



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



JANET T. MILLS  
GOVERNOR

MELANIE LOYZIM  
COMMISSIONER

March 22, 2021

Mr. Charles Kraske  
Waste Water Treatment Area Manager  
Pixelle Specialty Solutions  
Androscoggin Mill  
300 Riley Road  
Jay, ME 04239

RE: Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit ME0001937  
Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) Application W0006230-5N-R-M  
**Final Permit Modification**

Dear Mr. Kraske:

Enclosed please find a copy of your **final** MEPDES Permit and Maine WDL **modification** which was approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. Please read this document and its attached conditions carefully. Compliance with this permit/license will protect water quality.

Any interested person aggrieved by a Department determination made pursuant to applicable regulations, may appeal the decision following the procedures described in the attached DEP FACT SHEET entitled “*Appealing a Commissioner’s Licensing Decision.*”

If you have any questions regarding the matter, please feel free to call me at 287-1298. Your Department compliance inspector copied below is also a resource that can assist you with compliance. Please do not hesitate to contact them with any questions.

Thank you for your efforts to protect and improve the waters of the great state of Maine!

Sincerely,

Breanne Blaisdell  
Environmental Specialist in the Bureau of Water Quality  
Maine Department of Environmental Protection

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Enc.

cc:

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STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
17 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

**DEPARTMENT ORDER**

**IN THE MATTER OF**

PIXELLE ANDROSCOGGIN LLC	)	MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
JAY, FRANKLIN COUNTY, MAINE	)	ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
PULP & PAPER MANUFACTURING FACILITY	)	AND
ME0001937	)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
W000623-5N-R-M	)	<b>MODIFICATION</b>
<b>APPROVAL</b>	)	

In compliance with the applicable provisions of *Pollution Control*, 38 M.R.S. §§ 411 – 424-B, *Water Classification Program*, 38 M.R.S. §§ 464 - 470 and *Federal Water Pollution Control Act*, Title 33 U.S.C. § 1251, and applicable rules of the Department of Environmental Protection (Department), has considered the application of Pixelle Androscoggin LLC to modify combination Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit #ME0001937/Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W000623-5N-P-R (permit hereinafter) last issued by the Department to the VERSO CORPORATION on December 4, 2017, for a five-year term. On January 21, 2020, a minor revision was finalized with the Department to correct the legal corporate name on the permit to “Verso Androscoggin LLC.” With its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file, the Department FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

**MODIFICATION REQUESTED**

On April 15, 2020, the permittee experienced a catastrophic explosion of two onsite pulp digesters. Due to these unforeseen events, the permittee has requested several modifications to their 2017 permit.

1. The permittee has requested that the Department change the legal name of the owner of record from Verso Androscoggin LLC to Pixelle Androscoggin LLC.
2. The permittee has requested a reduction in the daily maximum effluent flow limitation from 50 MGD to 26 MGD.
3. The permittee has requested modification of the seasonal sampling frequency for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) from 5/Week, June 1-September 30, to 3/Week year-round, due to an extended elimination of pulp production.

In the December 20, 2012 permit, after statistical analysis, the monitoring frequency for BOD was reduced from 1/Day to 5/Week, June-September, and 1/Day to 4/Week, October-May. The equation used for the statistical analysis was (Long Term Average)/(Effluent Limitation). An extended elimination of pulp production will result in a significant reduction of BOD loading in the effluent, therefore, the LTA/Effluent Limitation ratio value will be smaller and a reduction in monitoring frequency is justified based on the statistical analysis utilized in 2012.

**MODIFICATION REQUESTED (cont'd)**

In the 2017 permit, a request by the permittee for further reduction was denied based on Department guidance that monitoring reductions may only occur once for a facility and that the Department considered the monitoring frequency to be necessary and appropriate to determine compliance. Given the reduction of BOD loading in the effluent due to extended production changes, however, the Department has reconsidered the request from the permittee.

