

STATE CONSTRUCTION PERMIT
Permit Number: AR0001210C

Permittee:

Georgia-Pacific Consumer Operations LLC
Crossett Paper Operations
100 Mill Supply Road
Crossett, AR 71635

This permit allows the permittee listed above to modify the wastewater treatment system in accordance with the permit application and plans and specifications which were received on March 24, 2021, with all additional information received by April 29, 2021, under authority of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Arkansas Code Annotated §8-4-101 et seq. and Arkansas Code Annotated §8-4-201 et seq.) and the following terms and conditions.

1. The treatment system shall be modified in accordance with the final plans and specifications as submitted to the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ). In case any statement or representation in the aforementioned documents is found to be incorrect, this approval may be revoked.
2. There shall be no deviation from the permitted plans and specifications unless the revisions have been submitted for review and written approval is received.
3. Within thirty (30) days of completion of the construction the permittee shall submit a Notice of Completion of Construction to the Division (Permits Branch of the Office of Water Quality) that the facility has been modified in accordance with the approved plans and specifications. The certification shall be signed by the Responsible Official as well as stamped and signed by a Professional Engineer (P.E.) licensed in the state of Arkansas. The Notice of Completion of Construction form is located at the following web link:

<https://www.adeg.state.ar.us/water/permits/npdes/individual/pdfs/state-construction-permit-completion-of-construction.pdf>

4. This permit is issued in reliance upon the statements and representations made in the application and the plans and specifications. Issuance of this State Construction Permit does not guarantee satisfactory performance of the treatment system. The permittee shall ensure that water quality standards are not violated. Any modifications to the treatment facility necessary to meet water quality standards are the responsibility of the permittee and would require a modification to this State Construction Permit.
5. A State Construction Permit for the modification of an existing wastewater treatment facility does not constitute an NPDES permit. Issuance of a State Construction Permit for modification of a treatment system in no way guarantees or assumes that an application for an NPDES permit to operate the system will be approved or an NPDES permit will be issued.
6. A complete "Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual" of the wastewater treatment system shall be updated by the facility consultant for the operator's use before the plant is in operation.
7. Failure to begin construction within one (1) year of the effective date may result in termination of this permit if a request for an extension is not submitted to the Division in a timely manner.

8. The permittee must submit notification of the start of construction within fifteen (15) days after construction has begun.
9. If a construction site will disturb greater than or equal to one (1) acre and less than five (5) acres, the permittee shall comply with the requirements in APC&EC Rule 6.203 for Stormwater discharge associated with a small construction site, as defined in APC&EC Rule 6. If the construction site will disturb five (5) acres or more, the permittee shall comply with the terms of the Stormwater Construction General Permit Number ARR150000 prior to the start of construction. BMPs must be implemented regardless of the size.
10. This facility is located as follows: Latitude: 33° 08' 30" N; Longitude: 91° 58' 12" W in Ashley County, Arkansas. Going west on Highway 82 from the papermill, go approximately 1 mile before turning left on Texas Avenue. Go approximately 2 miles and turn right. Proceed approximately 1 mile, then turn right towards the primary clarifier.

11. The receiving waters for this facility are as follows:

Outfall 001: through a man-made channel to the upper reaches of Mossy Lake, then into Coffee Creek, then into the Ouachita River in Segment 2D of the Ouachita River Basin;

SMS002, when the gage at the Felsenthal Lock and Dam is at or exceeds 65 feet: Ouachita River in Segment 2D of the Ouachita River Basin;

SMS002, when the gage at the Felsenthal Lock and Dam is below 65 feet: at the transition from Mossy Lake to Coffee Creek then into the Ouachita River in Segment 2D of the Ouachita River Basin.

The outfalls are located at the following coordinates:

Outfall 001: Latitude: 33° 06' 22.55" N; Longitude: 92° 02' 17.2" W;

SMS002: Latitude: 33° 01' 58" N; Longitude: 92° 04' 25" W.

12. The construction will include installation of a permanent CO₂ injection system immediately upstream of Outfall 001 and a mobile CO₂ injection system immediately upstream of SMS002. The current treatment system consists of screening followed by primary clarifier, equalization, settling for ash removal, aerated lagoon with solids settling, sludge dewatering, and chemical addition of Iron salts at the aerated lagoon for reduction of sub-lethal activity. The design flow of the WWTP will not be changing.

Effective Date: March 21, 2022

Alan J. York
Associate Director, Office of Water Quality
Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment
Division of Environmental Quality

03/21/2022

Issue Date

STATEMENT OF BASIS

For State Construction Permit Number AR0001210C.

The issuing office is:

Division of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118

The applicant is:

Georgia-Pacific Consumer Operations LLC
Crossett Paper Operations
100 Mill Supply Road
Crossett, AR 71635

1. BASIS FOR PERMIT AND CONDITIONS

This permit is your authority to modify the wastewater treatment system in accordance with the permit application and plans and specifications which were received on March 24, 2021, with all additional information received by April 29, 2021. The issuance of this permit and conditions are based on the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (Arkansas Code Annotated §8-4-101 et seq. and Arkansas Code Annotated §8-4-201 et seq.), Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) Rule 6.202, NPDES Discharge permit AR0001210, and 40 C.F.R. § 122.26.

