

February 24, 2006

Mr. David K. Paylor, Director
Virginia DEQ
P. O. Box 10009
Richmond, VA 23240

Re: Public Comment, Draft Permit, Columbia Forest Products - Chatham, Registration No. 30120, AIRS ID No. 51-143-00017.

Dear Mr. Paylor:

Enclosed is a copy of our comments regarding the proposed new air permit for Columbia Forest Products - Chatham. You will note that we have serious concerns. Although the permit is a result of plans to reduce the heavy smoke, it appears to us that, as currently construed, it has insufficient safeguards to prevent the problem from actually becoming worse and more dangerous.

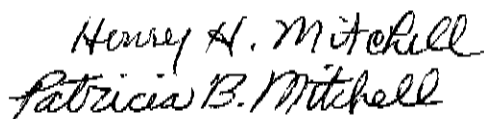
We have been communicating with DEQ for almost three years now regarding this situation. Our discussions have included many contacts with the Lynchburg office, and two meetings with Mr. Burnley (the second at his request). In the meantime, the conditions of smoke, odor, and noise have continued to deteriorate (for example, to the point that in January the Mitchell family found it necessary to close their bed-and-breakfast business of 20+ years).

We look forward to your attention to, and assistance with, this matter.

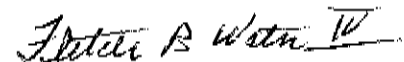
Yours truly,



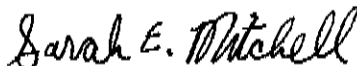
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