GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

Land Protection Branch
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10/08/2026

Mr. James "Jadie" E. Hatcher
Southern Legacy Wood Products, LLC
Mount Yonah Wood Waste Services, LLC
1605 Helen Hwy
Cleveland, Georgia 30528
Email: jhatcher@southernlegacywood.com

SUBJECT: Proposed Solid Waste Handling Permit – Air Curtain Destructor (ACD)
Draft Site Limitations
Southern Legacy Wood Products, LLC/Mount Yonah Wood Waste Services, LLC
GEOS Submittal ID: 982308

Dear Mr. Hatcher:

The Solid Waste Management Program of the Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has completed its review of the following:

- *Report of Site Assessment for Solid Waste Handling Permit Mount Yonah Wood Waste Services, 1605 Helen Highway Cleveland, Georgia, Geo-Hydro Project Number 251326.30;* prepared by Geo-Hydro Engineers, Inc. (Geo-Hydro) and dated November 6, 2025.

Based on the data submitted, EPD has drafted "Site Limitations" which would form the basis for design of the proposed operation of an Air Curtain Destructor (ACD) in a manner that complies with *Georgia's Rules for Solid Waste Management*. These rules can be accessed online at https://rules.sos.state.ga.us/GAC/391-3-4.

Comments on the proposed facility's site suitability report and the draft "Site Limitations" are welcome. However, if EPD is to consider such comments prior to determining if a Site Suitability Notice is warranted for this facility, they must be received within thirty (30) days of this letter's issuance. Please note that issuance of a Site Suitability Notice by EPD does not constitute a permitting decision for the proposed facility and comments regarding siting issues may be considered up to the time a final permitting decision is made.

Please contact Claudia Montero at 470-251-4253 or via email at Claudia.Montero@dnr.ga.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sarah B Visser

Sarah B. Visser, Chief
Land Protection Branch

Enclosure

cc: William Cook, Keith Stevens, – EPD (via email)
Brian Boutelle - EPD Mountain District, Cartersville (via email)
Jarrett Baggett, GeoHydro email: jbaggett@geohydro.com
File: GEOS 982308

Draft Site Limitations
Mount Yonah Wood Waste Services
Proposed Air Curtain Destructor
1605 Helen Highway Cleveland, Georgia

1. The area considered for acceptability includes only that area enclosed within the property boundary lines labelled as "Proposed Air Burner Area" on Figure 4 of Appendix 1 of the *Report of Site Assessment (Site Assessment Report) for Solid Waste Handling Permit Mount Yonah Wood Waste Services, 1605 Helen Highway Cleveland, Georgia, Geo-Hydro Project Number 251326.30; prepared by Geo-Hydro Engineers, Inc. (Geo-Hydro) and dated November 6, 2025*.

2. This Site Suitability determination is based on the proposed operation of a thermal processing facility utilizing a trenchless Air Curtain Destructor (ACD), which shall always remain above ground, for the management of authorized woody solid wastes. This determination does not authorize any other solid waste handling activities or processing technologies not specifically evaluated as part of the Site Assessment.

3. Construction and operation of the facility shall avoid impacts to jurisdictional wetlands and State Waters unless such impacts are authorized in accordance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Wetlands and State Waters shall be clearly identified on the approved Design and Operation Plan. A statement signed and sealed by the Professional Engineer responsible for the Design and Operation Plan shall certify that implementation of the Design and Operation Plan will not adversely impact wetlands or State Waters except as otherwise authorized.

4. A minimum 50-foot undisturbed buffer shall be maintained between the solid waste handling operations and all streams and wetlands.

5. Construction and operation of the facility shall not restrict the flow of the 100-year flood, reduce the temporary water storage capacity of the floodplain, or result in the washout of solid waste, ash, or other materials so as to pose a threat to human health or the environment.

6. Erosion, sedimentation, and stormwater management measures shall be designed, constructed, and maintained in accordance with the Georgia Erosion and Sedimentation Act and all other applicable federal, state, and local requirements to prevent sediment, ash, and other pollutants from impacting State Waters.

7. This Site Suitability determination is based upon the environmental conditions, site layout, and facility configuration described in the Site Assessment Report dated November 6, 2025. Any material change to the location of the proposed ACD, the limits of disturbance, or the nature of the proposed solid waste handling operation requires additional review by the Environmental Protection Division prior to implementation.