

Public Notice
Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board
P. O. Box 2261 | Jackson, MS 39225
515 East Amite St. | Jackson, MS 39201
Telephone No. (601) 961-5171

Public Notice Start Date: October 27, 2021

MDEQ Contact: Becky Williams

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality is considering the reissuance of a statewide Wet Deck Log Spray General Permit (MSG17). The permit covers the State of Mississippi and will authorize wet deck operations with recirculation, which involve the storage of harvested logs and spraying of these decks of timber with water to keep the timber wet in order to prevent deterioration until such time as the timber can be further processed. These operations function such that any excess spray water and any storm water falling on the wet deck storage area will be routed back to a recirculation pond for reuse in the spray system. Surface water or ground water is used as makeup for the recirculation pond during dry weather conditions. Intermittent discharges occur from the recirculation pond as a result of high intensive or extended duration rainfall events. The permit also covers industrial stormwater at wet decking operations.

A Statement of Basis has been prepared that contains a discussion of the decision-making that went into the development of the permit and provides the permitting authority, the public, and other government bodies a record of the technical issues surrounding issuance of the permit. The Statement of Basis also addresses any changes to emissions and/or discharges resulting from any modification of the facility.

The staff of the Permit Board has developed this draft permit based on information submitted to the Permit Board by the applicant, appropriate State and Federal agencies and other interested parties. The staff of the Permit Board is soliciting all relative information pertaining to the proposed activity, including public comment, to ensure that the final staff recommendation on the draft permit complies with all State and Federal regulations. Public review and comment on the draft permit and supporting documentation is an important element in the staff evaluation and resulting recommendation to the Permit Board. The draft permit conditions have been developed to ensure compliance with all State and Federal regulations but are subject to change based on information received as a result of public participation.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations are invited to submit comments in writing to Becky Williams at <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/williams-becky/> or to the Permit Board address shown above, no later than the end of the thirty (30) day public notice. All comments received by this date will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application(s). A public hearing will be held if the Permit Board finds a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit(s). Persons wishing to request a public hearing may do so by submitting that request in writing to Becky Williams at <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/williams-becky/> or to the Permit Board address shown above. The Permit Board is limited in the scope of its analysis to environmental impact. Any comments relative to zoning or economic and social impacts are within the jurisdiction of local zoning and planning authorities and should be addressed to them.

Additional details about the application, including a copy of the draft permit, are available by writing or calling the Public Records Request Officer at the above Permit Board address and telephone number or by completing the form at the following website: <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/about-mdeq/public-records-request/public-records-request-form/>. Additionally, a copy of the draft permit and statement of basis may be found on the MDEQ's website at: <https://opc.deq.state.ms.us/publicnotice.aspx> or <https://www.mdeq.ms.gov/wdls/gp/>. This information is also available for review at the office of the MDEQ at the Permit Board address shown above during normal business hours. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you know will be interested.