



January 30, 2026

DNR Project No. CM-0003

Mr. Mike Kennison, Water/Wastewater Superintendent
City of Monroe
1224 10th Avenue W
Monroe, WI 53566

[Subject: City of Monroe SSA Amendment Plan Amendment Request 2025](#)

Dear Mr. Kennison:

On November 24, 2025, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) received the proposed Sanitary Sewer Service Area (SSSA) Plan Amendment from the City of Monroe. The purpose of the amendment is for a proposed land addition to the City of Monroe SSSA. The amendment will result in a SSSA increase of about 85 acres to allow for full use of two developments within the city: the Richland Heights Subdivision and Monroe High School.

Amendment Area

The SSSA Plan Amendment would include the addition of approximately 85 acres to the sanitary sewer service area. The Richland Heights Subdivision includes approximately 19 acres within the existing sewer service area and approximately 29 acres outside of, and proposed to be added to, the existing sewer service area, resulting in a total of approximately 48 acres of undeveloped land. The addition will accommodate residential and commercial development and is a Type 3 Amendment to the City of Monroe Sewer Service Area Plan.

The Monroe High School development includes approximately 15 acres within the existing sewer service area and approximately 56 acres outside of, and proposed to be added to, the existing sewer service area, resulting in a total of approximately 71 acres of undeveloped land. The addition will accommodate a new public high school to replace the current high school and serve the public. This is a Type 2 Amendment to the City of Monroe Sewer Service area Plan.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas

Wetlands were identified on both developments, and plans are in place to avoid any disturbance. A wetland delineation report was completed for each site to identify environmentally sensitive areas and ensure that wetlands are not impacted. Assuming that all applicable Federal, State, and local permits are obtained, and that proper site development and construction practices are employed, there should be no significant adverse water quality impacts attributable to the development of the planned sanitary sewer service area. Stormwater and sediment control practices shall be implemented to meet all regulatory standards.



Wastewater Treatment System

The City of Monroe's Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) has the capacity to handle the additional flow generated by the subject area. The facility was designed for an average flow of 3.7 million gallons per day (mgd) and has an average 2.0 mgd actual flow. The additional flow from the Monroe High School development is estimated to average approximately 11.9 gallons per minute (gpm), with a maximum of 47.5 gpm. The additional flow from the Richland Heights Subdivision is estimated to average approximately 37.8 gpm, with a maximum of 133.3 gpm.

Local Review & Public Involvement

The City of Monroe Common Council approved the proposed amendment at a public committee meeting on October 20, 2025. No public comments on the amendment were received at the Common Council Meeting. On November 24, 2025, the City submitted the proposed amendment to the DNR recommending approval. A revised amendment was subsequently submitted to the DNR on December 22, 2025.

Administrative Decision

The Department finds the proposed amendment is consistent with adopted policies and procedures of the Areawide Water Quality Management Plan under chapter NR 121, Wis. Adm. Code, and section 283.83, Wis. Stats., and is hereby approved.

Statewide AWQM Plan Amendment

This amendment is a formal amendment to the state's Areawide Water Quality Management Plan and the Monroe Sewer Service Area Plan. The City of Monroe SSSA Amendment will be forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act of 1987 (Public Law 92-500 as amended by Public Law 95-217) and outlined in the code of federal regulations, 40 CFR Part 35. This review is an integrated analysis action under s. NR 150.20(2)(a)3., Wis. Adm. Code. By means of this review, the department has complied with ch. NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code, and with s. 1.11, Wis. Stats. The approval of this SSSA amendment does not constitute approval of any other required local, state, or federal permit for sewer construction or associated land development activities.

Appeal Rights:

Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules establish time periods within which requests to review department decisions must be filed. For judicial review of a decision pursuant to ss. 227.52 and 227.53, Wis. Stats., a party has 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the department, to file a petition with the appropriate circuit court and serve the petition on the department. Such a petition for judicial review must name the Department of Natural Resources as the respondent. To request a contested case hearing pursuant to s. 227.42, Wis. Stats., a party has 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the



department, to serve a petition for hearing on the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. All requests for contested case hearings must be made in accordance with s. NR 2.05(5), Wis. Adm. Code, and served on the Secretary in accordance with s. NR 2.03, Wis. Adm. Code. The filing of a request for a contested case hearing does not extend the 30-day period for filing a petition for judicial review.

Update Needed for Future Proposed Changes to SSSA Plan:

Ch. NR 121, Wis. Adm. Code, establishes a planning period of 20-years for Areawide Water Quality Management Plans. The City of Monroe SSSA Plan was originally created in 2003, over 20-years ago. As a result, future proposed changes to the SSSA Plan will require a comprehensive update to consider a 20-year planning period looking forward.

Sincerely,

Timothy R. Asplund

Timothy R. Asplund
Monitoring Section Manager
Bureau of Water Quality

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nate Willis'.

Nate Willis, P.E.
Wastewater Section Manager
Bureau of Water Quality

CC:

- Alexa Mydlach – Water Resources Management Specialist, DNR Madison
- Helena Tiedmann – Water Quality Planning Coordinator, DNR Madison
- Brett Schmidt – Wastewater Engineer, DNR Madison
- Kenzie Ostien – Wastewater Engineer, DNR Fitchburg
- Lisa Creegan – DNR Basin Supervisor, DNR Fitchburg
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