ladysmith, WI 54848, (715) 403-2924, arthur.ryzak@wisconsin.gov.

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) 635-4131 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 AND ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 120 W 3rd Street S, PO Box 189 , Ladysmith, WI, 54848-0189

Date Notice Issued: May 15, 2025