



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

W. Taylor Murphy, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE
7705 Timberlake Road, Lynchburg, Virginia 24502
(434) 582-5120 Fax (434) 582-5125
www.deq.virginia.gov

Robert G. Burnley
Director

Thomas L. Henderson
Regional Director

February 25, 2005

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Dave Abts
General Manager
Columbia Forest Products - Chatham
100 Paul Road S.W.
Chatham, VA 24531

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

RE: Visible Emissions Evaluation
Registration #30120
SCRO #2005-4176

Dear Mr. Abts:

This letter notifies you of information upon which the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) may rely to institute an administrative or judicial enforcement action. It is neither a case decision under the Virginia Administrative Process Act, Code § 2.2-4000 *et seq.*, nor adjudication.

FACTS AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Columbia Forest Products - Chatham manufactures wood paneling with a State Operating Permit dated August 28, 2003. Condition 17 of the permit states the following:

Visible emissions from the boiler shall not exceed 20 percent opacity as determined by EPA Method 9 (reference 40 CFR 60, Appendix A), except during one six-minute period in any one hour in which visible emissions shall not exceed 30 percent opacity. This condition applies at all times except during start-up, shutdown, or malfunction.

(9 VAC 5-50-80 of State Regulations)

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

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- 2) On February 18, 19, & 20, 2005, the South Central Regional Office (SCRO) received complaints regarding excess smoke coming from Columbia Forest Products' boiler stack. The complainants alleged that excessive smoke and emissions were occurring on days or hours when DEQ staff does not routinely perform compliance evaluations.
- 3) On Sunday, February 20, 2005, visible emissions evaluations (VEE) were performed by DEQ staff in conformity with EPA Method 9. Visible emissions from the boiler stack were observed and opacity readings were recorded between 10:15 am and 11:15 am. The VEE demonstrates that multiple 6-minute averages were above the 20% opacity limit contained in the permit, with the highest average being 37%.

ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY

Code §10.1-1316 of the Air Pollution Control Law provides for an injunction for any violation of the Law, the Air Board regulations, an order, or permit condition. The same statute provides for a civil penalty up to \$25,000 per day of violation of the Law, regulation, order, or permit condition. Code §10.1-1307 authorizes the Board to issue orders, and Code §10.1-1309 authorizes the Board to issue special orders to address such violations. In addition, Code § 10.1-1186 authorizes the Director of DEQ to issue special orders to any person to comply with the Air Law and regulations, and to impose a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000.

The Court has the inherent authority to enforce its injunction, and is authorized to award the Commonwealth its attorneys' fees and costs.

FUTURE ACTIONS

The staff must make a recommendation about how to proceed with this matter and whether to initiate an enforcement action based upon these facts. Before taking any further action, however, we would like to discuss this matter with you.

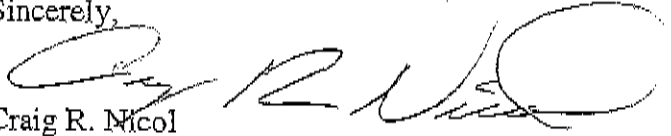
Your point of contact is Alan Ball at (434) 582-5120 ext. 6047. Please contact him within ten days of the date of this letter if you dispute any of the facts stated or if there is other information you believe DEQ should consider. At the same time, please inform Mr. Ball of any corrective action you have instituted or plan to institute and the schedule for doing so.

A meeting to discuss resolution of this matter can be arranged, if you so desire, when you talk with Mr. Ball. During this meeting, all aspects of the situation will be discussed. You may be asked to enter into a Consent Order with the Department to formalize your plan and schedule

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of corrective action and to settle any outstanding issues regarding this matter, including the payment of civil charges.

Sincerely,


Craig R. Nicol
Air Compliance Manager

cc: Enforcement/Compliance File
W. Alan Ball – Compliance/Enforcement Specialist



Commonwealth of Virginia

Registration No:	30120	AFS Plant ID:	143-00017
Plant Name:	Columbia Forest Products	Classification:	Synthetic Minor
Address:	100 Paul Rd SW	Region:	SCRO

AIR INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Date:	02/20/05	Contact Name:	Doane Cowan
Type:	PCE With Site Visit	Contact Phone No:	(434)432-2591
Inspector:	W A Ball	<u>Air Program</u>	<u>Subpart</u>
Inspection Result:	Out of Compliance	SIP	

Reason:
Complaint Investigation

****Additional Information is Attached****

Inspector Comments:

The SCRO received complaints regarding smoke coming from the source's boiler stack. The complaints alleged that excessive smoke and emissions were occurring on days or hours when DEQ staff does not routinely perform compliance evaluations.

