



Report Date: December 13, 2018

File: UA109960

Report Number: 109960

REGISTERED MAIL

SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC.

PO Box 4000  
Cranbrook, BC  
V1C 7J7

Dear SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC.

**Re: Warning Letter, Unauthorized Discharge, 4501 Farstad Way, Skookumchuck BC, Air**

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On November 20, 2018, Ministry of Environment, Environmental Protection Division staff conducted an inspection of your facility, located at 4501 Farstad Way, Skookumchuck BC. The inspection determined that SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC. is out of compliance with the *Environmental Management Act*, Part 2 Prohibitions and Authorizations, Section 6(2) waste disposal. This Warning Letter lists the compliance verification information below.

By discharging waste under Environmental Management Act without a valid authorization SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC. commits an offence under the *Environmental Management Act (EMA)*. Section 120(3) of *EMA* states as follows:

*120(3) A person who contravenes any of the following commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$1 000 000 or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both: (a) section 6 (2), (3) or (4) [waste disposal];...*

It should also be noted that, as an alternative to prosecution of the offence referenced above, the Ministry may initiate action to impose an administrative penalty against SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC.. The Administrative Penalties Regulation (EMA) (B.C. Reg. 133/2014) (APR) was brought into force in 2014. The APR describes the prescribed provisions of the EMA as well as that of specified regulations under which administrative penalties can be assigned. Section 12(1) of the APR states as follows:

*12(1) A person who contravenes section 6 (2), (3) or (4), 7, 8, 9 (1) or (4), 11, 25 (2), 40 (1), (2), (3), (6) or (7), 48 (8), (10) or (15), 55 (1), 72 (1) or (2) or 76.2 of the Act is liable to an administrative penalty not exceeding \$75 000.*

I request that SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC. immediately implement the necessary changes or modifications to correct the non-compliance(s) listed above with the *Environmental Management Act*. Further, I request that SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC. notify this office in writing, by email or letter within 30 days of this letter, advising what corrective measures have been taken, and what else is being done, to prevent similar non-compliances in the future.

Please submit your response to the Ministry's Compliance Mailbox at [EnvironmentalCompliance@gov.bc.ca](mailto:EnvironmentalCompliance@gov.bc.ca).

As a result of this Warning, this authorization will be prioritized for follow-up inspection. The corrective measures will be reviewed by an Officer as part of the next inspection.

Finally, if you fail to take the necessary actions to restore compliance, you may be subject to escalating enforcement action. This Warning Letter and the alleged violations and circumstances to which it refers, will form part of the compliance history of SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC. and will be taken into account in the event of future violations.

SKOOKUMCHUCK PULP INC. failed to comply with the *Environmental Management Act*, section 6(2) as outlined below.

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**Ministry of Environment  
and Climate Change  
Strategy**

Compliance  
Environmental  
Protection Division

Mailing Address:  
205 Industrial Rd G  
Cranbrook BC V1C 7G5

Telephone: 250 489 8540  
Facsimile: 250 489 8506  
Website: [www.gov.bc.ca/env](http://www.gov.bc.ca/env)

**Inspection Details:**

Requirement Description:	<p><b>Environmental Management Act, Environmental Management Act</b></p> <p>6 (2): Subject to subsection (5), a person must not introduce or cause or allow waste to be introduced into the environment in the course of conducting a prescribed industry, trade or business.</p>
Details/Findings:	<p>On November 20, 2018, Ministry of Environment &amp; Climate Change Strategy (Ministry) Officer Taylor White conducted a site inspection of the Skookumchuck Pulp Inc. bleached kraft pulp mill located near Skookumchuck, BC. Accompanying Officer White during the site inspection was Brandy Craig (Environmental Coordinator, Skookumchuck Pulp Inc.). During the site inspection, unauthorized cyclones were observed.</p> <p>On November 21, 2018, Ms. Craig provided a description of all cyclones/dust collection systems on site via email, at the request of Officer White. Four of the described cyclones discharge directly to the environment without authorization. Three of the described cyclones were previously identified in a Warning Letter dated September 21, 2017 (Inspection Report 67373):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Wood waste handling conveyor</li> <li>2) Wood waste boiler transfer conveyors</li> <li>3) Chip unload area</li> </ol> <p>In an October 24, 2017 response to Inspection Report 67373, the Permittee stated that Skookumchuck Pulp Inc. was in the process of characterizing waste materials from the three cyclones as required to submit a Discharge Factor Amendment Form EPD-EMA-06. This was again confirmed by Ms. Craig during the site inspection. As of December 3, 2018, a permit amendment request to authorize these cyclones had not been received by the Ministry.</p> <p>The fourth cyclone observed during the site inspection, was located outside the carpentry shop:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4) Carpentry shop cyclone</li> </ol> <p>Ms. Craig described the cyclone as a five horsepower unit used when certain saws inside the carpentry shop are in operation.</p> <p>The discharge of air contaminants from cyclone units in the course of conducting a prescribed activity, as defined in the Waste Discharge Regulation (B.C. Reg 54/216), requires authorization under the Environmental Management Act.</p>
Compliance:	Out
Actions to be taken:	<p>Apply for a permit amendment to Permit 2149, to authorize the cyclones. Information on requesting a permit amendment can be found at the following link:  <a href="http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/waste-discharge-authorization">http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/waste-discharge-authorization</a></p>

Compliance History:  
2017-09-21 IR67373 Warning: Three unauthorized dust collection systems

Please be advised that this inspection report may be published on the provincial government website within 7 days.

If you have any questions about this warning, please contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Taylor White  
Environmental Protection Officer

cc:

Attachments:

Deliver via:

Email:

Fax:

Mail:

Registered Mail:

Hand Delivery:

**Ministry of Environment  
and Climate Change  
Strategy**

Compliance  
Environmental  
Protection Division

Mailing Address:  
205 Industrial Rd G  
Cranbrook BC V1C 7G5

Telephone: 250 489 8540  
Facsimile: 250 489 8506  
Website: [www.gov.bc.ca/env](http://www.gov.bc.ca/env)

**DISCLAIMER:**

Please note that sections of the permit, regulation or code of practice referenced in this inspection record are for guidance and are not the official version. Please refer to the original permit, regulation or code of practice.

To see the most up to date version of the regulations and codes of practices please visit  
<http://www.bclaws.ca>

If you require a copy of the original permit, please contact the inspector noted on this inspection record.

It is also important to note that this inspection record does not necessarily reflect each requirement or condition of the authorization therefore compliance is noted only for the requirements or conditions listed in the inspection record.