In light of the recent changes, BOD and total suspended solids (TSS) limitations were also reevaluated. Previous permitting action utilized values found in the Environmental Protection Agencies Effluent Limitation Guidelines, 40 CFR 430, Sub-part B-*BPT effluent limitations for bleached kraft facilities where pulp and fine papers are produced*. With the change to purchased pulp, limitations utilizing values found in Sub-part K-*BPT effluent limitations for non-integrated mills where fine paper is produced from purchased pulp-wood fiber furnish subdivision*, were calculated.

4. The permittee has requested the replacement of the Heat Gain/Heat Loss (HGHL) model with the Predicted River Temperature Increase (PRTI) calculation. In the January 27, 2010 permit modification, the PRTI calculation was replaced by the HGHL model and the term CRTI, (calculated river temperature increase) because the Department's PRTI formula calculated the maximum potential change in temperature and it did not consider or take into account the fact that some or essentially all of the heat added by the facility could be lost to the atmosphere during the night. The night-time heat loss is significant during the latter half of the summer season when the air temperature at night is cooler than the river water temperature. The HGHL model developed by the permittee and approved by the Department factors in night-time heat loss and more accurately calculates the river temperature increase. The HGHL model, however, requires the utilization of probes in the river. The PRTI does not, which eliminates probe maintenance requirements.
5. The permittee has requested that the numeric limitations for chemical oxygen demand (COD) be suspended and lbs./day reporting be maintained. This request is consistent with the requirements of the December 4, 2017 permit. Special Condition A, Footnote 9, Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) states,

“All reported COD values are to be expressed as the soluble fraction of COD in the final effluent.

- (a) Numeric limitations are only applicable when unbleached kraft production is greater than or equal to ( $\geq$ ) 667 air dried tons/day.
- (b) The permittee shall report values associated with sampling conducted at times when the unbleached kraft pulp production is less than ( $<$ ) 667 air dried tons/day.”

As unbleached pulp production is currently  $<$  667 air dried tons/day at the facility, numeric limitations are not applicable. The sampling frequency prescribed by the 2017 permit and reporting values, are still required.

**MODIFICATION REQUESTED (cont'd)**

6. Lastly, the permittee has requested that the limitations for Adsorbable Organic Halogens (AOX), Color, and parameters associated with the Bleach Plants (Outfall 100A and Outfall 200A) be suspended. These parameters are all associated with the historic process of pulp production, which is not currently operational at the facility.

**MODIFICATION GRANTED**

1. The Department grants the permittee's request to change the name on MEPDES Permit #ME0001937/WDL #W000623-5N-P-R from Verso Androscoggin LLC to Pixelle Androscoggin LLC.
2. The Department grants the permittee's request for a reduction of the daily maximum effluent flow limitation.
3. The Department grants the permittee's request for reduced BOD monitoring due to an extended significant reduction of loading due to the loss of pulping operations.
4. The Department has modified the BOD and TSS monthly average and daily maximum limitations to reflect reduced production rates as well as the change from manufacturing pulp to utilizing purchased pulp.
5. The Department grants the permittee's request for the use of PRTI methodology to report river temperature given the lower flow and temperature of current processes.
6. The Department grants the permittee's request for a suspension of COD kilogram limits as there are no bleach or pulping operations occurring on site.
7. The Department grants the permittee's request for a suspension of the limitations for AOX, color and the parameters associated with the two Bleach Plants (Outfall 100A and 200A) as there are no bleach or pulping operations occurring on site.

The Department is hereby modifying the 2017 MEPDES permit with the attached tables and special conditions for those limits associated with the facility while bleaching and pulping processes are not occurring. The Department is requiring that the permittee notify the Department compliance staff at least 60 days prior to any startup of bleaching or pulp production processes.

## CONCLUSIONS

Subject to the terms and conditions contained herein, the Department makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.
2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.
3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, 38 M.R.S. Section 464(4)(F), will be met, in that:
  - a. Existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;
  - b. Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding natural resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;
  - c. The standards of classification of the receiving water body are met or, where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet the standards of classification;
  - d. Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification, that higher water quality will be maintained and protected; and
  - e. Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.
4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment.

