

**INTERIM SUMMARY
OF ISSUES AND RESPONSES**

**Relating to the Class 1 Air Quality Operating Approval for
NORTHERN ENERGY SOLUTIONS LTD.
Wood Pellet Production Facility
Miramichi, N.B.**

**Prepared by:
Authorization Branch
Department of Environment and Local Government
January 2019**

INTRODUCTION

As part of the Public Participation Process under the *Clean Air Act*, the Department of Environment and Local Government is required to prepare an "Interim Summary of Issues and Responses". This document marks the mid-way point of the public comment period and is available on the Internet Site or through any regional Environment office.

The department's Project Management Team is responsible for summarizing the comments (including questions) made to the department by the public to date and for providing, where possible, responses to those comments. In addition to the Interim Summary Report of Issues and Responses, a draft approval is also prepared and made available at the mid-way point of the public comment period.

Where applicable, the responses in the Interim Summary refer to conditions in the draft Approval. In this way, the public has the opportunity to view the department's recommended action by the approval holder to address various concerns through the Approval itself. Other responses would outline how issues are, or can be addressed through other means, including administratively, by improving operating practices, or by using pollution prevention or pollution control techniques. There may also be responses that address issues, which may not be significant in terms of environmental protection or public health, but that are considered in the overall review of a facility's operational activities.

The public continues to have the opportunity to identify new issues as well as to comment on the Interim Summary Report and the draft Approval until the end of the public comment period on March 28, 2019.

Please note: The Department encourages anyone who wishes to make comments to provide them in writing so that there is a definite record of the inquiries and issues being submitted under the Public Participation Process. While staff will endeavour to respond to telephone calls or other forms of inquiry, we encourage written comments so as to avoid the omission or misinterpretation of the information people wish to submit.

ABOUT THE FACILITY

Northern Energy Solutions Limited (NES) is proposing to construct a wood pellet manufacturing facility in the City of Miramichi, New Brunswick (NB). The plant will be situated on a brownfield site at the former UPM Kymmene pulp and paper location. The plant, once fully operational, will have a target production of 275,000 tonnes of wood pellets annually up to 315,000 tonnes depending on a variety of operating conditions. The production from the plant is intended for export to the market in Europe.

The plant will produce wood pellets and will be used primarily in power plants to displace coal to produce renewable electricity. The facility will have a workforce of approximately 65 persons, and include onsite amenities (safety, parking, sanitation) consistent with provincial regulations and good industry practice.

As required under the *Air Quality Regulation - Clean Air Act*, the wood pellet plant must conduct its operations according to conditions outlined in an Approval to Operate issued under that Regulation. The Approval to Operate specifies conditions to prevent unfavorable air quality conditions. The conditions are generally wide-ranging and may include such requirements as limitations on operational parameters, requirements for testing and monitoring, requirements to operate air pollution control equipment, limits on emissions that are released to the atmosphere, provisions for equipment upgrade and/or maintenance, requirements for environmental emergency and/or compliance reporting and a variety of other conditions aimed at minimizing the facilities impact on the environment. The Regulation provides for approvals to be issued by the Minister of Environment and Local Government for a specified period, not to exceed five years.

For more detailed information on the wood pellet plant, please see the Facility Profile, available on the department's Public Information Access Internet Site or through any office of the department. Information is also available by contacting Northern Energy Solution Ltd. directly. (The contact information and Internet site address appear at the end of this Summary)

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUMMARY

This summary includes comments received up to January 9, 2019 to allow sufficient time for the department to consider the issues raised, formulate responses, as well as publish the information in both official languages. Comments received after this date will be included in the "Final Summary of Issues and Responses" which will be available following the public comment period, which ends on April 27, 2019.

It is important to note that while the Interim Summary reflects all relevant public comment received by the Department of Environment and Local Government, the names of specific individuals or groups who commented are not identified.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED AND RESPONSES PROVIDED

As of January 9, 2019, there have been no comments, questions or inquiries received from the public by the Department regarding the Miramichi wood pellet plant or the Air Quality Approval to Operate.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information on the operation of the Miramichi Wood Pellet Production Facility, please contact:

Fenton Travis, P. Eng.

Project Manager
Northern Energy Solutions (NES)
P.O. Box 338 Station A
Fredericton, NB E3B 4Z9
Telephone: (506) 444-7153
Mobile: (506) 449-2177
Fax: (506) 443-3105
E-mail: fenton.travis@marwoodltd.com

For further information on this document, or on environmental regulations relating to air quality, please contact:

J r mie Doucet

Approval Coordinator
Authorization Branch
New Brunswick Department of the Environment
P.O. Box 6000, Marysville Place
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1
Telephone: (506) 453-3805
Fax: (506) 453-2390
E-mail: Jeremie.Doucet@gnb.ca

For comments or inquiries on the public participation process, please contact:

Chandra Clowater

First Nations and Public Engagement Branch
Department of Environment and Local Government
P.O. Box 6000, Marysville Place
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1
Telephone: (506) 453-3700
Fax: (506) 453-3676
Email: Chandra.Clowater@gnb.ca

NB Department of Environment and Local Government Address:

<http://www.gnb.ca/environment>