

# Sonoco

### Opportunity to comment

The Department of Ecology invites you to comment on the proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Sonoco paper mill in Sumner.

We will accept comments by mail, fax or e-mail March 20 – April 22, 2013. You may request a public hearing to ask questions and submit verbal comments. To request a hearing, contact:

Angie Fritz  
Industrial Section  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
angela.fritz@ecy.wa.gov  
(360) 407-7393

If we determine there is significant public interest during this comment period to hold a hearing, we will:

- Extend the comment period to allow at least 30 days notice of the hearing.
- Publish the time, date and location.

### Permit

Changes to the permit include:

- Decreased long term allowances for biological oxygen demand (BOD) and total suspended solids.
- Retained daily maximum allowance for BOD.
- Reintroduction of the ammonia limit.
- Added fecal coliform limit.

More information on these changes is found in the permit fact sheet available for public comment.

### DATES AND LOCATIONS

#### Comment period

March 20 – April 22, 2013

#### Read the proposed documents at these locations

Sumner Library  
1116 Fryar Ave  
Sumner, WA 98390

Dept of Ecology  
300 Desmond Dr. SE  
Lacey, WA 98504

Online:  
<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/industry/proposed.asp>

#### Submit written comments to

Robert Carruthers, P.E.  
Industrial Section  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
robert.carruthers@ecy.wa.gov  
Fax: (360) 407-6102

#### Special accommodations

If you require special accommodations or need this document in a version for the visually impaired, call the Waste 2 Resources Program at (360) 407-6900.

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Sonoco discharges to the White River, which is a tributary to the Puyallup River on Washington State's list of polluted waters (303(d) list), requiring a cleanup plan addressed through the total maximum daily load process. More information on the Puyallup River fecal coliform cleanup plan, with recommendations for the White River, is available at:  
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/puyallup/bacteria.html>.

A NPDES permit is normally issued every five years. It:

- Sets limits on the kinds, amounts and concentrations of pollutants a facility may release.
- Requires a facility to measure, test and report its pollutants.
- Prescribes "best management practices".
- Defines the pollution control standards applied.

Public comment allows you to:

- Tell us how well the proposed permit protects receiving water.
- Suggest changes to limit, conditions and requirements.
- Comment on Ecology's determination of compliance with antidegradation rules.
- Let us know if you think we made errors interpreting state and federal permitting requirements.

When the comment period ends, we will review all comments received and make appropriate changes to the permit before issuing it.

### **Facility description**

The mill is located at 1802 Steele Avenue in Sumner. It:

- Discharges:
  - Treated wastewater from outfall 001 into the White River about 30 feet upstream of the Fryar Avenue Bridge, at mile marker 1.4.
  - Stormwater to ground from outfall 004.
- Produced an average of 138 tons/day of paperboard from waste paper and recycled cardboard between January 2007 and July 2012.

The pulp and paper industry uses the paperboard produced at Sonoco as core material for paper rolls.