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**ACTION**

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted requests of Pixelle Androscoggin LLC to modify MEPDES Permit #ME0001937/WDL #W000623-5N-P-R, issued by the Department on December 4, 2017, for a five-year term. The discharges are subject to the attached conditions and all applicable standards and regulations including:

1. “*Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Standard Conditions Applicable To All Permits*,” revised July 1, 2002, copy attached to MEPDES Permit #ME0001937/WDL #W000623-5N-P-R, issued by the Department on December 4, 2017.
2. All terms and conditions of MEPDES Permit, #ME0001937/WDL #W000623-5N-P-R, issued by the Department on December 4, 2017, not modified by this permitting action remain in effect and enforceable.
3. The attached Special Conditions, including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.
4. This permit modification becomes effective upon the date of signature below and expires on December 4, 2022, concurrent with MEPDES Permit #ME0001937/WDL #W000623-5N-P-R, issued by the Department on December 4, 2017. If a renewal application is timely submitted and accepted as complete for processing prior to the expiration of this permit, the terms and conditions of this permit and all subsequent modifications and minor revisions thereto remain in effect until a final Department decision on the renewal application becomes effective. [*Maine Administrative Procedure Act*, 5 M.R.S. § 10002 and *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters*, 06-096 CMR 2(21)(A) (amended June 9, 2018)].

DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS 22 DAY OF March, 2021.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY:   
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 For Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

Date of initial receipt of application 8/12/2020.  
 Date of application acceptance 8/26/2020.

<p><b>FILED</b></p> <p><b>MAR 22, 2021</b></p> <p><b>State of Maine</b></p> <p><b>Board of Environmental Protection</b></p>
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**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

**OUTFALL #001A & #001B<sup>(1)</sup>** – Secondary treated wastewaters (while bleaching and pulp production activities are suspended)

Effluent Characteristics	Discharge Limitations						Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	Monthly Average	Weekly Average <sup>(2)</sup>	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Weekly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Flow [50050]	Report MGD [03]	---	26 MGD [03]	---	---	---	Continuous [99/99]	Recorder [RC]
BOD <sub>5</sub> (June 1-September 30)	4,400 lbs./day	6,400 lbs./day	8,000 lbs./day	---	---	---	3/Week	Composite
(October 1-May 31) [00310]	6,800 lbs./day [26]	11,100 lbs./day [26]	13,120 lbs./day [26]	---	---	---	3/Week [04/07]	Composite [24]
TSS (June 1 - September 30)	9,440 lbs./day	---	17,600 lbs./day	---	---	---	4/Week [04/07]	Composite [24]
	9,440 lbs./day <sup>(3)</sup>	---	---	---	---	---	1/Day [01/01]	Calculate [CA]
(October 1- May 31)	9,400 lbs./day	---	17,600 lbs./day	---	---	---	4/Week [04/07]	Composite [24]
[00530]	9,400 lbs./day <sup>(4)</sup> [26]	---	---	---	---	---	1/Year [01/YR]	Calculate [CA]
Oxygen Injection [34048] (June 1 – September 30)	---	---	24,279 lbs./day <sup>(5a)</sup> 34,490 lbs./day <sup>(5b)</sup>	---	---	---	1/Day [01/01]	Record [RC]
Total Phosphorus [34048] (June 1 – September 30)	130 lbs./day [26]	---	Report lbs./day [26]	Report mg/L <sup>(6)</sup> [19]	---	Report mg/L <sup>(6)</sup> [19]	3/Week [03/07]	Composite [24]
Ortho-phosphorus [70507] (June 1 – September 30)	28 lbs./day [26]	---	Report lbs./day [26]	Report mg/L <sup>(6)</sup> [19]	---	Report mg/L <sup>(6)</sup> [19]	2/Week [02/07]	Composite [24]
Temperature [00011] (June 1 - September 30)	---	---	---	---	---	100°F [15]	1/Day[01/01]	Measure [MS]
(October 1- May 31)	---	---	---	---	---	Report °F [15]	1/Week[01/07]	Measure [MS]
River Temperature Increase [03772] (June 1 - September 30)	---	---	---	---	0.5°F <sup>(7a)</sup> [15]	---	1/Day [01/01]	Calculate [CA]
River Temperature Increase [03772] (June 1 - September 30)	---	---	---	---	---	0.5°F <sup>(7b)</sup> [15]	1/Day [01/01]	Calculate [CA]
Adsorbable Organic Halogen <sup>(8)</sup> (AOX) [03594]	---	---	---	---	---	---	Suspended	---