Visible emissions evaluations (VEE) were performed in conformity with EPA Method 9 on Sunday, February 20, 2005 between the times of 8:34 am and 11:15 am EST. Visible emissions from the wood-fired boiler stack were observed and opacity readings were recorded. Multiple 6-minute averages as high as 37% opacity were recorded between 10:15 am and 11:15 am. The source is being issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) for exceeding 20% opacity.

W. Alan Ball

Inspector's Electronic Signature
Approval Date: Feb 24, 2005

[Handwritten Signature]

Manager's Electronic Signature
Approval Date: 2/25/05

EPA VISIBLE EMISSION OBSERVATION FORM 1

Method Used (Circle One)
 Method 9 208A 208B Other: _____

Company Name: Columbia Forest Products
 Facility Name: Reg. No. 30120
 Street Address: 100 Paul St. S.W.
 City: Chatham State: VA Zip: 24531

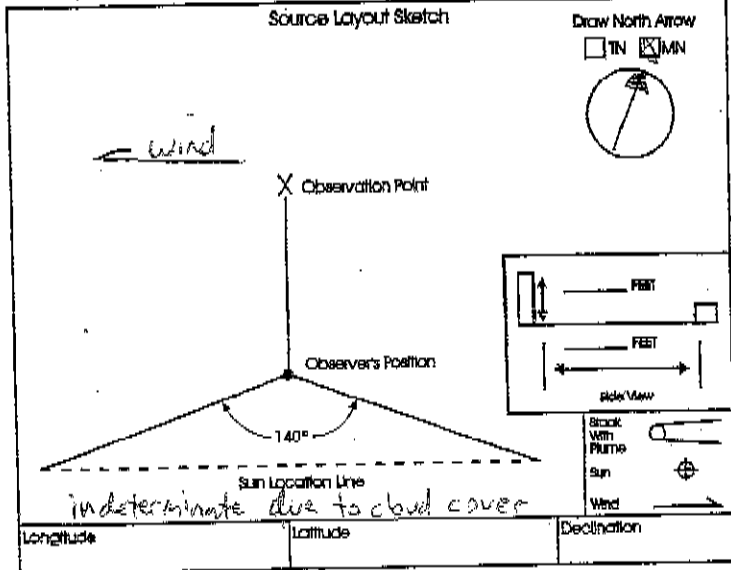
Process: Wood-fired boiler Unit #: _____ Operating Mode: _____
 Control Equipment: multicyclone Operating Mode: _____

Describe Emission Point:
rusty metal stack between cyclones on right & silo on left
 Height of Emiss. Pt. Start: _____ End: _____ Height of Emiss. Pt. Rel. to Observer Start: _____ End: _____
 Distance to Emiss. Pt. Start: 704' End: 704' Direction to Emiss. Pt. (Degrees) Start: 330° NW End: 339° NW

Vertical Angle to Obs. Pt. Start: _____ End: _____ Direction to Obs. Pt. (Degrees) Start: _____ End: _____
 Distance and Direction to Observation Point from Emission Point Start: _____ End: _____

Describe Emissions:
 Start / ending vertically / lowest End: same
 Emission Color: gray/blue Water Droplet Plume: _____
 Start: gray/blue End: gray/blue Attached Detached None

Describe Plume Background:
 Start: overcast End: same Sky Conditions: overcast End: overcast
 Background Color: overcast Wind Speed: 0-3 mph End: same Wind Direction: northwest End: same
 Ambient Temp. Start: 23.5°F End: same Wet Bulb Temp. _____ RH Percent _____



Additional Information: see site plan

Form Number: _____ Page: 1 of 2
 Continued on VEO Form Number: _____

Sec Min	Time Zone: <u>EST</u>				Start Time	End Time	Comments
	0	15	30	45			
1	10	5	5	5	<u>8:34am</u>	<u>9:34am</u>	
2	5	20	10	5			
3	15	10	10	10			
4	10	10	10	10			
5	20	20	10	20			
6	5	5	15	5			
7	5	5	15	10			
8	5	5	5	5			
9	5	5	10	10			
10	15	10	15	5			
11	5	5	15	10			
12	5	5	10	25			
13	10	10	10	10			
14	5	5	5	5			
15	10	10	10	20			
16	10	5	5	10			
17	10	10	10	10			
18	5	20	5	10			
19	15	10	15	10			
20	10	15	25	25			
21	15	20	15	15			
22	10	25	20	10			
23	10	10	10	10			
24	10	10	10	10			
25	5	5	10	15			
26	25	20	20	25			
27	25	20	20	20			
28	25	20	10	10			
29	10	15	10	10			
30	10	10	10	20			

