



STATE OF MAINE
Department of Environmental Protection

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

David P. Littell
COMMISSIONER

Mr. Michael Rowland
Manager, Manufacturing Excellence
Verso Androscoggin LLC
P.O. Box 20
300 Riley Road
Jay, ME. 04239

May 7, 2009

RE: Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit #ME0001937
Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) Application #W000623-5N-I-M
Minor Revision

Dear Mike:

Enclosed please find a copy of your **final** MEPDES/Maine WDL **minor revision** which was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. Please read the minor revision and its attached conditions carefully. You must follow the conditions in the permit/license to satisfy the requirements of law. Any discharge not receiving adequate treatment is in violation of State Law and is subject to enforcement action.

Any interested person aggrieved by a Department determination made pursuant to applicable regulations, may appeal the decision following the procedures described in the attached DEP FACT SHEET entitled "*Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision.*"

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to call me at 287-7693.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. Wood".

Gregg Wood
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality

Enc.

cc: Beth DeHaas, DEP/EMRO
Lori Mitchell, DEP/CMRO
Shiloh Ring, Town of Jay
Sandy Mojica, USEPA



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

VERSO ANDROSCOGGIN LLC)	MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
JAY, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MAINE)	ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
PULP & PAPER MANUFACTURING FACILITY)	AND
ME0001937)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
W000623-5N-I-M)	MINOR REVISION
APPROVAL)	

Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, Title 33 USC, Section 1251, et. seq., and Maine Law 38 M.R.S.A., Section 414-A et. seq., and all applicable regulations, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department hereinafter) has considered a request by VERSO ANDROSCOGGIN LLC (Verso hereinafter) to modify the MEPDES permit issued by the Department on September 21, 2005. With its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file, the Department FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

MINOR REVISION REQUESTED

The permittee has requested the Department add a footnote to Special Condition A, *Effluent Limitations & Monitoring Requirements*, in the 9/21/05 MEPDES permit to clarify that the limitations for chemical oxygen demand (COD) are based on the soluble fraction of COD discharged from the mill.

MODIFICATIONS APPROVED

This minor revision has added footnote #20 to Special Condition A, *Effluent Limitations & Monitoring Requirements, Outfalls #001A & 001B*, of the 9/21/05 MEPDES permit to clarify that the limitations for COD are based on the soluble fraction of COD discharged from the mill.

CONCLUSIONS

Subject to the terms and conditions contained herein, the Department makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.
2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.
3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, 38 M.R.S.A., Section 464(4)(F), will be met, in that:
 - (a) Existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;
 - (b) Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding national resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;
 - (c) The standards of classification of the receiving water body are met or, where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet the standards of classification;
 - (d) Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification, that higher water quality will be maintained and protected; and
 - (e) Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.
4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment.

ACTION

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted request by VERSO ANDROSCOGGIN LLC, to add a footnote to Special Condition A, *Effluent Limitations & Monitoring Requirements, Outfalls #001A & #001B*, of the 9/21/05 MEPDES permit, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations including;

1. “*Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Standard Conditions Applicable To All Permits*,” revised July 1, 2002, copy attached to the September 21, 2005, MEPDES permit.
2. The attached Special Conditions, including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.
3. All other terms and conditions of the September 21, 2005 MEPDES permit and any other subsequent modifications/minor revisions not modified by this minor revision remain in effect and enforceable.
4. **This minor revision expires on September 21, 2010**, concurrent with the September 21, 2005 MEPDES permit and all subsequent modifications/minor revisions.

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

Date of initial receipt of the request April 30, 2009.

Date of acceptance of the request May 5, 2009.