**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)**

**OUTFALL #001A & #001B<sup>(1)</sup>** – Secondary treated wastewaters (while bleaching and pulp production activities are suspended)

Effluent Characteristics	Discharge Limitations						Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	Monthly Average	Weekly Average <sup>(2)</sup>	Daily Maximum	Monthly Average	Weekly Average	Daily Maximum	Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) <sup>(9a)</sup> [81017]	---	---	---	---	---	---	Suspended	---
Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) <sup>(9b)</sup> [81017]	Report lbs./day [26]	---	Report lbs./day [26]	---	---	---	4/Week [04/07]	Composite [24]
pH (Std. Unit) <sup>(10)</sup> [00400]	---	---	---	---	5.0 – 9.0 SU [12]	---	1/Day [01/01]	Grab [2GR]
Color <sup>(11)</sup> [51201]	---	---	---	---	---	---	Suspended	---
Mercury (Total) <sup>(12)</sup> [71900]	---	---	---	15.8 ng/L [3M]	---	23.7 ng/L [3M]	1/Year [1/YR]	Grab [GR]

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**SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

**A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)**

**FOOTNOTES**

For footnotes not modified by this permit modification, see the December 4, 2017 MEPDES permit for applicable footnotes.

**7. River Temperature Increase**

- (a) **Temperature Increase** (Increase of the ambient receiving water temperature) – This is a weekly rolling average limitation when the receiving water temperature is  $\geq 66^{\circ}\text{F}$  and  $< 73^{\circ}\text{F}$ . See Special Condition J, *River Temperature Increase*, of this permit for the equation to calculate the predicted river temperature increase (PRTI).
- (b) **Temperature Increase** (Increase of the ambient receiving water temperature) - This is a daily maximum limitation when the receiving water temperature is  $\geq 73^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

## SPECIAL CONDITIONS

### J. RIVER TEMPERATURE INCREASE

When the ambient receiving water temperature is  $\geq 66^{\circ}\text{F}$  and  $< 73^{\circ}\text{F}$ , the permittee is limited to a thermal discharge that will not increase the ambient receiving water temperature by more than  $0.5^{\circ}\text{F}$  based on a weekly (7 days) rolling average calculation. When the ambient receiving water temperature is  $\geq 73^{\circ}\text{F}$ , the permittee is limited to a thermal discharge that will not increase the ambient receiving water temperature by more than  $0.5^{\circ}\text{F}$  based on a daily calculation. For each operating day during the applicable limitation period, the permittee must calculate the Predicted River Temperature Increase (PRTI) associated with the thermal discharge from Outfall #001 according to the following equation:

$$\text{PRTI } (^{\circ}\text{F}) = \frac{Q_e (T_e - T_r)}{Q_r}$$

where,

$Q_r$  = Ambient receiving water flow in gpd or MGD (must be like units as  $Q_e$ )

$Q_e$  = Effluent flow in gpd or MGD (must be like units as  $Q_r$ )

$T_e$  = Effluent temperature in  $^{\circ}\text{F}$

$T_r$  = Ambient receiving water (mill intake) temperature in  $^{\circ}\text{F}$

Receiving water flow measurements ( $Q_r$ ) shall be obtained from USGS Rumford Station #01054500 located in the Town of Rumford with an adjustment factor of 1.19 to account for the drainage area between Rumford and Jay. The permittee shall adhere to mathematical protocols for significant figures and rounding the calculated PRTI values. All PRTI values reported to the Department on the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) for compliance must be rounded to the nearest  $0.1^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

Replacement of the HGHL model with a PRTI calculation is acceptable while no pulping is occurring at the facility. Should pulping resume, the method of evaluating the thermal impact of the mill may need to be reevaluated to account for any indirect effects of effluent color on the temperature increase in the river.

