

Prevention of Significant Air Quality Deterioration Review
Of International Paper – Augusta Mill
Located in Richmond County, Georgia

FINAL DETERMINATION

SIP Permit Application No. 14747
August 2004



State of Georgia
Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Division
Air Protection Branch

Ron Methier – Chief, Air Protection Branch

Stationary Source Permitting Program

Heather Abrams
John Yntema

Planning & Support Program

Dale Kemmerick
Jim Stogner

David M. Matos
Brian Gregory

Richard Monteith

BACKGROUND

On September 25, 2003, International Paper – Augusta Mill submitted an application for an air quality permit for modifications to the No.3 Digester System and the Paper Machines. The modifications will be made at the plant located at 4278 Mike Padgett Highway, Augusta (Richmond County), Georgia. The plant currently produces clay/latex coated paperboard. The modification removes a production bottleneck from around the No. 3 Digester System, by modifying the chip feeding system. The facility is receiving an annual production limit of 1,894 oven-dried tons of unbleached pulp per day, thus effectively placing a facility bottleneck around the paper machines.

On July 26, 2004, the Division issued a Preliminary Determination stating that the modifications to the International Paper – Augusta Mill per Application No. 14747 should be approved. The Preliminary Determination contained a draft Air Quality Permit for the modification and operation of the No. 3 Digester System and the Paper Machines.

The Division requested that International Paper place a public notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the area of the facility notifying the public of the proposed construction and providing the opportunity for written public comment. Such public notice was placed in The Augusta Chronicle (legal organ for Richmond County) on July 29, 2004. The public comment period expired on August 30, 2004. During the comment period, comments were received from International Paper – Augusta Mill. No comments were received from the general public or the U.S. EPA.

A copy of the final permit is included in Appendix A. A copy of written comments received during the public comment period is provided in Appendix B.

INTERNATIONAL PAPER – AUGUSTA MILL COMMENTS

Comments from the facility were received “in context” within a copy of the permit. The following summary lists the changes made in the final permit due to their comments.

Comment 1: Condition 3.3.2.d - IP-Augusta added the citation, 40 CFR 63.864(k)(2)(i), for an opacity limit of 35%, onto the No. 3 Recovery Boiler RB3A.

EDP Response: The Division disagrees with this addition. 40 CFR 63.864(k)(2)(i) is an indicator of compliance with §63.862, it is not a federally enforceable standard that the facility has to meet. The 35% opacity trigger is found in Condition 6.1.7.b.xiii. No change was made to the permit due to this comment.

Comment 2: Condition 3.3.36 - IP-Augusta reworded the condition to include a 35% opacity limit on the No. 2 Recovery Boiler RB2A with a citation of 40 CFR 63.864(k)(2)(i).

EDP Response: The Division disagrees with this addition. 40 CFR 63.864(k)(2)(i) is an indicator of compliance with §63.862, it is not a federally enforceable standard that the facility has to meet. The 35% opacity trigger is found in Condition 6.1.7.b.xii. No change was made to the permit due to this comment.

Comment 3: Condition 6.1.7.c.i – The facility asked that this reportable excursion value be removed because it is superceded by the reportable exceedance in Condition 6.1.7.b.xiv through xvii.

EPD Response: The Division agrees and has deleted the conditions.

Comment 4: Condition 6.1.7.c.viii – The facility asked that this reportable excursion value be removed because it is superceded by the reportable exceedance in Condition 6.1.7.b.xiv through xvii.

EPD Response: The Division agrees and has deleted the conditions.

Comment 5: Condition 6.2.32 – The facility requested that the items listed in the condition be changed from lower-case roman numerals to lower-case letters to follow the numbering/lettering convention of the rest of the permit.

EPD Response: The Division agrees and has made the appropriate changes.

APPENDIX A

AIR QUALITY PERMIT

2631-245-0006-V-01-2

APPENDIX B

**WRITTEN COMMENTS
RECEIVED DURING
COMMENT PERIOD**