

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Environmental Protection Division • Air Protection Branch

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Mark Williams, Commissioner

F. Allen Barnes, Director

For Immediate Release

Contact: Thomas Smith – 404-362-2790

EPD to Host Q&A Session and Public Hearing at the Commerce Civic Center on Huber Engineered Woods LLC's Environmental Application for a Permit Modification

(ATLANTA – September 13, 2011) – The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will host a forum to answer questions and also receive formal comments on Tuesday, September 27, regarding Huber Engineered Woods, LLC's environmental application to modify its existing Air Quality Permit for its oriented strandboard (OSB) plant in Commerce.

The meetings, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. and conclude no later than 8:30 p.m., will be held in the Commerce Civic Center's Peach Room. The center is located at 110 State Street.

"We continue to value and consider the comments we receive from residents living in the communities in which facilities seeking permits are located, and in this case, a permit modification," said Eric Cornwell, manager of the Stationary Source Permitting Program of EPD's Air Protection Branch. "We will consider all air quality related comments prior to making a decision whether to recommend issuance."

The purpose of the question-and-answer (Q&A) session is to present information and to answer questions about the company's application to modify an existing permit and the air quality permitting review process. During the meeting, EPD and Huber representatives will make brief presentations before launching the Q&A portion. Immediately following the Q&A session, EPD will hold a public hearing to receive formal comments regarding the permit modification application and draft permit.

If the permit application is approved, the Huber Engineered Woods permit would be amended to remove all PSD-avoidance limits, to remove restrictions on the use of melamine urea phenol formaldehyde (MUPF) resin and to increase production capacity. Huber's permit would also be amended to change the monitoring strategy for the board press wood products enclosure.

The Huber plant produces oriented strandboard (OSB), which are structural panels made from wood wafers. The panels are bonded together with resin under heat and pressure. These panels are used by builders in place of plywood, for sheathing, single-layer flooring, and underlayment in light-frame construction.

EPD will accept formal comments at the public hearing and in writing through September 30 2011. EPD has made the draft permit and supporting documents available for public review at our web site: <http://www.georgiaair.org/airpermit/html/permits/psd/main.html>, then scroll down to Huber Engineered Woods LLC.

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EPD's Air Branch has made a copy of the environmental application, a copy of the draft permit and PSD Preliminary Determination available for review at the Jackson County Board of Commissioners, County Administration Building, which is located at 67 Athens Street, in Jefferson. Citizens may contact the commissioners' headquarters at 706-367-6312.

Please send written and email comments to the following addresses:

Written comments to:

Georgia Air Branch
Attn: Eric Cornwell
4244 International Parkway
Suite 120
Atlanta, Ga. 30354

Email comments to: epdcomments@dnr.state.ga.us

Please include "huber engineered woods llc" in the subject line.

For information on this permit modification application or EPD's review process, please contact Eric Cornwell at 404-363-7020. For information about the Q&A or public hearing, please contact Thomas Smith at 404-362-2790.

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