Facility Specific Information

Public comment period begins: October 14, 2014
Public comment period ends: 4:30 p.m. on November 14, 2014
Current permit issued (if applicable): December 12, 2008
Current permit expiration date (if applicable): December 12, 2013

Name and address of Permittee: Boise White Paper, LLC
400 2nd Street
International Falls, MN 56649

Facility name and location: Boise White Paper LLC Remote Site 17 Landfill
W1/2 of the NE1/4 and the SE1/4 of the NW1/4 in Section 34, Township 68 North,
Range 23 West, in Koochiching County, Minnesota

MPCA contact person: Julie Henderson, P.E.
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Road North
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155
Phone: (651)757-2423
Fax: (651)757-2343
E-mail: julie.henderson@state.mn.us
File manager phone: (651)757-2573

A draft permit and permit application are available for review on the MPCA Public Notices webpage at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publicnotices or at the MPCA office address listed under the MPCA contact person. The MPCA will mail or e-mail a copy of the draft permit upon request. Comments, petitions, and other requests must be received at the MPCA in writing on or before the public comment period end date and time identified above.

Watershed: Big Fork River
Receiving water: NA

Description of Permitted Facility/Activity

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has received an application for a permit to continue the operation of the Boise White Paper LLC Remote Site 17 Landfill. The applicant proposes to dispose of wastewater treatment plant sludge; bark and wood waste; brown stock rejects; lime mud; lime slaker grits; green liquor dregs; reburned lime; bottom and fly ash from the hog fuel boiler; asbestos; and other miscellaneous nonhazardous manufacturing wastes associated with the Boise White Paper LLC, a division of Packaging Corporation of America facilities at International Falls, Minnesota. The Landfill is located on a 33 acre parcel in Koochiching County.

The Facility has been divided into Phase I and Phase II for planning purposes. Phase I disposal capacity is granted in the draft permit and consists of six cells with a total airspace design capacity of 1,230,000 cubic yards (cy), inclusive of all cover soils (intermittent, intermediate and final). Cells 3 and 4 are currently open and based on a topographic survey conducted on September 30, 2013, the remaining airspace capacity of Phase I is approximately 718,004 cubic yards including all required cover soils. Cells 5 and 6 do not currently exist and are not expected to be constructed during the term of this permit. The final cover system will be constructed as cells reach final elevations and will include a 40 mil (40/1000th inch) geomembrane and a passive gas vent system.

Existing Cells 1, 2, 3 and 4 have a composite liner system consisting of compacted clay overlain with a 60 mil high density polyethylene liner and a leachate collection system. Leachate collected is pumped to two underground storage tanks. The collected leachate is transported to the Boise White Paper LLC Wastewater Treatment Facility.

The Facility has a constructed stormwater management system consisting of diversion berms, perimeter drainageways and a sedimentation basin. Additional stormwater management structures will be constructed as Cells 3-6 are closed.

The ground water monitoring network for the Facility consists of 8 groundwater monitoring wells. The local geology consists of unconsolidated sediments overlying granitic migmatite. The unconsolidated sediments consist of a layer of fat clay that is overlain by a layer of lean clay. There is a layer of sand that lies between the bedrock and the fat clay. There is a layer of soil that is considered lean that grades into peat over various parts of the site. Groundwater flow is generally to the west, north, and east, away from the topographic and bedrock divide that trends northwest-southeast through the center of the site.

The preliminary determination to reissue this Solid Waste Permit is tentative.
Procedure for Public Participation

As stated in Minn. R. chs. 7000 and 7001, there are four formal procedures for public participation in the MPCA’s consideration of the permit application. Interested persons may:

(1) Submit written comments on the draft permit.
(2) Petition the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting.
(3) Petition the MPCA to hold a contested case hearing.
(4) Submit a petition to the Commissioner requesting that the MPCA Citizens’ Board consider the permit matter.

Submitting Written Comments

Persons who submit comments or petitions to the MPCA through the mail or e-mail must state:

(1) Their interest in the permit application or the draft permit.
(2) The action they wish the MPCA to take, including specific references to the section of the draft permit they believe should be changed.
(3) The reasons supporting their position, stated with sufficient specificity as to allow the MPCA to investigate the merits of the position.

Public Informational Meeting

A public informational meeting is an informal meeting during which interested persons can ask questions concerning the proposed facility. MPCA staff will be present to provide information. If an interested person would like the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting, the person should include all information identified above and in addition include a statement of the reasons the person desires the MPCA to hold a public informational meeting and the issues that the person would like the agency to address at the public informational meeting.

Contested Case Hearing

A contested case hearing is a formal proceeding before an administrative law judge empowered to advise the MPCA regarding issues of fact. As described in Minn. R. 7000.1800, persons who submit petitions for a contested case hearing must also state the issues they propose to address in a contested case hearing, the specific relief requested or resolution of the matter, and the reasons (which may be in the form of proposed findings) supporting an MPCA decision to hold a contested case hearing. Failure to comply with these rules exactly may result in a denial of the request. To the extent known, the petitioner may also submit a list of prospective witnesses to be called at a hearing, a proposed list of publications, references, or studies to be introduced at a hearing and the approximate time required for the petitioner to present the matter at a hearing. The decision whether to hold a contested case hearing will be made under Minn. R. 7000.1900.

MPCA Citizens’ Board Meeting

The decision whether to issue the permit and, if so, under what terms, will be presented to the MPCA Citizen’s Board for decision if:

(1) The Commissioner grants a petition requesting the matter be presented to the Board.
(2) A Board member requests to hear the matter prior to the time the Commissioner makes a final decision on the permit.
(3) A request for a contested case hearing is pending. Otherwise, the Commissioner will make the decision.