This order prepared by GREGG WOOD, BUREAU OF LAND AND WATER QUALITY

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

OUTFALL #001A & #001B – Secondary treated waste waters

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations					Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	Monthly Average as specified	Daily Maximum as specified	Monthly Average as specified	Weekly Average as specified	Daily Maximum as specified	Measurement Frequency as specified	Sample Type as specified
Temperature [00011] June 1 – Sept. 30 Oct. 1 – May 31	---	---	---	---	100°F [15] Report °F [15]	1/Day [01/01] 1/Week [01/07]	Measure [MS] Measure [MS]
Adsorbable Organic Halogen ⁽⁸⁾ (AOX) [03594]	1,396 #/day [26]	2,130 #/day [26]	---	---	---	2/Month [02/30]	Composite [24]
Chemical Oxygen Demand(COD) ⁽²⁰⁾ [80116]	51 kg/kkg [2C]	75 kg/kkg [2C]	---	---	---	1/Day [01/01]	Composite [24]
pH (Std. Unit) [00400]	---	---	---	---	5.0 – 9.0 SU [12]	1/Day [01/01]	Grab ⁽⁹⁾ [GR]
Color ⁽¹⁰⁾ [00084]	113 lbs/ADTUBP [42]	---	---	---	---	3/Week [03/07]	Calculate [CA]
River Temperature Increase Beginning June 1, 2006	---	---	---	0.5 °F ^(11a) [15]	---	1/Day [01/01]	Measure [MS]
River Temperature Increase Beginning June 1, 2006	---	---	---	---	0.5 °F ^(11b) [15]	1/Day [01/01]	Measure [MS]
Aluminum (Total) [01092]	784 #/day [26]	---	2,766 ug/L [28]	---	---	1/Quarter [01/90]	Composite [24]

Footnotes:

For footnotes 8, 9, 10, 11a and 11b, see page11 of the 9/21/05 MEPDES permit.

(20) Limitations for COD are expressed as the soluble fraction of COD in the final effluent.

**MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
AND
MAINE WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE**

FACT SHEET

Date: **May 7, 2009**

PERMIT NUMBER: **ME0001937**
LICENSE NUMBER: **W000623-5N-I-M**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**VERSO ANDROSCOGGIN LLC
P.O. Box 20
300 Riley Road
Jay, ME. 04239**

COUNTY: **Franklin County**

NAME AND ADDRESS WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

**300 Riley Road
Jay, ME. 04239**

RECEIVING WATER AND CLASSIFICATION: **Androscoggin River/ Class C**

COGNIZANT OFFICIAL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER: **Michael Rowland,
Mgr. Mfg. Excellence
(207) 897-1723**

1. MINOR REVISION REQUESTED

The permittee has requested the Department add a footnote to Special Condition A, *Effluent Limitations & Monitoring Requirements*, of the 9/21/05 MEPDES permit to clarify that the limitations for chemical oxygen demand (COD) are based on the soluble fraction of COD discharged from the mill.

2. MODIFICATIONS APPROVED

This minor revision has added footnote #20 to Special Condition A, *Effluent Limitations & Monitoring Requirements, Outfalls #001A & 001B*, of the 9/21/05 MEPDES permit to clarify that the limitations for COD are based on the soluble fraction of COD discharged from the mill.

3. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The permittee has requested the Department make it explicit in the permit that the limitations for COD in the final effluent are for soluble COD as soluble COD is the best indicator of kraft pulp production COD being discharged. In a letter from the permittee to the Department dated 4/28/09, the permittee indicates the 7th *Status Report for the XL-2 Project*, states the total COD generated by the mill complex is as follows:

- 53% generated by the paper mill.
- 37% generated by the black liquor cycle.
- 10% generated by all other areas of the mill.

For soluble COD, the breakdown for the mill complex is as follows:

- 78% generated by the black liquor cycle.
- 13% generated by the paper mill.
- 9% generated by all other areas of the mill.

Therefore, the best indicator of COD being discharged from black liquor cycle is the soluble fraction of total COD. This minor revision establishes a footnote #20 in Special Condition A, *Effluent Limitations & Monitoring Requirements, Outfalls #001A & 001B*, Of the 9/21/05 MEPDES permit to clarify that the limitations for COD are based on the soluble fraction of COD discharged from the mill.

4. DISCHARGE IMPACT ON RECEIVING WATER QUALITY

As permitted, the Department has determined the existing and designated uses of the receiving water uses will be maintained and protected and the discharge will not cause or contribute to failure of the receiving water to meet the assigned Class C classification.

5. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Additional information concerning this permitting action may be obtained from and written comments should be sent to:

Gregg Wood
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Land and Water Quality
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017
E-mail: gregg.wood@maine.gov

Telephone: (207) 287-3901



DEP INFORMATION SHEET

Appealing a Commissioner's Licensing Decision

Dated: May 2004

Contact: (207) 287-2811

SUMMARY

There are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a licensing decision made by the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Commissioner: (1) in an administrative process before the Board of Environmental Protection (Board); or (2) in a judicial process before Maine's Superior Court. This INFORMATION SHEET, in conjunction with consulting statutory and regulatory provisions referred to herein, can help aggrieved persons with understanding their rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

LEGAL REFERENCES

DEP's *General Laws*, 38 M.R.S.A. § 341-D(4), and its *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters* (Chapter 2), 06-096 CMR 2.24 (April 1, 2003).

