Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Bob Martinez Center
2600 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400

Rick Scott
Governor

Jennifer Carroll
Lt. Governor

Herschel T. Vinyard Jr.
Secretary

Sent by Electronic Mail – Received Receipt Requested

Mr. Gary Frost, Vice-President
Georgia-Pacific Consumer Operations, LLC
215 County Road 216
Palatka, Florida 32178-0919

Re: Georgia-Pacific Palatka Mill
Project No. 1070005-071-AC
No. 3 Tissue Paper Machine, Sheet Stabilizer
Exemption from Requirement to Obtain an Air Construction Permit

Dear Mr. Frost:

This is a response to your letter dated December 15, 2011 regarding the installation of a sheet stabilizing foil on the No. 3 Tissue Paper Machine at the Georgia-Pacific Palatka Mill located in Putnam County at 215 County Road 216 in Palatka, Florida. Georgia-Pacific believes the project is not subject to New Source Review or other air permitting requirements and requests prompt consideration and concurrence on this matter.

Determination: Details of the project are provided in the attached letter dated December 15, 2011. The No. 3 Tissue Paper Machine currently experiences sheet instability, which limits the maximum operating speed when producing light-weight paper grades. The cause is believed to be a combination of limited sheet support and high velocity air currents generated by the sheet run and air cap spillage. The project to solve this problem is to mount a sheet stabilizing foil and air deflection baffle, which should increase sheet stability by physically supporting the sheet and deflecting high velocity air currents.

Emissions from the No. 3 Tissue Paper Machine are treated with a dust control system and emitted through the scrubber vent. No emission increases are expected from the No. 3 Tissue Paper Machine due to the project. The No. 3 Tissue Paper Machine is an exempt insignificant emissions unit under the Title V operating permit No. 1070005-068-AV.

Line speeds for light-weight grades on the No. 3 Tissue Paper Machine may increase by as much as 55 feet/minute following installation of the stabilizing foil. This corresponds to an additional 2.5 air-dried tons of finished paper per day. Georgia-Pacific estimates emission increases of 10.9 tons/year of carbon monoxide, 5.5 tons/year of sulfur dioxide and 5.5 tons/year of nitrogen oxides due to increased utilization of upstream processes.

Pursuant to Rule 62-4.040(1)(b) of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) and for the reasons stated above, the Office of Permitting and Compliance hereby determines that the activity will not emit air pollutants "… in sufficient quantity, with respect to its character, quality or content, and the circumstances surrounding its location, use and operation, as to contribute significantly to the pollution problems within the State, so that the regulation thereof is not reasonably justified." Therefore, the project is exempt from the requirement to obtain an air construction permit.

This determination may be revoked if the proposed activity is substantially modified or the basis for the exemption is determined to be materially incorrect. A copy of this letter shall be maintained at the site of the proposed activity. This permitting decision is made pursuant to Chapter 403, Florida Statutes.

Permitting Authority: Applications for air construction permits are subject to review in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 403, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapters 62-4, 62-210 and 62-212, F.A.C. The Permitting Authority responsible for making a permit determination for this project is the Office of Permitting and Compliance in the Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Air Resource Management. The Permitting Authority's physical address is: 111 South Magnolia Drive, Suite #4, Tallahassee, Florida 32301. The Permitting Authority's mailing address is: 2600 Blair Stone Road, MS #5505, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2400. The Permitting Authority's telephone number is 850/717-9000.

Petitions: A person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed with (received by) the agency clerk in the Office of General Counsel of the Department of Environmental Protection, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station #35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000. Petitions must be filed within 21 days of receipt of this exemption from air permitting requirements. A petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above, at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition within the appropriate time period shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., or to intervene in this proceeding and participate as a party to it. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the approval of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, F.A.C.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Permitting Authority's action is based must contain the following information: (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known; (b) The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner; the name, address and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination; (c) A statement of when and how each petitioner received notice of the agency action or proposed decision; (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so state; (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action; (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and, (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action the petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action. A petition that does not dispute the material facts upon which the Permitting Authority's action is based shall state that no such facts are in dispute and otherwise shall contain the same information as set forth above, as required by Rule 28-106.301, F.A.C.

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Permitting Authority's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this action. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Permitting Authority on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

Mediation: Mediation is not available in this proceeding.

Effective Date: This permitting decision is final and effective on the date filed with the clerk of the Permitting Authority unless a petition is filed in accordance with the above paragraphs or unless a request for extension of time in which to file a petition is filed within the time specified for filing a petition pursuant to Rule 62-110.106, F.A.C., and the petition conforms to the content requirements of Rules 28-106.201 and 28-106.301, F.A.C. Upon timely filing of a petition of a request for extension of time, this action will not be effective until further order of the Permitting Authority.

Judicial Review: Any party to this permitting decision (order) has the right to seek judicial review of it under Section 120.68, F.S., by filing a notice of appeal under Rule 9.110 of the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure with the clerk of the Department of Environmental Protection in the Office of General Counsel, Mail Station #35, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399-3000, and by filing a copy of the notice of appeal accompanied by the applicable filing fees with the appropriate District Court of Appeal. The notice must be filed within 30 days after this order is filed with the clerk of the Department.

Executed in Tallahassee, Florida
Electronic Signature

JFK/aal/mk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned duly designated deputy agency clerk hereby certifies that this Letter of Exemption and the Technical Evaluation was sent by electronic mail, or a link to these documents made available electronically on a publicly accessible server, with received receipt requested before the close of business on the date indicated below to the following persons.

Mr. Gary Frost, Georgia-Pacific Consumer Operations, LLC (gary.frost@gapac.com)
Mr. Ron Reynolds, Georgia-Pacific Consumer Operations, LLC (ron.reynolds@gapac.com)
Mr. Khalid AlNahdy, DEP Northeast District Office (khalid.alnahdy@dep.state.fl.us)
Ms. Barbara Friday, DEP OPC (barbara.friday@dep.state.fl.us)
Ms. Lynn Scearce, DEP OPC Reading File (lynn.scearce@dep.state.fl.us)

Clerk Stamp

FILING AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT FILED, on this date, pursuant to Section 120.52(7), Florida Statutes, with the designated agency clerk, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged.