Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

INDUSTRIAL DIVISION
PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO MAJOR MODIFY
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES)/
STATE DISPOSAL SYSTEM (SDS) PERMIT MN0047228

Public Comment Period Begins:	December 13, 2012
Public Comment Period Ends:	January 14, 2013
Current Permit Issued:	January 10, 2012
Current Permit Expiration Date:	December 31, 2016

Name and Address of Permittee:
Bongards' Creameries
13200 County Road 51
Norwood, MN 55368

Facility Name and Location:
Bongards' Creameries Inc - Perham
110 3rd Ave NE
T136N, R39W, Section 14,
Perham, Otter Tail County, Minnesota

Receiving Water: Storm sewer/basin to the Ottertail River (Class 2B,3C,4A,4B,5,6 water)

Description of Permitted Facility
The Bongards' Creameries Inc. – Perham facility (Facility) is located at T136N, R39W, Section 14, Perham, Otter Tail County, Minnesota. The principle activity at this Facility is the processing of milk into cheese, and the processing of whey by-product into protein powder and deproteinized whey powder.

This permit is being modified to add treated process wastewater to the non-contact cooling water (NCCW) waste stream which will discharge via the SD001 outfall point. The Facility will discharge polished water at an additional average and maximum rates of 0.1 and 0.190 million gallons per day (mgd). The permit has also been modified to remove the intervention limits in the downgradient wells.

Wastewater from the Facility consists of process wastewater, reverse osmosis reject water, and NCCW. A portion (23%) of the process wastewater (the condensate of whey and permeate from whey concentration) is treated using a reverse osmosis membrane system polisher and is discharged to surface water via the city of Perham's municipal storm sewer system (SD001). The remainder of the process wastewater (from all other processes and cleaning wastewater) and reverse osmosis reject are routed to the Facility's aerated lagoon system for treatment, prior to land application via spray irrigation. NCCW is discharged to surface water via the city of Perham's municipal storm sewer system (SD001). The discharge of process wastewaters other than the polished wastewater to surface waters is not authorized under this permit. Sanitary wastewater from the Facility is routed to the city of Perham Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF).

This permit authorizes the discharge of once-through NCCW at average and maximum rates of 0.85 and 2.0 mgd, respectively. The NCCW and polished wastewater are authorized to discharge at a combined average and maximum rate of 1.75 mgd and 2.0 mgd, respectively. The water source is an onsite well or municipal source water. The municipal source water is chemically treated with chlorine. There are no other chemical additives in this discharge. NCCW and polished wastewater are discharged through SD001 to a city stormwater pond to the Otter Tail River (2B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 waters), via a municipal storm sewer/basin system.

This permit also authorizes the land application of process wastewater at agronomic rates via spray irrigation. An average and maximum flow of 0.433 and 0.700 mgd, respectively, is treated at the Facility's aerated lagoon system, which is located adjacent to the Facility's spray irrigation fields, prior to spray irrigation. The maximum amount authorized for spray irrigation is 158 million gallons per year. There are three authorized spray irrigation sites (LA301, LA302, and LA305), for a total of 268 acres. There are six active groundwater monitoring wells, at the Facility, to collect data and ensure that wastewater is not being over applied; this permit contains intervention limits and response actions for several parameters. There are no field tiles present in either of the approved spray irrigation sites.

The following chemical additives may be used in the wastewater treatment facility.

Product Name	**Average Rate of Use**
Hydrogen Peroxide 35%	As needed (approx. 1000 gal/yr if needed)
T192 Dairy Bugs	2 in/day

This permit also authorizes the land application of approximately 400,000 gallons per year of solids from the separator that spins the whey for separation (WS303: Separator Desludge to Land Application), as well as approximately 30,000 to 40,000 pounds per month of antibiotic milk or other milk unusable in the production process (WS302: Antibiotic Milk/Milk to Land Application). These industrial by-products (IBP) are to be land applied on the corners of the approved spray irrigation sites at agronomic rates during the cropping season.

This permit covers stormwater management standards for the facility, which are required for industrial facilities included in one of the 11 categories of industrial activity defined in federal regulation 40 CFR § 122.26. Industrial stormwater is discharged in a non-specific manner from the Facility.

The location of the Facility is shown on the attached map.

Preliminary Determination on the Draft Permit
The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to major modify this NPDES/SDS permit for a term of approximately five years. The proposed permit modification is described above.

A draft permit is available for review at the MPCA office at the St. Paul address listed below, at the Detroit Lakes regional office and on-line at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/data/index.cfm?PN=1.

A copy of the draft permit will be mailed to you if the MPCA receives your written or oral request at this office. If you have questions about this draft permit or the Commissioner's preliminary determination, please contact Emily Schnick at 651-757-2699.