

# **Georgia Department of Natural Resources**

**Environmental Protection Division • Air Protection Branch**

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**Mark Williams, Commissioner**

**F. Allen Barnes, Director**

## **For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Thomas Smith – 404-362-2790**

### **EPD to Host Q&A Session and Public Hearing at Macon's Bruce Elementary School on Graphic Packaging International's Permit Modification Application**

(ATLANTA – September 6, 2011) – The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) will host a forum to answer questions and also receive formal comments on Tuesday, September 20, regarding Graphic Packaging International's Air Quality Permit modification application for its Macon plant.

The meetings, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. and conclude no later than 8:30 p.m., will be held in the cafeteria of Bruce Elementary School. The school is located at 3660 Houston Avenue, Macon, Ga. 31206.

"We continue to value and consider the comments we receive from residents living in the communities in which facilities seeking permits are located, and in this case, a permit modification," said Eric Cornwell, manager of the Stationary Source Permitting Program of EPD's Air Protection Branch. "We will consider all air quality related comments prior to making a decision whether to recommend issuance."

Graphic Packaging International operates a Kraft pulp mill that manufactures both coated and uncoated linerboard at 100 Graphic Packaging International Way in Macon.

The purpose of the question-and-answer session (Q&A) is to present information and to answer questions about the application to modify an existing permit and the air quality permitting review process. During the meeting, EPD and Graphic Packaging representatives will make brief presentations before launching the Q&A portion. Immediately following the Q&A session, EPD will hold a public hearing to receive formal comments regarding the permit modification application and draft permit.

If approved for the environmental permit modification, Graphic Packaging would be allowed to make physical modifications to construct and operate a new biomass boiler, along with additional equipment, to burn wood products, mill sludge and natural gas. Also, Graphic Packaging would be allowed to modify two existing boilers to remove the burning of coal and fuel oil and eventually shut down the No. 1 boiler permanently.

EPD will accept formal comments at the public hearing and in writing until September 23, 2011. EPD has made the draft permit and supporting documents available for public review at our web site: <http://www.georgiaair.org/airpermit/html/permits/psd/main.html>, then scroll down to Graphic Packaging International.

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Please send written and email comments to the following addresses:

**Written comments to:**

Georgia Air Branch  
Attn: Eric Cornwell  
4244 International Parkway  
Suite 120  
Atlanta, Ga. 30354

**Email comments to: [epdcomments@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:epdcomments@dnr.state.ga.us)**

**Please include "graphic packaging international" in the subject line.**

For information on this permit modification application or EPD's review process, please contact Eric Cornwell at 404-363-7020. For information about the Q&A or public hearing, please contact Thomas Smith at 404-362-2790.

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