

## Port Townsend Paper Corporation

### Opportunity to comment

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) invites you to comment on the proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and associated fact sheet for the Port Townsend Paper Corporation (PTPC) pulp and paper mill.

We will accept comments April 24 – June 21, 2013.

Ecology will be available to answer questions about the proposed permit during an informal open house:

- May 14, 2013
- At the Port Townsend Community Center, 620 Tyler Street, Card Room
- 4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

A public meeting, including a presentation on the proposed permit followed by a question/answer opportunity and formal hearing to accept oral comments, will take place:

- June 4, 2013
- At the Elk's Lodge #317, 555 Otto Street, Port Townsend
- Starting at 6:30 p.m.

### Permit

PTPC operates a pulp and paper mill that discharges wastewater to Glen Cove in Port Townsend Bay. Under state and federal law, a NPDES permit is required to discharge wastewater.

An NPDES permit is normally issued every five years. This permit:

- Sets limits on the kinds, amounts and concentrations of pollutants a facility may release.
- Requires a facility to measure, test and report its pollutants.

### DATES AND LOCATIONS

#### Comment period

April 24 – June 21, 2013

#### Read the proposed permit at these locations

Port Townsend Public Library  
1220 Lawrence Street  
Port Townsend, WA 98368

WA Dept. of Ecology  
300 Desmond Way SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

Online:

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

#### Submit written comments to:

Stephanie Ogle, P.E.  
WA Dept. of Ecology  
Industrial Section  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600  
[PTPC.comments@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:PTPC.comments@ecy.wa.gov)

#### 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.

- Prescribes “best management practices.”
- Specifies additional studies necessary to determine the wastewater’s impact on the environment.
- Sets other legal conditions necessary to discharge wastewater.

The permit was last reissued in 2004. Proposed updates to the permit include:

- Lower biological oxygen demand and total suspended solids permit limits for the aerated stabilization basin (ASB) discharge.
- Addition of:
  - A pH limit for the discharge of sanitary wastewater
  - Various studies necessary to further assess potential impacts to the environment (groundwater, receiving water, and sediment quality)
  - A compliance schedule to remove sludge build up in the ASB.
  - An engineering study examining the treatment efficiency of the ASB for odor causing pollutants in the wastewater.

More information on these changes is found in the proposed fact sheet.

Effective comments:

- Tell us how well, based on current laws, rules and regulations, the proposed permit protects receiving water.
- Provide input on limits, conditions and requirements.
- Let us know if you think we made errors interpreting state and federal permitting requirements.
- Are specific. Tell us specifically what your concern is and how you think the permit should be changed.

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

### **Facility description**

The mill is located at 100 Mill Road in Port Townsend. It:

- Produced an average of 625 tons/day of unbleached Kraft pulp and 267 tons/day of old corrugated cardboard pulp between September 2004 and June 2012. The unbleached pulp is either sold or processed into paper for sale.
- Employs approximately 325 people.