

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION** 

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

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May 22, 2025

Mr. Kevin J. McOmber 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 2025 Annual Report for EPA's Data Requirements Rule for the 2010 1-Hour SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS

Dear Mr. McOmber:

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 SO<sub>2</sub> 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 SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Georgia-Pacific Products – Savannah River Mill (SRM) and Plant McIntosh do not cause or contribute to any exceedances of the 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). The highest modeled SO<sub>2</sub> design value in the modeling domain was 52 ppb.

According to the Data Requirements Rule for the 2010 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> primary NAAQS (80 FR 51052):

"For any area where modeling of actual  $SO_2$  emissions serve as the basis for designating such area as attainment for the 2010  $SO_2$  NAAQS, the air agency shall submit an annual report to the EPA Regional Administrator by July 1 of each year...that documents the annual  $SO_2$  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 SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (2012-2014) along with SRM SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (2012-2023) from EPA's Emission Inventory System (EIS).

Calendar	EIS SO <sub>2</sub> Emissions	Modeled SO <sub>2</sub> Emissions
Year	(Tons/Year)	(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	
2023	1,448	

Table 1. SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from SRM for 2012-2023.

The 3-year average of SRM SO<sub>2</sub> emissions modeled for 2012-2014 was 2,320 TPY. The 3-year average of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from SRM for 2021-2023 was 1,784 TPY which is 23.1 percent lower than the modeled emissions for 2012-2014.

Table 2 contains the modeled Plant McIntosh SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (2012-2014) along with Plant McIntosh SO<sub>2</sub> emissions (2012-2024) from EPA's Clean Air Markets Division (CAMD).

Calendar	CAMD SO <sub>2</sub> Emissions	Modeled SO <sub>2</sub> Emissions
Year	(Tons/Year)	(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	
2024	3	

Table 2. SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Plant McIntosh for 2012-2024.

The increase of facility-wide  $SO_2$  emissions (2 TPY) at Plant McIntosh in 2024 compared to the facilitywide  $SO_2$  emissions in 2023 was primarily due to an increase in demand that resulted in a heat input increase from 340,582 MMBtu in 2023 to 534,478 MMBtu in 2024.

The 3-year average of Plant McIntosh SO<sub>2</sub> emissions modeled for 2012-2014 was 919 TPY. The 3-year average of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Plant McIntosh for 2022-2024 was 19 TPY which is 97.9 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 SO<sub>2</sub> 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 W. Boy Jan

James Boylan, Ph.D. Chief, Air Protection Branch Georgia Environmental Protection Division