

## **NOTICE OF PROPOSED THIRD-PARTY RULEMAKING, PUBLIC HEARING**

The Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) will hold a public hearing at Ashdown on January 26, 2015, to receive comments on a third-party proposal by Domtar A.W. LLC (Domtar) to change APC&EC Regulation 2, the Arkansas Water Quality Standards, through a technical adjustment, for the Red River from the Arkansas-Oklahoma state line to the Arkansas-Louisiana state line. The hearing will begin at 6 p.m. in the General Use Room of the Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas, 1411 N. Constitution Ave., Ashdown, AR 72822.

In the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances, a decision may be made to postpone the hearing. If the hearing is postponed and rescheduled, a new legal notice will be published to announce the details of the new hearing date and comment period for both regulations.

The deadline for submitting written comments on the proposed changes is 4:30 p.m. (Central Time) February 9, 2015.

State law and APC&EC regulations provide that outside parties may petition the Commission to initiate the rulemaking process to adopt or amend regulations under its jurisdiction. The fact that APC&EC has agreed to initiate such a third-party rulemaking procedure does not constitute an endorsement of the proposal at this time. The APC&EC will decide whether to adopt the proposed changes after the conclusion of the public comment period for the proposal and after Domtar and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) respond to all public comments submitted during the open comment period.

Domtar owns and operates a paper mill in Ashdown, Little River County, Arkansas which discharges treated wastewater from an outfall to the Red River under the provisions of NPDES Permit No. AR0002968 issued by ADEQ.

Domtar is requesting the following amendments to Regulation 2:

- For the Red River from the Arkansas-Oklahoma state line to mouth of the Little River, modification of the Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) water quality criterion from 850 milligrams per liter (mg/L) to 940 mg/L; and Sulfate (SO<sub>4</sub>) from 200 mg/L to 250 mg/L;
- For the Red River from the mouth of the Little River to the Arkansas-Louisiana state line, modification of the SO<sub>4</sub> water quality criterion from 200 mg/L to 225 mg/L.

Detailed copies of the proposed regulation change, along with supporting documents and summary information, are available for public inspection during normal business hours in the Public Outreach and Assistance Division, located on the second floor of ADEQ's Headquarters Building, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, and in ADEQ information depositories located in public libraries at Hope, Little Rock (main branch), Magnolia, and Texarkana, and the Arkansas State Library, 900 West Capitol, Suite 100, Little Rock, AR.

In addition, summary information concerning the proposal is available at other ADEQ information depositories located in public libraries at Arkadelphia, Batesville, Blytheville,

Camden, Clinton, Crossett, El Dorado, Fayetteville, Forest City, Fort Smith, Harrison, Helena, Hot Springs, Jonesboro, Mena, Monticello, Mountain Home, Pocahontas, Russellville, Searcy, Stuttgart, and West Memphis; and in campus libraries at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and the University of Central Arkansas at Conway.

Information concerning the proposed changes also can be viewed and downloaded at the ADEQ website at: [www.adeq.state.ar.us](http://www.adeq.state.ar.us).

Oral and written comments on the proposed changes will be accepted at the hearing, but written comments are preferred in the interest of accuracy. In addition, written or electronic mail comments will be accepted if received no later than 4:30 p.m. (Central Time), February 9, 2015. Written comments should be sent to Doug Szenher, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Public Outreach and Assistance Division, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72118. E-mail comments should be sent to the following address: [reg-comment@adeq.state.ar.us](mailto:reg-comment@adeq.state.ar.us).

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