



News Release



A joint News Release from AF&PA and AWC

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AF&PA and AWC Statement on EPA's National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Particulate Matter (PM) Proposal

WASHINGTON – The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) President and CEO Heidi Brock and American Wood Council (AWC) President and CEO Robert Glowinski have issued the following statement on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for particulate matter (PM) proposal.

"The American Forest & Paper Association and American Wood Council appreciate the work EPA has put into developing its proposal to retain the current National Ambient Air Quality Standard for particulate matter, including soliciting input from its science advisers. During the implementation of the many programs under the Clean Air Act, air quality has substantially improved in the United States, is among the best in the world, and will continue to improve in the years ahead. Since 2000, pulp and paper mills have reduced emissions, including a three-quarters reduction of SO₂ which is a PM precursor; wood product mills have reduced key air emissions by similar amounts. AF&PA and AWC look forward to reviewing the proposal in-depth and submitting comments."

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About AF&PA

The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) serves to advance a sustainable U.S. pulp, paper, packaging, tissue and wood products manufacturing industry through fact-based public policy and marketplace advocacy. AF&PA member companies make products essential for everyday life from renewable and recyclable resources and are committed to continuous improvement through the industry's sustainability initiative — Better Practices, Better Planet 2020. The forest products industry accounts for approximately four percent of the total U.S. manufacturing GDP, manufactures nearly \$300 billion in products annually and employs approximately 950,000 men and women. The industry meets a payroll of approximately \$55 billion annually and is among the top 10 manufacturing sector employers in 45 states. Visit AF&PA online at afandpa.org or follow us on Twitter [@ForestandPaper](https://twitter.com/ForestandPaper).

About AWC

The American Wood Council (AWC) is the voice of North American wood products manufacturing, an industry that provides almost 450,000 men and women in the United States with family-wage jobs. AWC represents 86 percent of the structural wood products industry, and members make products that are essential to everyday life from a renewable resource that absorbs and sequesters carbon. Staff experts develop state-of-the-art engineering data, technology, and standards for wood products to assure their safe and efficient design, as well as provide information on wood design, green building, and environmental regulations. AWC also advocates for balanced government policies that affect wood products. www.awc.org | [@woodcouncil](https://twitter.com/woodcouncil)