

NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION  
AIR PROTECTION BRANCH

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF WARREN  
NOTICE OF PSD PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION AND DRAFT PART 70 OPERATING  
PERMIT MODIFICATION

To All Interested Parties:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) announces its intent to issue to Warren County Biomass Energy Facility, Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) Permit No. 4911-301-0016-P-01-0. The facility is located at 612 East Warrenton Road, Warrenton, Georgia. The facility operates a 100 megawatt (MW) biomass fired power plant.

Warren County Biomass Energy Facility submitted an application to construct and operate a 100 megawatt (MW) biomass fired power plant. The proposed project will include a fluidized bed boiler with a maximum heat input capacity of 1,399 MMBtu/hr, two emergency fire water pumps, a raw material handling and storage area, a sorbent storage silo, a boiler bed sand storage silo, a sand day storage hopper, a fly ash storage silo, a bottom ash storage silo, storage tanks, and a cooling tower.

The draft permit, PSD Preliminary Determination, and all information used to develop the draft permit are available for review. This includes the application and all other relevant materials available to the permitting authority. This information is available for review at the office of the Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Atlanta Tradeport - Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. A copy of the application may also be available for review at Warrenton County Courthouse, P.O. Box 46, Warrenton, Georgia 30828 (Telephone: 706-465-2171), along with a copy of the draft permit and PSD Preliminary Determination. Electronic files of the application, draft permit, PSD Preliminary Determination will be available through our internet site

*<http://www.georgiaair.org/airpermit/html/permits/psd/main.html>*. (Please note that the Internet is generally accessible from most public libraries in Georgia.)

If copies are desired, a copying machine for public use is provided by EPD at the Atlanta Air Protection Branch office. There will be a copying charge of \$0.25 per page. Copies will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Files are available for review and copying 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday, excluding holidays.

You are hereby notified of the opportunity to submit written public comments concerning the draft construction permit and the Preliminary Determination concerning the proposed project. The Preliminary Determination is a summary of the technical review of the application and contains a copy of the Company's application along with supporting documents and the draft Construction Permit. The draft permit serves as a draft PSD permit. Persons wishing to comment on the draft Permit or Preliminary Determination are invited to submit their comments, in writing, to EPD at the Atlanta address above, postmarked no later than 30 days after the date of publication in the newspaper. All comments postmarked on or prior to that date will be considered by the Division in making its final decision on the permit.

The Division has concluded that Warren County Biomass Energy Facility's application should be approved and that a permit should be granted. This conclusion is based upon evidence that the proposed project will comply with the Division's Rules and Regulations for Air Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-1; that the emissions from the source will not cause or add to a violation of any applicable National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) or Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) increment; and will comply with the Federal PSD regulations, 40 CFR 52.21, including the use of Best Available Control Technology (BACT) for regulated pollutants.

Net emissions of VOC, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, Fluorides, Pb, total HAP, and single HAP from the proposed project do not exceed the significant emission levels established by the PSD regulation. The net emissions of CO, NO<sub>x</sub>, PM/PM<sub>10</sub>, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and SO<sub>2</sub> from the proposed project exceed the significant emission levels established by the PSD regulation. The Division has determined that these emissions will not cause an adverse impact on ambient air quality, and the air quality levels should pose no significant health risk around the plant.

The PSD regulations allow specific maximum incremental increases in ambient concentrations of particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>2</sub>). The EPD has determined that the maximum predicted impacts of these pollutants due to the proposed modification will consume 2.84 percent of the annual NO<sub>2</sub> PSD increment, 0.25 percent of the annual SO<sub>2</sub> PSD increment, 2.34 percent of the 24-hour SO<sub>2</sub> PSD increment, 2.14 percent of the 3-hour SO<sub>2</sub> PSD increment, and 24.2 percent of the annual PM<sub>10</sub> PSD increment. Thus, EPD has concluded that the facility will not adversely affect the air quality (i.e., exceed the allowable incremental increases in ambient concentration of PM<sub>10</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>).

With regard to the Class I Area (Shining Rock Wilderness Area), the EPD has determined that the maximum predicted impacts of these pollutants due to the proposed modification will consume 0.83 percent of the annual NO<sub>2</sub> PSD Class I increment, 0.13 percent of the annual SO<sub>2</sub> PSD Class I increment, 0.52 percent of the 24-hour SO<sub>2</sub> PSD Class I increment, 0.52 percent of the 3-hour SO<sub>2</sub> PSD Class I increment, 0.16 percent of the annual PM<sub>10</sub> PSD Class I increment, and 0.81 percent of the 24-hour PM<sub>10</sub> PSD Class I increment. With this in mind, EPD has concluded that the facility will not adversely affect the air quality (i.e., exceed the allowable Class II and Class I incremental increase in ambient concentrations of PM<sub>10</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>).

Any requests for a public hearing must be made in writing within the 30-day public comment period. Such requests should specify in detail the portion of the Air Quality Control Rules which the individual believes may not have been adequately reviewed. A public hearing may be held if the Director of the EPD finds that such a hearing would assist the EPD in a proper review of the facility's capability to comply with the requirements of Federal and State Air Quality Control regulations. State laws specify that a permit shall be issued on evidence satisfactory to the Director of compliance with applicable State and Federal regulations and requirements.

Following the 30 day public comment period, as required by PSD regulations, a proposed Permit, incorporating any changes that result from comments received during the public comment period, will be made available to U.S. EPA and affected states. Information pertaining to U.S. EPA's review period can be found on their website at [www.epa.gov/region4/air/permits](http://www.epa.gov/region4/air/permits).

After the comment period has expired, the EPD will consider all comments, make any necessary changes, and issue the Construction Permit and a Final Determination. Copies of the final Construction Permit, Final Determination, comments received, EPD's responses to comments, and any other relevant information will then be made available for public review during normal business hours at the office of the Air Protection Branch, as well as at the Internet addresses given above.

For additional information, contact Eric Cornwell, Program Manager, Stationary Source Permitting Program, at the Atlanta address, or by phone at 404/363-7000. Please refer to this notice when requesting information.