

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO REISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No.WI-0039071-11-0

Permittee: Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., 1 Ocean Spray Drive, Lakeville-Middleboro, MA, 02347

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc. (Babcock), 1522 Necedah Rd, Babcock, WI

Receiving Water And Location: the groundwaters of the Hemlock Creek and Upper Yellow River Watersheds in the Upper Wisconsin River Southern Sub-Basin in Wood County

Brief Facility Description and Summary of Proposed Changes: Ocean Spray Cranberries Inc in Babcock is a fruit/receiving facility that generates approximately 3 million gallons (MG) of wastewater annually. Wastewater is generated through the cleaning of fruit and washing of floors and equipment. Sanitary wastewater is discharged to an on-site septic system. During cold weather months (Dec-March) the wastewater is stored in a 0.35 MG above-ground tank. During warm weather months (April-Nov) the stored wastewater, along with wastewater generated from April-December, is spray irrigated via traveling gun on a 42-acre spray field. Byproduct solids generated during fruit receiving and packaging operations are landspread on the spray field also. A groundwater monitoring system exists at the site. No major operational changes occurred during the last permit term. The only significant effluent monitoring change in the upcoming permit is the addition of a total nitrogen monitoring requirement at the spray irrigation outfall. Based on recent calculations of groundwater sampling data, the following groundwater monitoring/limit changes are in the next permit term:1) the alternate concentration limit (ACL) has been removed for nitrite + nitrate nitrogen and replaced with the preventative action limit (PAL) in ch. NR 140 Wis. Adm. Code and 2) the organic nitrogen & total dissolved solids PALs increased. Schedules have been included in the permit that require submittal of updated Land Treatment & Land Application Management plans.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Holly Heldstab, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI, 54701, (715) 492-0483, Holly.Heldstab@wisconsin.gov

Basin Engineer's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Michael Chang, 1300 W Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54701, (715) 491-3639, michael.chang@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 above-named 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 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) 492-0483 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.

PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: The Daily Tribune, 220 1st Ave South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-8090

Date Notice Issued: Friday, March 22, 2024