

DRAFT

AIR QUALITY STANDARD PERMIT FOR SAWMILLS

This air quality standard permit authorizes the air emissions from the operation of sawmills that meet the conditions listed in Sections (1) and (2).

This standard permit does not relieve the owner or operator from complying with any other applicable provision of the Texas Health and Safety Code, Texas Water Code, or rules of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ or commission).

(1) General Requirements

- (A) A sawmill is defined as a facility that processes logs into lumber. Operations authorized under this standard permit are debarking, sawing, planing, drying, trimming, and loading of lumber and wood residue. This permit does not authorize the chemical or pressure treatment of lumber or the manufacture of wood products.
- (B) For the purposes of this standard permit, drying means removal of moisture from raw lumber in dry kilns through direct or indirect firing heating using natural gas, liquified petroleum gas (LPG), or clean, untreated wood residue; and naturally by air.
- (C) Sawmills are exempt from the requirements of 30 TAC, §§116.610(a)(1), Applicability, 116.611, Registration to Use a Standard Permit, and 116.614, Standard Permit Fees. Sawmill owners or operators that meet the requirements of this standard permit will file their name and address or location of the site with the appropriate TCEQ regional office. Owners or operators of new sawmills will supply the name and address of the mill prior to construction.
- (D) Emissions from maintenance, startup and shutdown are included in sawmill production emissions.
- (E) A sawmill does not qualify for authorization under this standard permit if any of the following conditions apply:
 - (i) it cannot meet the setback requirements in Table 1;

- (ii) it constitutes a new major source or major modification or is located at a site that constitutes a major source as defined by 30 TAC §116.12, Nonattainment and Prevention of Significant Deterioration Review Definitions.

- (F) Sawmills using internal combustion engines for primary electric power generation or incinerators must obtain separate authorization for these devices.

(2) Operating Requirements

- (A) Sawmills are authorized to operate from sunrise until sunset.
- (B) This standard permit authorizes sawmills up to a maximum combined production of hardwood and softwood lumber of 25 million board feet per 12-calendar month period.
- (C) All sawmill production equipment including debarkers, saws, planers, conveyors, stockpiles, dryers, and boilers will be located a minimum of 150 feet from the sawmill property line.
- (D) Sawmills shall meet the production of hardwood products and distance requirements indicated in Table 1. The required setback distance is from the load-out point to the sawmill property line. The load-out point is the location of the operation where scrap lumber, bark, sawdust, and other wood waste is loaded into a receptacle or stored for removal from the site. The load-out can include a conveyor system depositing waste into a receptacle or vehicle. The minimum setback will be 150 feet.
- (E) All in-plant roads, truck loading and unloading areas, parking areas, and other traffic areas shall be sprinkled with water, be treated with effective dust suppressant(s), covered, or paved (with a cohesive, hard surface) and cleaned as necessary to maintain compliance with all TCEQ rules and regulations.
- (F) All sawmill residues (sawdust, shavings, chips, or bark) shall be regularly watered, removed, or stored to minimize fugitive particulate emissions.
- (G) All sawmill residues shall be conveyed by belts or drag chains to a collection area for disposal. If a pneumatic collection system is used, the air must exhaust to a fabric or cartridge filter with air cleaning and a filtering velocity no greater than 7.0 feet per minute with an air-to-cloth ratio = 7.0, or automatic sequenced cleaning and filtering velocity no greater than 5.0 feet per minute with an air-to-

cloth ratio = 5.0.

- (H) Open burning is prohibited.
- (I) The use of a front end loader or similar heavy equipment to transport and load on-site sawmill residues is an acceptable practice provided the work area is sprinkled with water, treated with effective dust suppressant(s), covered, or paved (with a cohesive, hard surface) and cleaned as necessary to maintain compliance with all TCEQ rules and regulations.
- (J) Visible fugitive emissions from the site, as defined in 30 TAC, Chapter 122, Federal Operating Permits Program, or equipment used at the site shall not leave the property for a period exceeding 30 seconds in any six-minute period as determined using United States Environmental Protection Agency Test Method 22.
- (K) Opacity of emissions from the boilers shall not exceed 20 percent averaged over a six-minute period, except for those periods described in 30 TAC §111.111(a)(1)(E) or during maintenance, start-up, and shutdown (MSS) operations. The opacity shall be determined by EPA Reference Method No. 9 or equivalent.
- (L) Boilers and drying or curing ovens will meet the following conditions:
 - (i) The only emissions shall be products of combustion of the fuel, volatile organic compounds from wood. This standard permit also authorizes any fugitive components associated with a boiler authorized by this standard permit.
 - (ii) The maximum heat input shall be 40 million British thermal units (Btu) per hour with the fuel being:
 - (a) sweet natural gas;
 - (b) liquid petroleum gas;
 - (c) fuel gas containing no more than 0.1 grain of total sulfur compounds, calculated as sulfur, per dry standard cubic foot;
 - (d) combinations of the fuels in (a) – (c).

- (iii) Sawmill wood residue, including bark, scrap lumber, shavings, and sawdust can be used as fuel. Particulate matter emissions from any boiler or curing oven shall not exceed 0.1 grains per dry standard cubic feet, corrected to 12% CO₂ or 50% excess air. Boilers with heat input of 30 million Btu per hour or more shall also be subject to New Source Performance Standards, Subpart Dc.
 - (iv) Distillate fuel oil shall be fired as a backup fuel only. Firing shall be limited to 720 hours per year. The fuel oil shall contain less than 0.3% sulfur by weight and shall not be blended with waste oils or solvents.
 - (v) All gas-fired curing ovens and boilers with a heat input greater than ten million Btu per hour (higher heating value) shall be designed such that the emissions of nitrogen oxides shall not exceed 0.1 pounds per million Btu heat input.
- (M) Internal combustion engines and electric generator sets used only for portable, emergency or standby services are authorized, provided that the maximum annual operating hours shall not exceed 10% of the normal annual operating schedule of the primary equipment; and all electric motors.
- (N) Records of annual throughput of hardwood and softwood lumber, converted to board feet, and any hours firing fuel oil or fuel oil purchases shall be maintained at the site for a rolling 24-month period. These records shall be made available upon request of personnel from the TCEQ or any other local air pollution control agency having jurisdiction.

**Required Setback Distance
from Property line for Load-out Facility
(Based on Hardwood Production Rate)**

