

NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT
Environmental Protection Division
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

State of Georgia
County of Liberty

To All Interested Persons and Parties

Interstate Paper, LLC has filed an application for an air quality permit to construct and operate a multi-fuel boiler and remove the existing WHUD boiler at their Kraft pulp mill located at 2366 Interstate Road, Riceboro, in Liberty County, Georgia. Interstate Paper, LLC proposes to control emissions through the use of a bubbling fluidized bed boiler design, a dry electrostatic precipitator, and a wet scrubber. EPD has considered air toxics control in its analyses of BACT and air quality.

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division also intends to amend Part 70 Air Quality Operating Permit No. 2631-179-0001-V-01-0 through the issuance of Part 70 Air Quality Permit Amendment No. 2631-179-0001-V-01-1 which will incorporate the proposed modification. Part 70 Operating Permits and Amendments are being prepared in accordance with Part 70 of the Clean Air Act by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD). This permit amendment will be enforceable by the Georgia EPD, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and citizens

You are hereby notified of the opportunity for written public comments concerning the application for a permit amendment to construct and operate the multi-fuel boiler, the EPD's Preliminary Determination concerning the application, and the draft Part 70 permit modification. The Preliminary Determination is a summary of the technical review of the application and contains a copy of the Company's application, other supporting information, and the draft permit amendment. The draft permit serves as both a draft PSD permit and draft part 70 permit amendment.

EPD has concluded that Interstate Paper, LLC's application should be approved in part and that a permit should be granted. This conclusion is based upon evidence that the proposed project, when completed, will comply with the Division's Rules for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1; that the emissions from the facility will not cause any significant deterioration of air quality and will comply with the Federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Regulations, 40 CFR 52.21, including use of Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for regulated pollutants.

The PSD regulations allow specific maximum incremental increases in ambient concentrations of particulate matter (PM₁₀), sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x). EPD has determined that the maximum predicted impacts of particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide due to the proposed project are minimal and below PSD significance thresholds as specified in the PSD regulations.

With regard to the Class I area (i.e., Wolf Island NWR), the EPD has determined that the facility will not adversely affect the air quality (i.e., exceed the allowable Class II and Class I incremental increases in ambient concentrations of PM₁₀, SO₂, and NO_x).

The Preliminary Determination is available for public review during normal business hours at the following locations: (1) EPD office, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia 30354 and (2) The Liberty County Courthouse, 112 North Main Street, Hinesville, Georgia 30310. Persons wishing to comment on the Preliminary Determination are invited to submit their comments in writing to the EPD at the above Atlanta address, postmarked no later than 30 days after date of publication in the newspaper. All comments postmarked on or prior to that date will be considered by the Division in making its final decision on the permit.

Any requests for a public hearing must be made in writing within the 30 day public comment period. Such requests should specify in detail the portion of the Air Quality Control Rules which the individual believes may not have been adequately reviewed. A public hearing may be held if the Director of the EPD finds that such a hearing would assist the EPD in a proper review of the proposed facility's capability to comply with the requirements of Federal and State Air Quality Control regulations. State laws specify that a permit shall be issued on evidence satisfactory to the Director of compliance with applicable State and Federal regulations and requirements.

After the comment period has expired, the EPD will issue a Final Determination relative to the facility's application. Copies of the Final Determination, comments received, and any other relevant information will then be made available for public review during normal business hours at the above designated sites.