Public Notice

Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board

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Telephone No. (601) 961-5171

Public Notice Start Date: September 11, 2020 MDEQ Contact: Ivelina Pilgrim

Vicksburg Forest Products, LLC – Waltersville Lumber Mill (“Vicksburg Forest Products”), located at 1725 North Washington Street in Vicksburg, MS, (601) 982-8728, has applied to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) for the following permitting action: Issuance of a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Construction Permit (Air Ref. No. 2780-00004). The applicant's operations fall within SIC Code 2421 (Sawmills and Planing Mills, General). Vicksburg Forest Products is an existing industrial facility that manufactures kiln-dried dimensional lumber form softwood logs. The facility has submitted a complete air permit application to install two (2) new indirect-fired, steam-heated dual path lumber drying kilns, a tandem ring debarker with a small log saw line within the Sawmill Operations, and one (1) high-efficiency cyclone within the Wood Waste Handling System that will replace an existing baghouse and cyclone. The proposed project will result in an emissions increase of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that exceed the applicable significant emissions rate (SER) in Mississippi’s PSD regulations, 11 Miss. Admin Code Pt. 2, Ch. 5, which adopt by reference the EPA’s PSD regulations found in 40 CFR 52.21.

A Preliminary Determination document has been prepared that contains a discussion of the decision-making that went into the development of the permit and provides the permitting authority, the public, and other government bodies a record of the technical issues surrounding issuance of the permit. The Preliminary Determination also addresses any changes to emissions resulting from any modification of the facility.

This project is subject to the PSD regulations, which set certain requirements on the permissible incremental impact on air quality and the degree of control of air contaminants, and has been reviewed for compliance with those regulations. The proposed draft PSD Construction Permit contains numerous regulatory constraints for addressing PSD rules and regulations, including Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for the emission sources affected by the change in emission limitations.

The staff of the Permit Board has developed this draft permit based on information submitted to the Permit Board by the applicant, appropriate State and Federal agencies and other interested parties. The staff of the Permit Board is soliciting all relative information pertaining to the proposed activity, including public comment, to ensure that the final staff recommendation on the draft permit complies with all State and Federal regulations. Public review and comment on the draft permit and supporting documentation is an important element in the staff evaluation and resulting recommendation to the Permit Board. The draft permit conditions have been developed to ensure compliance with all State and Federal regulations but are subject to change based on information received as a result of public participation.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations are invited to submit comments in writing to Ivelina Pilgrim at <http://www.mdeq.ms.gov/pilgrim-ivelina/> or to the Permit Board address shown above no later than the end of October 12, 2020. All comments received by this date will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. A public hearing will be held if the Permit Board finds a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit. Persons wishing to request a public hearing may do so by submitting that request in writing to Ivelina Pilgrim at <http://www.mdeq.ms.gov/pilgrim-ivelina/> or to the Permit Board address shown above. The Permit Board is limited in the scope of its analysis to environmental impact. Any comments relative to zoning or economic and social impacts are within the jurisdiction of local zoning and planning authorities and should be addressed to them.

Additional details about the application, including a copy of the draft permit, are available by writing or calling the Public Records Request Officer at the above Permit Board address and telephone number or by completing the form at the following website: <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/about-mdeq/public-records-request/public-records-request-form/> Additionally, a copy of the draft permit and statement of basis may be found on the MDEQ’s website at: <https://opcgis.deq.state.ms.us/ensearchonline/epd-permits-at-public-notice.aspx> <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/permits/environmental-permits-division/additional-information-for-permits-at-public-notice/> This information is also available for review at the MDEQ office at the Permit Board address shown above during normal business hours. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you know will be interested.