

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AND INTENT TO ISSUE A WISCONSIN POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (WPDES) PERMIT No. WI-0067569-01-0

Permittee: Gilbert Farms Ltd., 5186 Country Road T, Sturgeon Bay, WI, 54235

Facility Where Discharge Occurs: Gilbert Farms Ltd., 5186 County Rd T, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235, S ½ of the SW ¼ of S35 T28N R26E, Township of Sevastopol, Door County, WI

Receiving Water and Location: Surface water and groundwater within the Door Peninsula-Frontal Lake Michigan Watershed, Lake Michigan Drainage Basin, and groundwaters of the state.

Brief Facility Description : Gilbert Farms Ltd. is a proposed Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) in Door County, WI. Gilbert Farms LTD is owned and operated by Tim Gilbert & family. As of December of 2024, it had 688 milking and dry cows, 500 heifers, and 275 calves (1,443 animal units). There is a planned herd size of 1,150 milking & dry cows, 900 heifers, and 400 calves (2,430 animal units) by 2026. Gilbert Farms LTD will annually generate approximately 5,737,664 gallons of liquid manure and process wastewater and 838 tons of solid manure. As of December of 2024, Gilbert Farms LTD has approximately 94 days of storage. As of February 28, 2025, plans and specifications have been approved by the department for a new manure storage which will allow Gilbert Farms LTD to meet the required minimum of 180 days of storage. The new manure storage is required to be functional and in operation by December 31, 2026. Gilbert Farms LTD has 2,046 acres in its approved nutrient management plan, of which 860 acres are rented or in contract agreements and 1,187 acres are owned. Gilbert Farms LTD has 1,425 acres available for land application.

The Department has tentatively decided that the above specified WPDES permit should be issued. This WPDES permit action is an integrated analysis action under s. NR 150.20(2), Wis. Adm. Code, and does not require a separate action under NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code.

Permit Drafter's Name, Address, Phone and Email: Brittiny Mueller, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI 54313 (608) 228-9184, brittiny.mueller@wisconsin.gov

Informational Hearing Date, Time, and Location:

The public hearing will be conducted in a hybrid format, allowing for both in-person and virtual participation.

Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025

Time: 10:00 a.m.

In-Person Location: Door County Gala, 1023 Egg Harbor Road, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

Virtual Participation:

To attend the hearing via Zoom, please register in advance at the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wDTDSExLTYabXIH2TJRgsQ

The Department of Natural Resources, pursuant to Section 283.49, Wisconsin Statutes, has scheduled a public informational hearing for the purpose of giving all interested persons an opportunity to make a statement with respect to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, and the application for this operation.

The hearing officer will conduct the hearing in an orderly fashion and will use procedures specified in Subchapter II of ch. NR 203, Wis. Adm. Code, necessary to insure broad public participation in the hearing.

The hearing office will open the hearing and make a concise statement of the scope and purpose of the hearing and shall state what procedures will be used during the course of the hearing. The hearing officer shall explain the method of notification of the final decision to grant or deny the permit and the methods by which the decision may be reviewed in a public adjudicatory hearing.

The hearing officer may place limits on individual oral statements to ensure an opportunity for all persons present to make statements in a reasonable period of time and to prevent undue repetition. The hearing officer may also limit the number of representatives making oral statements on behalf of any person or group.

Informational and clarifying questions and oral statements shall be directed through the hearing officer. Cross-examination shall not be allowed.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed permit action, the terms of the nutrient management plan, or the application, are invited to do so by attending the public hearing or by submitting any comments or objections in writing to the Department of Natural Resources, at the above-named permit drafter's address. All comments or

suggestions received from members of the public no later than 7 days following the date of this public hearing will be used, along with other information on file and testimony presented at the hearing, in making a final determination. Anyone providing comments in response to this public notice will receive a notification of the Department's final decision regarding permit coverage. 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.

Information on file for this permit action, including the draft permit and fact sheet (if required), the operation's nutrient management plan and application may be inspected and copied at the permit drafter's office, Monday through Friday (except holidays), between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Please call the permit drafter for directions to their office location, if necessary. Information on this permit action may also be obtained by calling the permit drafter at (608) 228-9184 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 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: Door County Advocate

ADDRESS OF PUBLISHING NEWSPAPER: 235 N 3rd Avenue, Sturgeon Bay, WI, 54235-0130

Date Notice Issued: October 4, 2025