### Q. COMMENCEMENT OF BLEACHING OPERATIONS

Should the permittee propose to resume bleaching operations at the mill, the permittee must provide written notice to the Department's permitting and compliance inspection staff **at a minimum of sixty (60) days prior to commencing bleaching operations** at the facility. This 60-day timeframe will give the Department the opportunity to review the applicability of the permit limitations, monitoring requirements, and reporting requirements. Should the Department determine that the proposed bleaching operations are significantly different from what was presented in past or current application materials, the Department may require the applicable party to modify this permit or to file an application for a new permit.

**MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT  
AND  
MAINE WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE**

**FACT SHEET**

**DATE:** MARCH 18, 2021

**PERMIT NUMBER:** ME0001937  
**LICENSE NUMBER:** W000623-5N-R-M

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:** PIXELLE ANDROSCOGGIN LLC  
300 RILEY ROAD  
JAY, MAINE 04239

**COUNTY:** FRANKLIN COUNTY

**NAME AND ADDRESS WHERE DISCHARGE(S) OCCURS(S):**

ANDROSCOGGIN MILL  
300 RILEY ROAD  
JAY, MAINE 04239

**RECEIVING WATER CLASSIFICATION:** ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER/CLASS C

**COGNIZANT OFFICIAL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER:** CHARLES KRASKE  
300 RILEY ROAD  
JAY, MAINE 04239

**1. MODIFICATIONS REQUESTED**

1. The permittee has requested that the Department change the legal name of the owner of record from Verso Androscoggin LLC to Pixelle Androscoggin LLC.
2. The permittee has requested a reduction in the daily maximum effluent flow limitation from 50 MGD to 26 MGD.
3. The permittee has requested modification of the seasonal sampling frequency for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) from 5/Week, June 1-September 30, to 3/Week year-round, due to an extended elimination of pulp production.
4. The permittee has requested the replacement of the Heat Gain/Heat Loss (HGHL) model with the Predicted River Temperature Increase (PRTI) calculation.

**1. MODIFICATIONS REQUESTED (cont'd)**

5. The permittee has requested that the numeric limitations for chemical oxygen demand (COD) be suspended and lbs./day reporting be maintained.
6. The permittee has requested that the limitations for Adsorbable Organic Halogens (AOX), Color, and parameters associated with the Bleach Plants (Outfall 100A and Outfall 200A) be suspended.

**2. MODIFICATIONS APPROVED**

1. The Department grants the permittee's request to change the name on MEPDES permit #ME0001937/WDL #W000623-5N-P-R from Verso Androscoggin LLC to Pixelle Androscoggin LLC.
2. The Department grants the permittee's request for a reduction of the daily maximum effluent flow limitation.
3. The Department grants the permittee's request for reduced BOD monitoring due to an extended, significant reduction of loading due to the loss of pulping operations.
4. The Department has modified the BOD and total suspended solids (TSS) monthly average and daily maximum limitations to reflect reduced production rates as well as the change from manufacturing pulp to utilizing purchased pulp.
5. The Department grants the permittee's request for the use of PRTI methodology to report river temperature given the lower flow and temperature of current processes.
6. The Department grants the permittee's request for a suspension of COD kilogram limits as there are no bleach or pulping operations occurring on site.
7. The Department grants the permittee's request for a suspension of the limitations for AOX, color and the parameters associated with the two Bleach Plants (Outfall 100A and 200A) as there are no bleach or pulping operations occurring on site.

