



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

BETH NAGUSKY  
ACTING COMMISSIONER

**Verso Androscoggin LLC**  
**Franklin County**  
**Jay, Maine**  
**A-203-77-10-M**

**Departmental**  
**Findings of Fact and Order**  
**New Source Review**  
**Amendment #10**

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 Androscoggin LLC
PART 70 LICENSE NUMBER	A-203-70-A-I
LICENSE TYPE	Chapter 115 New Source Review Minor Revision
NAICS CODES	322121
NATURE OF BUSINESS	Pulp & Paper Mill
FACILITY LOCATION	Jay, Maine
PART 70 LICENSE ISSUANCE DATE	January 12, 2005
NSR AMENDMENT ISSUANCE DATE	September 10, 2010
PART 70 LICENSE EXPIRATION DATE	January 12, 2010

B. Amendment Description

Verso Androscoggin LLC (Verso Androscoggin) of Jay, Maine has applied to amend their Chapter 115 Air Emission License to allow them to modify the No. 1 Recovery Boiler electrostatic precipitator's (ESP's) ash collection system and the boiler's old economizer hopper to better control the chloride level in the black liquor being fired in the boiler by continuously purging 10-20% of the precipitator salt cake. The ESP's wet ash collection system will be converted to a dry collection system which will consist of an enclosed system to deliver the ash to either a new black liquor mix tank or a new water mix tank. The purged ash will go to the mill's wastewater treatment plant.

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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

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

PRESQUE ISLE  
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK  
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04679-2094  
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The new black liquor mix tank will replace the existing east precipitator mix tank. As with the existing east precipitator mix tank, gases from the new black liquor mix tank will be collected and controlled within the high volume low concentration (HVLC) system. This system includes treatment of the gases in the regenerative thermal oxidizer (RTO). These changes will not cause any increase in emissions from the RTO.

The project also includes re-installing a black liquor hopper sluice pump and piping to the old economizer hopper on the No. 1 Recovery Boiler. Tie-ins with double block and bleed will also be installed to allow the system to be run on water or black liquor. Chloride control in recovery boilers is considered best practice to maintain reliability and is expected to result in one less water wash per year.

These changes will result in no change to the maximum design capacity of the No. 1 Recovery Boiler and are expected to result in no quantifiable changes in emissions.

#### C. Application Classification

There will be no change in short term or annual emission limits for No. 1 Recovery Boiler or the facility due to the proposed changes. The application for Verso Androscoggin will not cause an increase in licensed emissions greater than or equal to 4 tons per year for any one pollutant or 8 tons per year of total regulated pollutants. Therefore, the proposed changes are considered a minor revision to the Chapter 115 License and will be processed as such. In a separate licensing process CMP Androscoggin's Part 70 License will be modified to include these changes.

## 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 (last amended December 24, 2005). Separate control requirement categories exist for new and existing equipment as well as for those sources located in designated non-attainment areas.

BPT for existing emissions equipment means that method which controls or reduces emissions to the lowest possible level considering:

- the existing state of technology;
- the effectiveness of available alternatives for reducing emissions from the source being considered; and
- the economic feasibility for the type of establishment involved.

B. No. 1 Recovery Boiler

The No. 1 Recovery Boiler was subject to a BPT review upon issuance of the Initial Part 70 License A-203-70-A-I in January of 2005. In March of 2005 the No. 1 Recovery Boiler, along with other kraft process equipment, was subject to Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) requirements. The Department finds that the proposed changes do not warrant any additional BPT or MACT reviews.

C. Annual Emissions

The proposed changes will not change any of the annual emission limits currently existing in Verso Androscoggin's Air Emission License, including any amendments. Licensed allowed annual emission limits remain unchanged.

### III. AMBIENT AIR QUALITY ANALYSIS

Verso Androscoggin previously submitted an ambient air quality analysis demonstrating that emissions from the facility, in conjunction with all other sources, do not violate ambient air quality standards. An additional ambient air quality analysis is not required for this minor revision.

### ORDER

The Department hereby grants Air Emission License Minor Revision A-203-77-10-M pursuant to the preconstruction licensing requirements of 06-096 CMR 115.

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.

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(1) **No. 1 Recovery Boiler**

The new ash conveying system shall be an enclosed system with air locks on the mix tanks. Verso Androscoggin shall collect and treat emissions from the new black liquor mix tank in the RTO system as part of the HVLC gas collection system. [06-096 CMR 115]

DONE AND DATED IN AUGUSTA, MAINE THIS *10th* DAY OF *September*, 2010.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: *James P. Brubaker*  
BETH NAGUSKA, ACTING COMMISSIONER

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

Date of initial receipt of application: April 6, 2010

Date of application acceptance: April 13, 2010

Date filed with the Board of Environmental Protection:

This Order prepared by Eric Kennedy, Bureau of Air Quality.