Observer's Name (Print): W. Alan Ball
 Observer's Signature: W. Alan Ball Date: 2/20/05
 Organization: VA DEQ
 Certified By: ETA #321991 Date: 9/8/04

EPA VISIBLE EMISSION OBSERVATION FORM 1

Method 1 (Circle One)
 (Method 2) 203A 203B Other _____

Company Name Columbia Forest Products
 Facility Name Reg No. 30120
 Street Address 100 Paul St. S.W.
 City Chatham State VA Zip 24531

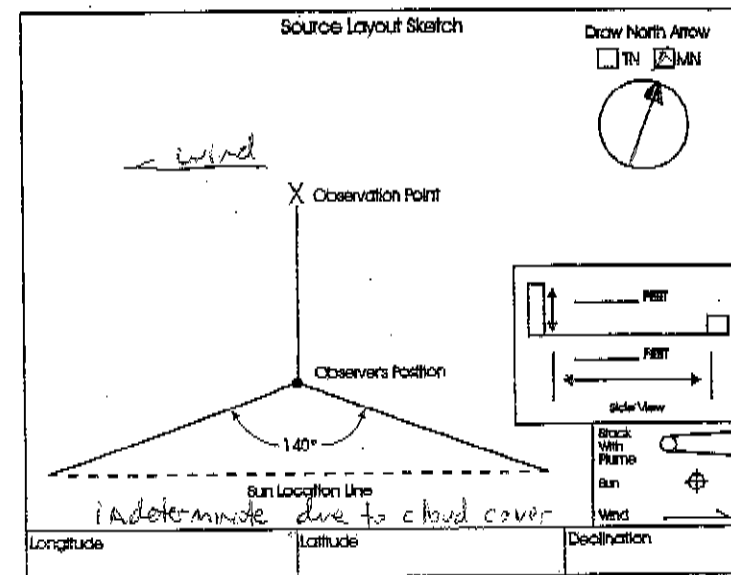
Process wood-fired boiler Unit # _____ Operating Mode _____
 Control Equipment multicyclone Operating Mode _____

Describe Emission Point
rusty metal stack between cyclones on right + silo on left
 Height of Emiss. Pt. Start 40 End _____ Height of Emiss. Pt. Rel. to Observer Start _____ End _____
 Distance to Emiss. Pt. Start 704' End 704' Direction to Emiss. Pt. (Degrees) Start 330°NW End 330°NW

Vertical Angle to Obs. Pt. Start _____ End _____ Direction to Obs. Pt. (Degrees) Start _____ End _____
 Distance and Direction to Observation Point from Emission Point Start _____ End _____

Describe Emissions
 Start coming vertically End coming vertically/to west
 Emission Color Start gray/blue End gray/blue Water Droplet Plume Attached Detached None

Describe Plume Background
 Start tops of pine trees End same
 Background Color Start green End same Sky Conditions Start overcast End overcast
 Wind Speed Start 0 End 0-8 mph Wind Direction Start none End none/west
 Ambient Temp. Start 35°F End same Wet Bulb Temp. _____ RH Percent _____



Additional Information See site plan

Form Number _____ Page 2 of 2
 Continued on VEO Form Number _____

Sec Min	Observation Date				Time Zone				Start Time	End Time
	0	15	30	45	EST				8:34 am	9:34 am
1	25	25	30	10						
2	10	10	10	5						
3	20	20	20	15						
4	25	25	15	10						
5	10	10	10	10						
6	10	25	30	15						
7	20	20	30	25						
8	5	25	25	25						
9	10	10	10	5						
10	5	10	10	5						
11	10	20	15	20						
12	20	20	20	15						
13	25	15	10	10						
14	25	25	15	10						
15	10	10	10	10						
16	10	10	20	25						
17	25	30	20	15						
18	15	15	10	10						
19	10	10	10	10						
20	10	10	20	25						
21	30	25	25	25						
22	25	10	20	15						
23	15	15	20	20						
24	20	20	15	10						
25	10	10	10	10						
26	15	15	20	40						
27	25	25	25	15						
28	10	10	10	10						
29	10	15	15	10						
30	10	10	10	10						

