



March 3, 2006

Mr. Ronald C. Methier, Chief
Air Protection Branch
Georgia Environmental Protection Division
4244 International Parkway, Suite 120
Atlanta, Georgia 30354

Re: Comments on Georgia EPD's Proposed Amendments to
Georgia's Air Quality Control Rules, Chapter 391-3-1
Attainment and Non-Attainment New Source Review Reforms
Notice Published on January 29, 2006

Dear Mr. Methier:

The Georgia Industry Environmental Coalition¹ (GIEC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Georgia Environmental Protection Division's (EPD) proposed amendments to Georgia's Air Quality Control Chapter 391-3-1. The notice for these proposed rule changes was published on January 29, 2006, and included revisions to the following chapters:

Rule 391-3-1-.02(2)(ooo) - Heavy-Duty Diesel Engine Requirements
Rule 391-3-1-.02(7) - Prevention of Significant Deterioration of Air Quality
Rule 391-3-1-.03(6)(b) - Permit Exemption for Combustion Equipment
Rule 391-3-1-.03(8)(c) - Permit Requirements for Non-Attainment New Source Review (NSR)

Before providing our comments on the latest proposed rule changes, GIEC would like to express appreciation for EPD's response to our comments submitted on November 14, 2005, in response to the notice of proposed rule changes published on October 2, 2005.

GIEC has participated as a stakeholder since EPD's first NSR Reform Technical Workshop, which was held on March 16-17, 2004. Throughout the multi-year process GIEC, as well as other members of the manufacturing sector, has emphasized the importance of NSR reforms to our member companies and other companies across the State of Georgia.

Overall the proposed rules reflect the core elements (except those vacated by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on June 24, 2005) of the revisions that U.S. EPA

¹ Formed in 1992, GIEC is a not-for-profit organization of Georgia industries whose member companies are subject to environmental regulations in Georgia. GIEC's mission is to serve as a technically-based advocate for Georgia industry by promoting environmental regulations and policies founded on protection of human health and the environment; sound science; and cost/benefit principles.

Many of our member companies represent the largest employers in the State and collectively represent an employee-base that exceeds 55,000 and include: Arizona Chemical Company; AGL Resources; Colonial Terminals, Inc.; DSM Chemicals North America, Inc.; Engelhard Corporation; General Electric Company; General Motors; Georgia-Pacific Corporation; Georgia Power Company; Gold Kist Inc.; International Paper; Kerr-McGee Pigments, Inc.; Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company; Merck & Company, Inc.; Mohawk Industries; Norfolk Southern Corporation; The NutraSweet Company; Omnova Solutions, Inc.; Southern Aluminum Finishing Company; Southwire; Weyerhaeuser Company; and The William L. Bonnell Co., Inc.

issued a little over four years ago and these changes are of vital importance to Georgia's many and diverse industries. The NSR Reform Rules will ensure that sources will not be forced to give up capacity simply because operations have been reduced due to economic downturns and will help allow business to bring jobs into Georgia consistent with the Clean Air Act and its goals.

The new rules represent a substantial improvement over the prior rules. First, they recognize the unreasonable and bureaucratic way in which the prior program operated, and therefore provide additional flexibility to regulated entities to make changes consistent with Clean Air Act goals. Second, we believe that these changes in the rules will result in direct environmental benefits because they remove impediments to projects that will improve environmental performance. The previous rules were being interpreted in ways that created substantial roadblocks to any project that would improve efficiency and reduce emissions per unit of production. By allowing sources to make realistic projections of maximum annual emissions after a change and more explicitly providing that unrelated increases should not be considered, the new rules more accurately implement the Clean Air Act requirements and allow environmentally beneficial projects to move forward. For these reasons we continue to request that EPD follow the Federal rule as closely as possible.

Specific to Page 2, 1-29-2006 version, 2(k)(l)l., there appears to be a typographical error.

The section currently reads as follows:

"The average rate shall include fugitive emissions to the extent quantifiable, and emissions associated with startups, shutdowns, and malfunctions.associated with startups, shutdowns, and malfunctions...."

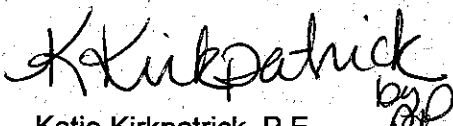
We believe the section should read as follows:

"The average rate shall include fugitive emissions to the extent quantifiable, and emissions associated with startups, shutdowns, and malfunctions. However, fugitive emissions and/or emissions associated with startups, shutdowns, and malfunctions shall or may be excluded in accordance with the following subparagraphs A and B."

GIEC urges EPD and the Board of Natural Resources to finalize these rules as quickly as possible. We have appreciated the opportunity to participate in this NSR Reform process and look forward to working with EPD in the future.

Sincerely,

GEORGIA INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION, INC.



Katie Kirkpatrick, P.E.
Board Chair



Deborah A. Phillips
Executive Director