HOW LONG YOU HAVE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

The Board must receive a written notice of appeal within 30 calendar days of the date on which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board. Appeals filed after 30 calendar days will be rejected.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Signed original appeal documents must be sent to: Chair, Board of Environmental Protection, c/o Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0017; faxes are acceptable for purposes of meeting the deadline when followed by receipt of mailed original documents within five (5) working days. Receipt on a particular day must be by 5:00 PM at DEP's offices in Augusta; materials received after 5:00 PM are not considered received until the following day. The person appealing a licensing decision must also send the DEP's Commissioner and the applicant a copy of the documents. All the information listed in the next section must be submitted at the time the appeal is filed. Only the extraordinary circumstances described at the end of that section will justify evidence not in the DEP's record at the time of decision being added to the record for consideration by the Board as part of an appeal.

WHAT YOUR APPEAL PAPERWORK MUST CONTAIN

The materials constituting an appeal must contain the following information at the time submitted:

1. *Aggrieved Status.* Standing to maintain an appeal requires the appellant to show they are particularly injured by the Commissioner's decision.
2. *The findings, conclusions or conditions objected to or believed to be in error.* Specific references and facts regarding the appellant's issues with the decision must be provided in the notice of appeal.
3. *The basis of the objections or challenge.* If possible, specific regulations, statutes or other facts should be referenced. This may include citing omissions of relevant requirements, and errors believed to have been made in interpretations, conclusions, and relevant requirements.
4. *The remedy sought.* This can range from reversal of the Commissioner's decision on the license or permit to changes in specific permit conditions.

5. *All the matters to be contested.* The Board will limit its consideration to those arguments specifically raised in the written notice of appeal.
6. *Request for hearing.* The Board will hear presentations on appeals at its regularly scheduled meetings, unless a public hearing is requested and granted. A request for public hearing on an appeal must be filed as part of the notice of appeal.
7. *New or additional evidence to be offered.* The Board may allow new or additional evidence as part of an appeal only when the person seeking to add information to the record can show due diligence in bringing the evidence to the DEP's attention at the earliest possible time in the licensing process or show that the evidence itself is newly discovered and could not have been presented earlier in the process. Specific requirements for additional evidence are found in Chapter 2, Section 24(B)(5).

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD

1. *Be familiar with all relevant material in the DEP record.* A license file is public information made easily accessible by DEP. Upon request, the DEP will make the material available during normal working hours, provide space to review the file, and provide opportunity for photocopying materials. There is a charge for copies or copying services.
2. *Be familiar with the regulations and laws under which the application was processed, and the procedural rules governing your appeal.* DEP staff will provide this information on request and answer questions regarding applicable requirements.
3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* An applicant proceeding with a project pending the outcome of an appeal runs the risk of the decision being reversed or modified as a result of the appeal.

WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD

The Board will formally acknowledge initiation of the appeals procedure, including the name of the DEP project manager assigned to the specific appeal, within 15 days of receiving a timely filing. The notice of appeal, all materials accepted by the Board Chair as additional evidence, and any materials submitted in response to the appeal will be sent to Board members along with a briefing and recommendation from DEP staff. Parties filing appeals and interested persons are notified in advance of the final date set for Board consideration of an appeal or request for public hearing. With or without holding a public hearing, the Board may affirm, amend, or reverse a Commissioner decision. The Board will notify parties to an appeal and interested persons of its decision.

II. APPEALS TO MAINE SUPERIOR COURT

Maine law allows aggrieved persons to appeal final Commissioner licensing decisions to Maine's Superior Court, see 38 M.R.S.A. § 346(1); 06-096 CMR 2.26; 5 M.R.S.A. § 11001; & MRCivP 80C. Parties to the licensing decision must file a petition for review within 30 days after receipt of notice of the Commissioner's written decision. A petition for review by any other person aggrieved must be filed within 40-days from the date the written decision is rendered. The laws cited in this paragraph and other legal procedures govern the contents and processing of a Superior Court appeal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, contact the DEP's Director of Procedures and Enforcement at (207) 287-2811.

Note: The DEP provides this INFORMATION SHEET for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs an appellant's rights.