Observer's Name (Print) W. Alan Ball
 Observer's Signature W. Alan Ball Date 2/20/05
 Organization VA DEQ
 Certified By ETA #321991 Date 9/8/04

EPA VISIBLE EMISSION OBSERVATION FORM 1

Method Used (Circle One)
 (Method 9) 203A 203B Other: _____

Company Name Columbia Forest Products
 Facility Name Reg. No. 30120
 Street Address 100 Paul St. S.W.
 City Chatham State VA Zip 24531

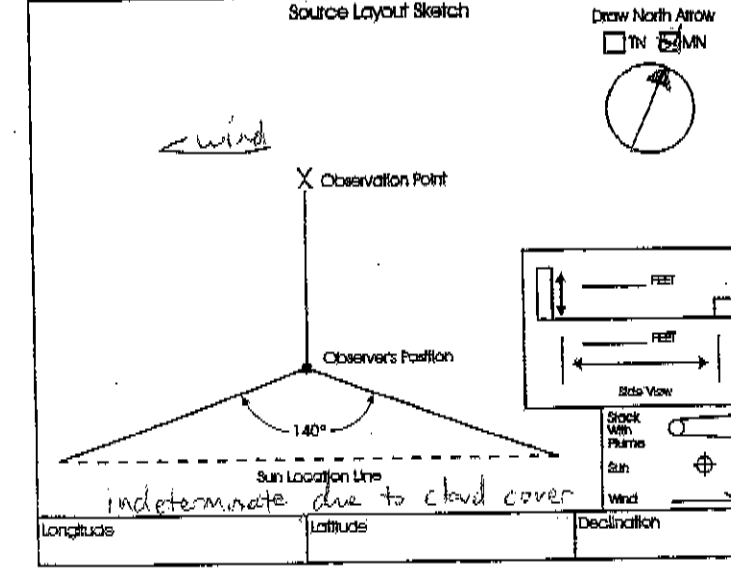
Process Wood-fired boiler Unit # _____ Operating Mode _____
 Control Equipment multicyclone Operating Mode _____

Describe Emission Point rusty metal stack between cyclones on right & silo on left
 Height of Emiss. Pt. Start 40' End 40' Height of Emiss. Pt. Rel. to Observer Start _____ End _____
 Distance to Emiss. Pt. Start 704' End 704' Direction to Emiss. Pt. (Degrees) Start 330° NW End 330° NW

Vertical Angle to Obs. Pt. Start _____ End _____ Direction to Obs. Pt. (Degrees) Start _____ End _____
 Distance and Direction to Observation Point from Emission Point Start _____ End _____

Describe Emissions Start ceiling vertically / to west End same
 Emission Color Start gray/blue End gray/blue Water Droplet Plume Attached Detached None

Describe Plume Background Start tops of pines End same
 Background Color Start green End same Sky Conditions Start overcast End overcast
 Wind Speed Start 0-8 mph End 0-8 mph Wind Direction Start same/west End same
 Ambient Temp. Start 55°F End same Wet Bulb Temp. _____ RH Percent _____



Additional Information See site plan

Form Number _____ Page 1 of 2
 Continued on VEO Form Number _____

Obs. Min	Time Zone				Start Time	End Time	Comments	
	0	15	30	45				
1	60	15	10	25	10:15 am	11:15 am		
2	10	10	10	25				
3	25	25	25	40				
4	10	20	20	30				
6	30	10	25	30				
6	10	40	10	10				
7	10	10	30	20				
8	25	50	30	30				
9	30	10	25	20				
10	30	35	60	10				
11	60	30	15	15				
12	10	10	10	20				
13	55	55	30	30				
14	35	30	20	40				33%
15	15	15	50	40				
16	15	60	30	20				
17	60	50	15	15				
18	15	15	25	35				
19	60	60	50	15				
20	50	50	20	15				
21	50	50	25	35				35%
22	30	50	25	30				
23	10	15	15	10				
24	25	50	40	50				
25	35	25	60	20				
26	25	40	70	75				
27	30	20	50	25				37%
28	60	40	30	50				
29	15	15	15	15				
30	25	60	40	25				

