



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

PATRICIA W. AHO  
COMMISSIONER

**Verso Bucksport, LLC  
Hancock County  
Bucksport, Maine  
A-22-77-7-A**

**Departmental  
Findings of Fact and Order  
New Source Review  
Amendment #5**

After review of the air emissions license amendment application, staff investigation reports and other documents in the applicant's file in the Bureau of Air Quality, pursuant to 38 M.R.S.A., Section 344 and Section 590, the Department finds the following facts:

**I. REGISTRATION**

A. Introduction

FACILITY	Verso Bucksport LLC (Verso Bucksport)
LICENSE TYPE	Chapter 115 Minor Modification
NAICS CODES	322121 (pulp mill producing paper)
NATURE OF BUSINESS	Groundwood and thermomechanical pulp, papermaking
FACILITY LOCATION	Main Street, Bucksport, Maine
NSR AMENDMENT ISSUANCE DATE	October 13, 2011

B. Application Description

Verso Bucksport has submitted a minor modification to include the installation of a new baghouse as part of the Boiler 8 biomass upgrade and woodyard project licensed in air emission license amendments A-22-77-4-A (issued November 29, 2010) and A-22-77-6-M (issued June 30, 2011). The baghouse will be located within the new biomass receiving building. Also, Verso Bucksport has requested language clarifying that a number of the existing coal feed system baghouses will be used for the conveyance of the additional biomass.

C. Emission Equipment

The equipment addressed in this air emission license is a new high efficiency baghouse for the new receiving building (Transfer Tower 7) and three existing coal feed baghouses to be used when the coal conveyor system is converted to transport biomass. The three existing baghouses are the coal unloading area baghouse near Tower 3, the coal conveying baghouse on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Power Plant, and the Tower 5 baghouse (listed as 3-5 in the license).

AUGUSTA  
17 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017  
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826  
RAY BLDG., HOSPITAL ST.

BANGOR  
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6  
BANGOR, MAINE 04401  
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND  
312 CANCO ROAD  
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103  
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE  
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK  
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04679-2094  
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

D. Application Classification

The application for Verso Bucksport to add a baghouse results in an estimated 5.6 tons/year of particulate matter or less, based on the efficiency and design flow of the unit. The addition of the baghouse emissions to the overall project does not change the way the Boiler 8 upgrade license was processed, nor does it change the licensed findings under New Source Review. Clarification of the three existing licensed baghouses use does not increase emissions.

The application has been classified as a minor amendment and has been processed under *Minor and Major Source Air Emission License Regulations* 06-096 CMR 115 (as amended). The changes being made are not prohibited in the Part 70 air emission license. Verso Bucksport will need to apply to incorporate this amendment into the Part 70 air emission license no later than 12 months from commencement of the project.

II. **BEST PRACTICAL TREATMENT (BPT)**

A. Introduction

In order to receive a license the applicant must control emissions from each unit to a level considered by the Department to represent Best Practical Treatment (BPT), as defined in *Definitions Regulation*, 06-096 CMR 100 (as amended). Separate control requirement categories exist for new and existing equipment as well as for those sources located in designated non-attainment areas.

BPT for new sources and modifications requires a demonstration that emissions are receiving Best Available Control Technology (BACT), as defined in *Definitions Regulation*, 06-096 CMR 100 (as amended). BACT is a top-down approach to selecting air emission controls considering economic, environmental and energy impacts.

B. New Transfer Tower 7 Baghouse

Verso Bucksport was issued air emission license amendment A-22-77-4-A on November 29, 2010, allowing modifications to Boiler 8 to increase biomass usage, resulting in more steam production for the new 25 MW steam turbine generator. The project also included woodyard modifications for the additional biomass.

The facility determined that a new baghouse is needed to prevent the build-up of wood dust in the new biomass receiving building (Tower 7). This will reduce

housekeeping nuisance and prevent potential fire hazards associated with wood dust.

BACT for controlling wood processing equipment is a baghouse. The proposed baghouse will be a high efficiency unit, approximately 99.9% by weight based on 1 micron sized particles.