Specific permit conditions and their sources are listed as follows:

Conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 are self-explanatory. Condition 9 is based on 40 C.F.R. § 122.26. Conditions 10, 11, and 12 are based on the submitted application and Plans and Specifications.

The receiving stream for SMS 002 listed in Condition 11 depends on if the gage at Felsenthal Lock and Dam is at or above 65 feet or is below 65 feet. Per a UAA, the Ouachita River is flooded if the gage is at or above 65 feet. When flooded, the Ouachita River reaches Mossy Lake and the permittee cannot obtain a representative sample.

If the gage is between 62 feet and 65 feet, the permittee cannot obtain a representative sample since it is common at those river levels for the Ouachita River to back up into Coffee Creek. Therefore, under the terms the NPDES Permit, AR0001210, the permittee is not required to take samples at SMS002 when the gage at Felsenthal Lock and Dam is over 62 feet and for the two weeks following the level dropping below 62 feet.

2. PUBLIC NOTICE

The public notice of the draft permit was published for public comment on January 23, 2022. The last day of the comment period was thirty (30) days after the publication date. The permittee was the only party to submit written comments on the draft permit. A summary of these comments and the Division's responses is attached.

3. PERMIT FEE

In accordance with APC&EC Rule 9.402(A), the fee for issuance of a state construction permit is \$500.

4. SOURCES

1. Application Form 1 and Plans and Specifications dated March 24, 2021, with all additional information received by April 29, 2021.
2. 2014 Edition of Recommended Standards for Wastewater Facilities (Ten State Standards).
3. APC&EC Rules 6, 8, and 9.
4. A.C.A. § 8-4-217(b)(1)(C).
5. 40 C.F.R. § 122.26.

5. CONTACT PERSON

The DEQ contact person for submitting written comments, requesting information, or obtaining copies of the application, permit, and the Statement of Basis is:

Loretta Carstens, P.E.
NPDES Branch, Office of Water Quality
Division of Environmental Quality
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317
(501) 682-0612

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS FINAL PERMITTING DECISION

Permit No.: AR0001210C

Applicant: Georgia-Pacific Crossett, LLC

Prepared by: Loretta Carstens, P.E.

The following are responses to comments received by the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) regarding the draft permit number referenced above and are developed in accordance with regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. § 124.17, Arkansas Pollution Control & Ecology Commission (APC&EC) Rule 8 (Administrative Procedures), and Arkansas Code Annotated (A.C.A.) § 8-4-203(e)(2).

Introduction

The above permit was submitted for public comment on January 23, 2022. The public comment period ended on February 22, 2022. The permittee submitted two comments on the draft permit. No other comments were received.

Comment 1: The excerpt below from the public notice related to State Construction Permit #AR0001210C reflects a 65 ft flood stage for Mossy Lake. Our current NPDES permit states “A flooded state is defined as the period when the gage at the Felsenthal Lock and Dam exceeds 62 feet and also for the two weeks following the recession of flood water below 62 feet.” Please confirm that this inconsistency will not impact our current compliance demonstration with our NPDES permit.

Paragraph 3 of Public Notice of Draft State Construction Permit #AR0001210C:

The discharge from this existing facility is made as follows: Outfall 001: through a man-made channel to the upper reaches of Mossy Lake, then into Coffee Creek, then into the Ouachita River in Segment 2D of the Ouachita River Basin; SMS 002, when the gage at the Felsenthal Lock and Dam is at or exceeds 65 feet: Ouachita River in Segment 2D of the Ouachita River Basin; SMS 002, when the gage at the Felsenthal Lock and Dam is below 65 feet: at the transition from Mossy Lake to Coffee Creek then into the Ouachita River in Segment 2D of the Ouachita River Basin.

Response 1: The Division understands the concern about the difference between the 62 feet and 65 feet levels described in the permits and has added an explanation to the Statement of Basis for this state construction permit. The explanation, which has been included in Item No. 1 of the Statement of Basis, will read as follows:

The receiving stream for SMS 002 listed in Condition 11 depends on if the gage at Felsenthal Lock and Dam is at or above 65 feet or is below 65 feet. Per a UAA, the Ouachita River is flooded if the gage is at or above 65 feet. When flooded, the Ouachita River reaches Mossy Lake and the permittee cannot obtain a representative sample.

If the gage is between 62 feet and 65 feet, the permittee cannot obtain a representative sample since it is common at those levels for the Ouachita River back up into Coffee Creek. Therefore, under the terms the NPDES Permit, AR0001210, the permittee is not required to take samples at SMS002 when the gage at Felsenthal Lock and Dam is over 62 feet and for the two weeks following the level dropping below 62 feet.

Comment 2: It is also our understanding that once the state construction permit is issued we can resume monitoring pH three (3) times per week as required by our current NPDES permit instead of five (5) times per week as required by the pH Adjustment Trial approval.

Response 2: The permittee's understanding listed above is correct.