Observer's Name (Print) W. Alan Ball
 Observer's Signature W. Alan Ball Date 2/20/05
 Organization VA DEQ
 Certified By ETA # 321991 Date 9/8/04

EPA VISIBLE EMISSION OBSERVATION FORM 1

Method Used (Circle One)
 Method 2 203A 203B Other _____

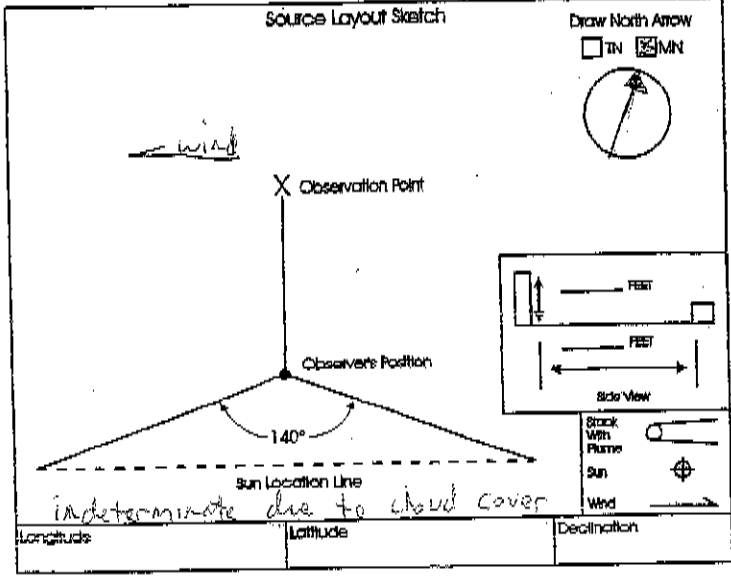
Company Name Columbia Forest Products
 Facility Name _____ Reg. No. 30120
 Street Address 100 Paul St. S.W.
 City Chatham State VA Zip 24551

Process wood-fired boiler Unit # _____ Operating Mode _____
 Control Equipment multicyclone Operating Mode _____

Describe Emission Point
rusty metal stack between cyclones
on right & silo on left
 Height of Emiss. Pt. Start 40' End 40' Height of Emiss. Pt. Rel. to Observer Start _____ End _____
 Distance to Emiss. Pt. Start 704' End 704' Direction to Emiss. Pt. (Degrees) Start 330° NW End 330° NW
 Vertical Angle to Obs. Pt. Start _____ End _____ Direction to Obs. Pt. (Degrees) Start _____ End _____
 Distance and Direction to Observation Point from Emission Point Start _____ End _____

Describe Emissions
 Start coming vertically to west End same
 Emission Color Start gray/blue End gray/blue Attached Detached None

Describe Plume Background
 Start tops of pine trees End same
 Background Color Start green End same Sky Conditions Start overcast End overcast
 Wind Speed Start 0-5 mph End 0-8 mph Wind Direction Start none/west End same
 Ambient Temp. Start 35°F End same Wet Bulb Temp. _____ RH Percent _____



Additional Information
see site plan

Form Number _____ Page 2 of 2
 Continued on VEO Form Number _____

Observation Date		Time Zone		Start Time	End Time	Comments
2/20/05		EST		10:15 am	11:15 am	
Sec	0	15	30	45		
Min						
1	60	55	15	20		
2	20	40	15	25		
3	20	60	25	50	} 34%	
4	50	50	25	15		
5	15	15	20	50		
6	50	30	40	50		
7	50	30	40	25	} 36%	
8	65	20	30	25		
9	50	25	25	20		
10	15	15	30	40		
11	40	65	30	20		
12	20	45	20	30		
13	60	30	20	60	} 34%	
14	20	30	15	15		
15	15	15	30	50		
16	60	25	70	40		
17	30	35	40	25		
18	50	30	30	30		
19	30	30	30	20		
20	15	15	25	25		
21	40	30	25	30		
22	30	40	25	15		
23	20	25	30	30		
24	30	25	25	35		
25	20	25	15	15		
26	15	35	40	35		
27	35	35	45	35		
28	15	35	35	35		
29	25	25	35	35		
30	20	15	20	20		

Observer's Name (Print) W. Alan Bull
 Observer's Signature W. Alan Bull Date 2/20/05
 Organization VA DEQ
 Certified by ETA #321991 Date 2/8/04