The Department approves the installation of the baghouse. Compliance of proper, efficient operation of the baghouse shall be based on visible emissions from the unit. Per *Visible Emissions Regulation*, 06-096 CMR 101 (as amended), opacity from the baghouse shall not exceed 10% on a six (6) minute block average basis, for more than one (1) six minute block average in a 1 hour period. Verso Bucksport shall take corrective action if visible emissions from the baghouse exceed 5% opacity, on a six (6) minute block average basis. Records shall be maintained detailing all routine and non-routine maintenance on the baghouse.

C. Existing Coal Baghouses for Biomass

The current Part 70 license, A-22-70-A-I (issued December 30, 2004) addressed the existing coal system and required various baghouses in condition (19), for the purpose of coal processing, storage, and transportation. This license amendment clarifies that the baghouses may be used for biomass purposes since part of the coal feed system will now be used for biomass conveyance. The three baghouses which will be used in the future for biomass are the coal unloading area baghouse near Tower 3, the coal conveying baghouse on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Power plant, and the Tower 5 baghouse. The baghouses shall continue to have the currently licensed opacity and recordkeeping requirements.

**ORDER**

Based on the above Findings and subject to conditions listed below, the Department concludes that the emissions from this source:

- will receive Best Practical Treatment,
- will not violate applicable emission standards,
- will not violate applicable ambient air quality standards in conjunction with emissions from other sources.

The Department hereby grants Air Emission License A-22-77-7-A pursuant to the preconstruction licensing requirements of 06-096 CMR 115 and subject to the standard and special conditions below.

Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision, or part thereof, of this License shall not affect the remainder of the provision or any other provisions. This License shall be construed and enforced in all respects as if such invalid or unenforceable provision or part thereof had been omitted.

### **SPECIFIC CONDITIONS**

#### **(1) Biomass Receiving Tower 7 - New Baghouse**

- A. Verso Bucksport shall install, operate, and maintain a baghouse to control wood dust from the biomass receiving building (Tower 7). [06-096 CMR 115, BPT]
- B. Visible emissions from the baghouse shall not exceed 10% on a six (6) minute block average basis, for more than one (1) six minute block average in a 1 hour period. Verso Bucksport shall take corrective action if visible emissions from the baghouse exceed 5% opacity, on a six (6) minute block average basis. [06-096 CMR 101]
- C. Verso Bucksport shall maintain a log detailing all routine and non-routine maintenance on the baghouse. The log shall include the location, date, and nature of all bag failures. [06-096 CMR 115, BPT]

#### **(2) Biomass Transport – Existing Baghouses**

- A. Verso Bucksport may utilize the existing baghouses on the coal feed system, including the baghouse on the unloading area near Tower 3, the baghouse on the 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the Power Plant, and the Tower 5 baghouse, when the system is used for biomass transport. [06-096 CMR 115, BPT]
- B. Visible emissions from the baghouses shall not exceed 10% on a six (6) minute block average basis, for more than one (1) six minute block average in a 1 hour period. Verso Bucksport shall take corrective action if visible emissions from the baghouse exceed 5% opacity, on a six (6) minute block average basis. [06-096 CMR 101]

Verso Bucksport, LLC  
Hancock County  
Bucksport, Maine  
A-22-77-7-A

5

Departmental  
Findings of Fact and Order  
New Source Review  
Amendment #5

C. Verso Bucksport shall maintain a log detailing all routine and non-routine maintenance on the baghouses. The log shall include the location, date, and nature of all bag failures. [06-096 CMR 115, BPT]

DONE AND DATED IN AUGUSTA, MAINE THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF October, 2011.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: *Melanie L. Lefebvre*  
PATRICIA W. AHO, COMMISSIONER

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

Date of initial receipt of application: August 15, 2011

Date of application acceptance: August 16, 2011

Date filed with the Board of Environmental Protection:

This Order prepared by Kathleen E. Tarbuck, Bureau of Air Quality.