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**3. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

Due to the change from manufacturing pulp to utilizing purchased pulp, as well as reduced production rates, BOD and TSS limitations for the facility were reevaluated. The following table contains the monthly average and daily maximum limitations as calculated utilizing EPA’s Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELGs) found in 40 CFR 430, Sub-part K-*BPT effluent limitations for non-integrated mills where fine paper is produced from purchased pulp-wood fiber furnish subdivision*. For comparison, BOD and TSS limits from the December 4, 2017 permitting action are also listed.

Final Prod. (tons/day)	40 CFR 430 Subpart	BOD Avg		BOD Max		TSS Avg		TSS Max	
		Lbs./1000 lbs. of product	lbs./day	Lbs./1000 lbs. of product	lbs./day	Lbs./1000 lbs. of product	lbs./day	Lbs./1000 lbs. of product	lbs./day
800	K	4.25	6,800	8.2	13,120	5.9	9,440	11.0	17,600
1400 (June 1-Sept. 30)	B	---	4,400	---	8,000	---	12,000	---	22,300
1400 (Oct. 1-May 31)	B	---	7,400	---	13,875	---	25,000	---	44,600

Example Calculation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{BOD Monthly Average} &= \text{daily production rate} \times \text{EGL, average of daily values for 30 consecutive days} \\
 &= (800 \text{ tons of product/day}) \times (2000 \text{ lbs./1 ton}) \times (4.25 \text{ lbs./1000 lbs. of product}) \\
 &= 6,800 \text{ lbs./day}
 \end{aligned}$$

The summertime (June 1 – September 30) technology based monthly average and daily maximum BOD limitations derived from the EGLs, Subpart K are less stringent than the water quality-based limitations found in the December 4, 2017 permit (most recent). Therefore, pursuant to anti-backsliding provisions of Department rule Chapter 523 § 5 *Waste Discharge License Conditions*, the current water quality- based limitations are being carried forward in this permitting action. The non-summertime (October 1-May 31) technology-based monthly average and daily maximum BOD limitations derived from the EGLs, Subpart K are more stringent than the water quality-based limitations found in the December 4, 2017 permit. Therefore, the technology-based limitations are being imposed in this permitting action.

This permit modification is establishing more stringent summertime and non-summertime technology based monthly average and daily maximum TSS limitations of 9,440 lbs./day and 17,600 lbs./day respectfully, as the technology-based limitations derived from the EGLs, Subpart-K, are more stringent than the current water quality based limitations found in the December 4, 2017 permit.

### **3. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)**

The December 4, 2017 permit established a summertime water quality-based 60-day average limitation of 10,000 lbs./day for TSS. This limit was based on a recommendation in the approved TMDL to mitigate the adverse effects of settleable solids on the macro-invertebrate community in the Livermore Falls impoundment. With a new more stringent summertime monthly average technology-based limitation of 9,400 lbs./day being established, the 60-day average limitation must be reduced to 9,400 lbs./day as well. Therefore, this permit modification is establishing a 60-day average technology based TSS limitation of 9400 lbs./day.

The December 4, 2017 permit also established a summertime water quality-based annual average limitations 14,738 lbs./day for TSS. This limit was based on a recommendation in the approved TMDL to reduce the contribution of sediment oxygen demand to non-compliance in GIP. With a new more stringent summertime monthly average technology-based limitation of 9,400 lbs./day being established, the annual average limitation must be reduced to 9,400 lbs./day as well. Therefore, this permit modification is establishing a 60-day average technology based TSS limitation of 9,400 lbs./day.

All other limitations and monitoring requirements established in the December 4, 2017 MEPDES permit remain effect and enforceable.

### **4. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS**

Additional information concerning this permitting action may be obtained from and written comments should be sent to:

Breanne Blaisdell  
Division of Water Quality Management  
Bureau of Water Quality  
Department of Environmental Protection  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017  
E-mail: [breanne.blaisdell@maine.gov](mailto:breanne.blaisdell@maine.gov)

Telephone: (207) 287-1298

### **5. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**

*Reserved until the close of the 30-day public comment period.*