

Air Protection Branch

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May 1, 2024

Ms. Jeaneanne Gettle
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3104

RE: Georgia-Pacific Consumer Products LP-Savannah River Mill and Georgia Power-Plant McIntosh 2024 Annual Report for EPA's Data Requirements Rule for the 2010 1-Hour SO₂ NAAQS

Dear Ms. Gettle:

This report is being submitted to comply with the ongoing data requirements specified in 40 CFR 51.1205(b), for areas where modeling serves as the basis for designating that area as attainment for the 2010 1-Hour SO₂ NAAQS. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has determined that no additional modeling is needed to characterize air quality in Effingham County, Georgia.

On January 9, 2018, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designated Effingham County, GA as Attainment/Unclassifiable with an effective date of April 9, 2018 (83 FR 1098). This designation was based on 2012-2014 modeling submitted to EPA by Georgia EPD, which demonstrated that SO₂ emissions from Georgia-Pacific Products – Savannah River Mill (SRM) and Plant McIntosh do not cause or contribute to any exceedances of the 1-hour SO₂ National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). The highest modeled SO₂ design value in the modeling domain was 52 ppb.

According to the Data Requirements Rule for the 2010 1-hour SO₂ primary NAAQS (80 FR 51052):

“For any area where modeling of actual SO₂ emissions serve as the basis for designating such area as attainment for the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS, the air agency shall submit an annual report to the EPA Regional Administrator by July 1 of each year...that documents the annual SO₂ emissions of each applicable source in each such area... The first report for each such area is due by July 1 of the calendar year after the effective date of the area's initial designation.”

Table 1 contains the modeled SRM SO₂ emissions (2012-2014) along with SRM SO₂ emissions (2012-2022) from EPA's Emission Inventory System (EIS).

Table 1. SO₂ emissions from SRM for 2012-2022.

Calendar Year	EIS SO ₂ Emissions (Tons/Year)	Modeled SO ₂ Emissions (Tons/Year)
2012	3,036	2,770
2013	2,405	2,129
2014	2,105	2,062
2015	2,183	
2016	1,860	
2017	2,012	
2018	2,089	
2019	2,178	
2020	1,943	
2021	1,709	
2022	2,194	

The increase of facility-wide SO₂ emissions (485 TPY) at SRM in 2023 compared to the facility-wide SO₂ emissions in 2022 was primarily due to an increase in burning pet coke (98,839 TPY in 2021 and 124,140 TPY in 2022) and coal (38,509 TPY in 2021 and 59,636 TPY in 2022) by Boiler 3 and Boiler 5.

The 3-year average of SRM SO₂ emissions modeled for 2012-2014 was 2,320 TPY. The 3-year average of SO₂ emissions from SRM for 2020-2022 was 1,949 TPY which is 16.0 percent lower than the modeled emissions for 2012-2014.

Table 2 contains the modeled Plant McIntosh SO₂ emissions (2012-2014) along with Plant McIntosh SO₂ emissions (2012-2023) from EPA's Clean Air Markets Division (CAMD).

Table 2. SO₂ emissions from Plant McIntosh for 2012-2023.

Calendar Year	CAMD SO ₂ Emissions (Tons/Year)	Modeled SO ₂ Emissions (Tons/Year)
2012	0	0
2013	491	491
2014	2,268	2,267
2015	350	
2016	127	
2017	98	
2018	130	
2019	79	
2020	4	
2021	9	
2022	53	
2023	1	

The 3-year average of Plant McIntosh SO₂ emissions modeled for 2012-2014 was 919 TPY. The 3-year average of SO₂ emissions from Plant McIntosh for 2021-2023 was 21 TPY which is 97.7 percent lower than the modeled emissions for 2012-2014.

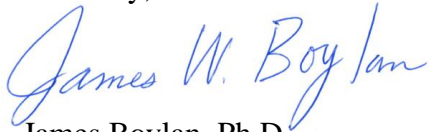
Therefore, EPD has determined that the previous modeling is conservative, no additional modeling is needed to characterize air quality in the area, and the area continues to meet the 2010 SO₂ NAAQS.

As required by 40 CFR 51.1205(b), a copy of this letter is available for public inspection at 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120, Atlanta, GA 30354. In addition, the public can inspect an electronic version of this letter at:

<https://epd.georgia.gov/air-protection-branch/air-branch-programs/planning-and-support-program/national-ambient-air-quality>

Should you or your staff have any questions or comments, please contact Elisabeth Munsey at Elisabeth.Munsey@dnr.ga.gov or 470-251-4736.

Sincerely,



James Boylan, Ph.D.

Chief, Air Protection Branch

Georgia Environmental Protection Division