



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017

DEPARTMENT ORDER

**Player Holdings, LLC
Aroostook County
Ashland, Maine
A-1155-71-D-M**

**Departmental
Findings of Fact and Order
Air Emission License
Amendment #2**

FINDINGS OF FACT

After review of the air emission license amendment application, staff investigation reports, and other documents in the applicant's file in the Bureau of Air Quality, pursuant to 38 Maine Revised Statutes (M.R.S.) § 344 and § 590, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Department) finds the following facts:

I. REGISTRATION

A. Introduction

Player Holdings, LLC (MaineFlame) was issued Air Emission License A-1155-71-A-N on February 25, 2021, for the operation of emission sources associated with their extruded log manufacturing facility. The license was subsequently amended on October 18, 2022 (A-1155-71-B-M) to clarify the timing requirements pertaining to stack testing.

The equipment addressed in this license amendment is located at 86 Clark Siding Road, Ashland, Maine.

MaineFlame has requested a minor revision to their license in order to notate the addition of a pellet extruder machine to operate in parallel with the existing log extruder.

B. Application Classification

All rules, regulations, or statutes referenced in this air emission license refer to the amended version in effect as of the date this license was issued.

This amendment will not increase licensed emissions of any pollutant. Therefore, this amendment is determined to be a minor revision and has been processed as such.

C. Facility Classification

The facility is licensed as follows:

- As a natural minor source of criteria pollutants, because no license restrictions are necessary to keep facility emissions below major source thresholds for criteria pollutants; and
- As an area source of hazardous air pollutants (HAP), because the licensed emissions are below the major source thresholds for HAP.

II. BEST PRACTICAL TREATMENT (BPT)

D. Revision Description

On May 1, 2023, MaineFlame requested a trial operation of a Rotating Indirect Autoclave (RIDA) to function in conjunction with the existing rotary dryer at the facility. The RIDA produced a steam-cooked material, which, once dried, was intended to be used as a coal substitute. In addition to the RIDA, MaineFlame installed a pellet extruder to form the dried material into pellets, as opposed to the extruded log product that MaineFlame had been previously operating. The Department approved the trial operation of the proposed equipment on May 22, 2023, with the trial being concluded on April 15, 2025.

While MaineFlame is evaluating the results of the trial, they have requested to continue to operate the pellet extruder with green biomass material that has not been processed with the RIDA but that has been dried in the existing Dryer #1. The addition of the pellet extruder does not increase the actual emissions of any regulated pollutant and is therefore classified as a minor revision of an air emission license.

E. Annual Emissions

This license amendment will not change the facility's licensed annual emissions.

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, and
- will not violate applicable ambient air quality standards in conjunction with emissions from other sources.

The Department hereby grants Air Emission License Amendment A-1155-71-D-M subject to the conditions found in Air Emission License A-1155-71-A-N and in amendment A-1155-71-B-M.

Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this License Amendment or part thereof shall not affect the remainder of the provision or any other provisions. This License Amendment 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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Aroostook County
Ashland, Maine
A-1155-71-D-M

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The following replaces condition(18)(D) of Air Emission License A-1155-71-A-N.

(18) Process Equipment

D. MaineFlame shall operate the baghouse/cartridge filters at all times the screening, extruded log processing, or pellet manufacturing operations are operating.
[06-096 C.M.R. ch. 115, BPT]

DONE AND DATED IN AUGUSTA, MAINE THIS 2nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY:  for
MELANIE LOYZIM, COMMISSIONER

The term of this license amendment shall be ten (10) years from the issuance of Air Emission License A-1155-71-A-N (issued 10/28/2022).

[Note: If a renewal application, determined as complete by the Department, is submitted prior to expiration of this license, then pursuant to Title 5 M.R.S. § 10002, all terms and conditions of the license shall remain in effect until the Department takes final action on the license renewal application.]

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

Date of initial receipt of application: 5/14/25

Date of application acceptance: 5/15/25

This Order prepared by Chris Ham, Bureau of Air Quality.