

## General information

**Public comment period begins:** February 1, 2018

**Public comment period ends:** 4:30 p.m. on March 5, 2018

**Current permit issued:** October 5, 2010

**Current permit expiration date:** September 30, 2015

<b>Name and address of Permittee:</b>	<b>Facility name and location:</b>	<b>MPCA contact person:</b>
Le Sueur Cheese; Agropur Inc 719 Main St Le Sueur, Minnesota 56058-1404 PO Box 107 Le Sueur, Minnesota 56058-0107	Le Sueur Cheese Co 719 Main St Le Sueur, Minnesota 56058-1404 Le Sueur County T111N, R26W, Section 025	Katherine Jardine Industrial Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 525 Lake Avenue South, Ste. 400 Duluth, Minnesota 55802 Phone: 218-302-6674 Email: Katherine.jardine@state.mn.us File manager phone: 651-757-2728 or 1-844-828-0942

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) Commissioner has made a preliminary determination to reissue this permit for a term of approximately five years. A draft permit is available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publicnotices> or at the MPCA office address listed under the MPCA contact person. The MPCA will mail or email a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and time identified above.

**Watershed:** Lower Minnesota River

**Receiving water:** Minnesota River - Class 2B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5, 6 water

## Description of permitted facility

The principal activity at this facility is the production of cheese and whey products. The plant receives milk as the raw material.

### COW Water

This facility is subject to the categorical standards described in 40 CFR pt. 405, subp. F and L for the condensate of whey (COW) water discharge. The COW water is treated by membrane filtration and is reused as a supply water for process cleaning. This permit authorizes the discharge of treated COW water (that is not reused) from the facility through Station SD001.

### Non-Contact Cooling Water

This permit authorizes the discharge of year-round, once-through, non-contact cooling water (NCCW) from the facility through Station SD001. The NCCW source is whey permeate or municipal source water. When whey permeate is used as the NCCW source, the discharge is evaporated. When municipal source water is used as the source, the discharge is to SD001.

### Reverse Osmosis Reject Water

The reverse osmosis (RO) reject water is also discharged to SD001.

### Wastewater Management

This permit authorizes the discharge of the combined COW water, RO reject and NCCW wastewaters at SD001, the storm sewer manhole, which discharges to the Minnesota River (Class 2B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 5 and 6 water). The total combined discharge to SD001 is authorized at an average rate of 0.200 million gallons per day (mgd) and a maximum rate of 0.279 mgd.

Process wastewater, RO clean in place wastewater, membrane concentrate, and domestic wastewater are discharged to the Le Sueur Cheese Pretreatment Facility prior to discharge to the Le Sueur Public Owned Treatment Works.

The preliminary determination to reissue this Wastewater is tentative.

## Procedure for public participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are three formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA's consideration of this matter. Interested persons may:

- (1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
- (2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
- (3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.

## Submitting written comments

To submit comments or petitions to the MPCA through the mail or email, you must state:

- (1) Your interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
- (2) The action you wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit you believe should be changed.
- (3) The reasons supporting your position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

## Public informational meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

## Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.