

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604

DATE: SEP 10 2019

SUBJECT: CLEAN AIR ACT INSPECTION REPORT
Columbia Forest Products, Mellen, Wisconsin

FROM: Charles Hall, Environmental Engineer *C. Hall*
AECAB (MN/OH)

THRU: Brian Dickens, Section Chief
AECAB (MN/OH)

TO: File, Columbia Forest Products, Mellen, Wisconsin

BASIC INFORMATION

Facility Name: Columbia Forest Products

Facility Location: 606 Wilderness Drive, Mellen, Wisconsin

Date of Inspection: 28 August 2019

EPA Inspector(s):

1. Charles Hall, Environmental Engineer

Other Attendees:

1. Jim Mattson, Safety Coordinator
2. Bruce Rebella, Plant Engineer
3. John Scheufeli, Maintenance Supervisor
4. Dwayne Watson, Plant Manager (opening and closing conferences only)

Contact Email Address: jmattson@cfpwood.com

Purpose of Inspection: Composite Wood Products/Wood Veneer Inspection

Facility Type: wood veneer manufacturer

Regulations Central to Inspection: Columbia Forest Products (Columbia) is an area source under the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Plywood and Composite Wood Products, 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart DDDD. The Wisconsin Department of Natural

Resources issued Synthetic minor, non-Part 70 Operation Permit No. 802033540-F31 to Columbia on August 24, 2016.

Arrival Time: 8:50 a.m. CDT

Departure Time: 11:20 a.m. CDT

Inspection Type:

- ☒ Unannounced Inspection
- ☐ Announced Inspection

OPENING CONFERENCE

- ☒ Credentials Presented
- ☒ CBI warning to facility provided

The following information was obtained verbally from Mattson, Rebella, and Scheufeli unless otherwise noted.

Process Description: Columbia produces hardwood veneers that start with one of two process lines. On one process line, Columbia turns 8-foot long logs on a lathe to shave a sheet of wood of the desired thickness. The sheet is collected on a reel which is moved to the front end of the Babcock dryer. The sheet is cut to the desired width as it is fed into the dryer. On the second process line, Columbia feeds pre-cut hardwood veneers into the Coe dryer. Inside each dryer, the moisture content of the wood veneer is reduced to the range of 8 to 10%. Both dryers are steam-heated and vent directly to the atmosphere. To control the emission of volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants including formaldehyde, the permit limits the number of square feet of veneer that each dryer can process per month.

Columbia applies glue on the thin edge of the veneer from both process lines, aligns the veneer sheet along the thin edge, and presses them together to form a sheet that is 50 inches wide and 99 inches long.

Bark, cuttings and other scrap wood is collected from multiple points in the manufacturing process, shreds them, and then uses the shredded wood in a 42.0 million British thermal unit per hour heat input boiler. A multi-cyclone removes particulate matter from the boiler's exhaust gas. As required by its permit, Columbia continuously measures and manually records the pressure drop across the multi-cyclone, the amount of wood fuel burned, the flue gas temperature, the oxygen concentration, and the carbon monoxide concentration.

TOUR INFORMATION

EPA toured the facility: Yes

Photos and/or Videos: were not taken during this inspection.

Field Measurements: were not taken during this inspection.

RECORDS REVIEW

The inspector reviewed examples of the daily records of data for pressure drop across the multi-cyclone, the amount of wood fuel burned, the flue gas temperature, the oxygen concentration, and the carbon monoxide concentration collected between January 1, 2018, and August 27, 2019.

CLOSING CONFERENCE

Requested Documents:

- Boiler Tune Up Report required by the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Boilers Area Sources, 40 C.F.R. Part 63, Subpart JJJJJ; and
- Report for the most recent performance test on each boiler.

SIGNATURES

Lead Inspector: Charlie Hall Date: 05 September 2019
Section Chief: Brian DiStasio Date: 9/10/19