

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Environmental protection, Air pollution control, Intergovernmental relations, Ozone, Particulate matter, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Volatile organic compounds.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: July 25, 2003.

A. Stanley Meiburg,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 4.

[FR Doc. 03-19926 Filed 8-4-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**40 CFR Part 63**

[FRN-7539-5]

RIN 2060-AK71

Amendments to Project XL Site-Specific Rulemaking for Georgia-Pacific Corporation's Facility in Big Island, VA

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Direct final rule.

SUMMARY: EPA is publishing this site-specific rule to implement a project under the Project eXcellence and Leadership (Project XL) program, an EPA initiative which encourages regulated entities to achieve better environmental results at decreased costs at their facilities. As part of the Project XL program, EPA is supporting a project for Georgia-Pacific Corporation's pulp and paper mill located in Big Island, Virginia. Under the project, Georgia-Pacific will attempt the first United States commercial scale demonstration of black liquor gasification, a new technology for the treatment of black liquor wastes that promises significantly lower air emissions and greater energy efficiency compared to conventional treatment methods. The technology, including its environmental and energy benefits, potentially is transferable to the rest of the pulp and paper industry.

As part of its support for the project, EPA issued a site-specific rule on March 26, 2001 (66 FR 16400) that amended a Clean Air Act hazardous air pollutant standard applicable to the Big Island facility. Those amendments, in part, provided Georgia-Pacific's facility up to an additional three years (from March 13, 2004, to March 1, 2007) to comply with the standard in the event the black liquor gasification system fails and the company must revert to installation of conventional means of controlling

emissions from black liquor treatment. Without the amendments, Georgia-Pacific would not have undertaken the project.

At this time, construction is well underway on the new gasification system. However, Georgia-Pacific has experienced certain, largely unavoidable, delays in construction. The delays have been significant enough that the company now projects starting-up the system about one year later than originally anticipated. As a result, Georgia-Pacific has requested that EPA extend the compliance date flexibility up to one year longer than provided in the original Project XL site-specific rule. After reviewing all information concerning Georgia-Pacific's request, we believe it appropriate to amend the original site-specific rule. This action amends the original compliance extension and allows Georgia-Pacific up to March 1, 2008 to comply with the standard, in the event the gasification system fails.

DATES: This direct final rule will be effective on November 3, 2003 without further notice, unless EPA receives adverse comments by September 4, 2003. If EPA receives adverse comment, we will publish a timely withdrawal in the **Federal Register** informing the public that this rule will not take effect.

Public Comments. Comments on this direct final rulemaking must be received on or before September 4, 2003. All comments should be submitted in writing or electronically according to the directions below in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

Public Hearing. Commenters may request a public hearing no later than August 19, 2003. Commenters requesting a public hearing should specify the basis for their request.

If EPA determines that there is sufficient reason to hold a public hearing, it will be held on September 8, 2003, at 10 a.m. Requests to present oral testimony must be made by August 25, 2003.

ADDRESSES: To make comments by mail, send (two) 2 copies of your comments to the Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mailcode: 6102T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC, 20460, Attention Docket ID No. A-2002-0072. Comments also may be submitted electronically, or through hand delivery/courier. Follow the detailed instructions as provided below in I.C. of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

Persons interested in requesting a hearing, attending a hearing, or presenting oral testimony at a hearing

should call Mr. David Beck at (919) 541-5421. If a public hearing is held, it will take place at the Big Island Elementary School, 1114 Schooldays Road, Big Island, Virginia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. David Beck, Office of Environmental Policy Innovation (E-143-02), U.S. EPA, Research Triangle Park, NC 27711. Mr. Beck can be reached at 919-541-5421 (or by e-mail at: beck.david@epa.gov). Further information on today's action may also be obtained on the World Wide Web at <http://www.epa.gov/projectxl/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Outline of Today's Document**

The information presented in this preamble is arranged as follows:

- I. General Information
 - A. Regulated Entities
 - B. How Can I Get Copies Of This Document and Other Related Information?
 - C. How and To Whom Do I Submit Comments?
 - D. How Should I Submit CBI to the Agency?
 - E. What Should I Consider as I Prepare My Comments for EPA?
- II. Authority
- III. Background
 - A. What is Project XL?
 - B. Description of Big Island Facility
- IV. The Georgia-Pacific XL Project
 - A. What Are the Basic Elements of the Project?
 - B. What Is the Construction Status Under the Project?
- V. What Regulatory Change Are We Making To Accommodate the Construction Delay?
- VI. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews
 - A. Executive Order 12866: Regulatory Planning and Review
 - B. Paperwork Reduction Act
 - C. Regulatory Flexibility Act
 - D. Unfunded Mandates Reform Act
 - E. Executive Order 13132: Federalism
 - F. Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments
 - G. Executive Order 13045: Protection of Children from Environmental Health and Safety Risks
 - H. Executive Order 13211: Actions that Significantly Affect Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use
 - I. National Technology Transfer Advancement Act
 - J. Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations
 - K. Congressional Review Act

I. General Information**A. Regulated Entities**

This amendment to the Pulp and Paper MACT II applies to a single source, the Georgia-Pacific Corporation's pulp and paper facility in Big Island, Virginia.