

Representing Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston Counties

1-800-422-5623 • (360) 539-7610

Public Notice: Public Comment accepted on Air Operating Permit

– McKinley Paper Company – Port Angeles, Washington Mill –

Olympic Region Clean Air Agency (ORCAA) invites the public to submit written comments on the draft Air Operating Permit (AOP) for the McKinley Paper Company – Washington Mill (McKinley) located at 1815 Marine Drive, Port Angeles, Washington.

Project Summary

Public comment is currently being accepted on a draft Air Operating Permit (AOP) Renewal for McKinley Paper Company – Washington Mill. The AOP for McKinley is being reopened to add new applicable requirements and to renew the AOP for another five-year term. Renewal of McKinley's AOP does not authorize construction of any new air pollution sources nor modification of any existing air pollution source. The new requirements were imposed on McKinley when renovations to the mill were approved by ORCAA in 2019. These new requirements need to be incorporated into McKinley's AOP to bring it up to date.

Permitting Process Information

Copies of the draft AOP, TSD, and the renewal application are available for review at the links below (PDF documents). You may also contact ORCAA at (360) 539-7610 for these documents or other records.

Draft Air Operating Permit (AOP) | Draft Technical Support Document (TSD) | AOP Renewal Application

How to Comment

Submit comments by mail, fax, or email to:

Olympic Region Clean Air Agency Attn: Mark Goodin 2940 Limited Lane NW Olympia, WA 98502

FAX: (360) 491-6308

Email: mark.goodin@orcaa.org

Comments should relate to the adequacy of the draft AOP and TSD in assuring compliance with applicable air quality regulations and standards. Anyone concerned may request a public hearing during the public comment period. The request should include information justifying the need for a public hearing. If the public raises significant interest, ORCAA will hold and provide advanced notice of a public hearing.

All comments are due by 5 p.m., August 2, 2021.

About the facility:

The McKinley facility in Port Angeles is an integrated pulp and paper mill that produces packaging grade brown paper and containerboard from recycled feedstock. The facility currently includes a recycle pulp plant, two paper machines, a wastewater treatment plant, landfill (off-site) and a 20 MW biomass-fueled combined heat and power (CHP) plant. The McKinley Facility's pulp plant is a single-line continuous recycle pulper with a design capacity of 900 oven-dry tons of pulp per day. The two paper machines are currently permitted at a combined production capacity of 840 air-dried tons per day (ADT/day).

What air pollutants are emitted from McKinley Paper Company's Washington Mill?

The McKinley Facility is a major source of both criteria air pollutants and Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAP). It is therefore subject to Title V of the federal Clean Air Act and required to operate under an AOP.

Will air pollutant emissions increase as a result of approving this AOP?

No. AOPs take pre-existing air emissions limits and other air-related requirements from multiple origins such as state regulations, federal regulations and construction permit approvals, and organize them under a single permit. AOPs must also establish sufficient monitoring, recordkeeping and reporting requirements to assure continuous compliance with applicable limits and requirements.

How does McKinley assure compliance?

McKinley operates several air pollution control devices and implements pollution prevention measures to meet air emissions limits and standards. McKinley also operates continuous emissions monitoring systems. All air pollution control means and monitoring systems are explained in the TSD for McKinley.

How does ORCAA monitor compliance?

ORCAA monitors compliance by several means, including, but not limited to, inspecting McKinley at least annually, observing air emissions testing, reviewing semi-annual monitoring reports, reviewing continuous emissions monitoring data, and evaluating performance of McKinley's air pollution control systems. ORCAA is an enforcement agency with authority to issue notices of violation and assess penalties.