

ADEQ

ARKANSAS
Department of Environmental Quality

October 31, 2011

James W. Cutbirth
Manager of Environmental Services
Georgia-Pacific, LLC – Crossett Paper Operations
P.O. Box 3333
Crossett, AR 71635

RE: NPDES Permit No. AR0001210, AFIN 02-00013
Surge Pond Expansion

Dear Mr. Cutbirth:

The Department has reviewed your correspondence dated October 13, 2011, requesting permission to expand the surge basin (referred to as the equalization basin in the Fact Sheet for NPDES Permit No. AR0001210) by 20 acres so that it will hold an additional 71 million gallons of wastewater. It is the Department's understanding that the additional storage is needed because discharges to the Ouachita River have been curtailed due to the low flow conditions below Felsenthal Lock and Dam. The discharges have been curtailed so that the water quality of the Ouachita River is maintained.

The surge basin is located downstream of the two ash basins and upstream of the aeration basin including the location where the wastewater from the City of Crossett enters Georgia-Pacific's wastewater treatment plant. The surge basin is not used to treat the wastewater, but rather to control the flow of wastewater into the aeration basin. The work to be performed at the surge basin is considered to be for maintenance purposes. Therefore, the need for a construction permit is waived as allowed under Reg. 6.202(B).

Please note that although a construction permit is not required, the following requirements must be met:

1. All applicable provisions of the Ten State Standards must be met including but not limited to the following:
 - a. The slopes on the new portion of the surge basin must not be steeper than 1 vertical to 3 horizontal or flatter than 1 vertical to 4 horizontal as set forth in Section 93.4 of the Ten State Standards.
 - b. The permeability of the pond bottom must be a minimum of 1×10^{-7} cm/sec.
 - c. The dike width must be at least 8 feet to permit access for maintenance vehicles as set forth in Section 93.4 of the Ten State Standards.
2. The requirements of the general permit for stormwater runoff associated with construction activity (ARR150000) must be met.

If you have any questions, please contact Loretta Reiber, P.E. of the Individual Discharge Permits Section at reiber@adeq.state.ar.us or at (501) 682-0612.

Sincerely,



Mo Shafii
Assistant Chief, Water Division

MS:lr

cc: Eric Fleming, Field Services Branch Manager
Jason Bolenbaugh, Enforcement Analyst