

# International Paper - Franklin Mill

34040 Union Camp Drive  
Franklin, VA 23851  
EPA ID #: VAD003112265  
Final Update

## Current Progress at the Site

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International Paper entered the Facility Lead Program on March 14, 2003, for conducting corrective action at its Franklin, Virginia facility. Prior to entering the Facility Lead Program, International Paper completed a voluntary site investigation and characterization. The site investigation and characterization included the collection of surface and subsurface soil samples, sediment samples, and surface water samples, the installation of temporary monitoring wells, and the collection of groundwater samples from these wells. Based on the results of these investigations, International Paper performed interim measures or remediation activities at eight Solid Waste Management Units, thereby, remediating all known sources that may potentially release hazardous waste to the environment.

Also in 2003, and as required by the Facility Lead Agreement, International Paper submitted a Workplan and a Sampling Event Workplan to EPA and Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ). These Workplans addressed corrective action at the facility and included the installation and replacement of groundwater monitoring wells and the collection of groundwater samples in support of the Groundwater Environmental Indicator (EI) and site-wide corrective action. Eleven rounds of groundwater samples were collected from January 2004 through November 2007. The sampling results confirm that constituents in the groundwater are either stable or decreasing in their concentrations in relation to historical results.

EPA Region III determined that the Human Health EI was met on September 29, 2003 and the Groundwater EI was met on August 1, 2007.

International Paper submitted ten Risk Assessments completed for areas of the site to EPA. International Paper also completed site assessments for several other areas of the Franklin Mill including the Lumber Mill, North End of the Mill and two Specialty Chemicals Plants. The EPA has reviewed all of these assessments and determined that no further action is required at this time.

EPA and VADEQ prepared the Statement of Basis describing the selected remedy and on April 14, 2008 publicly noticed its tentative decision for the proposed remedy. The remedy EPA selected to maintain the protection of human health and the environment at the facility has three components: cap inspection of the former landfill (Highground Disposal Area); deed restrictions to prohibit residential use of the property, prohibit the use of groundwater from the upper aquifer, and prohibit the disturbance of the cap on the Highground Disposal Area; and

implementation of a groundwater monitoring program. No public comments were received and on June 9, 2008 EPA issued the Final Decision of “corrective action complete with controls” to International Paper’s Franklin Mill facility. The final remedy will be implemented through a Hazardous Waste Management Post-Closure and Facility-Wide Corrective Action Permit under the direction of the VADEQ.

## **Site Description**

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International Paper (formerly Union Camp Corporation) operates an integrated Kraft pulp and paper mill in Franklin, Virginia. The site is located on the Blackwater River in Isle of Wight County, eight miles from the North Carolina border. Types of paper manufactured at the Mill include offset paper, postcard paper, one-sided coated paper which is later converted into book covers, envelope paper, brown Kraft envelope paper, Kraft bag paper, office paper and forms paper. The operation is fully integrated, from the manufacture of bleached pulp (using chlorine-free processes) to the production of paper and the conversion of that paper into customer-sized rolls and sheets. The wood resource is converted into bleached pulp in the Pulp Mill/Bleach Plant with the by-products of the process converted into saleable chemicals. The Mill also utilizes recycled content from an on-site recycling plant.

As part of the Facility Lead Agreement, International Paper also assessed two specialty chemical plants, the Lumber Mill, and the Effluent Treatment System C and D Ponds. The specialty plants (Air Products and Specialty Minerals) and the Lumber Mill are located north of the main process area of the paper mill. The C and D “hold-and-release ponds” are located 3.5 miles to the south of the Franklin Mill and are connected to the Mill by pipeline.

## **Site Responsibility**

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RCRA Corrective Action activities at the facility have been conducted under the direction of U.S. EPA Region III with assistance from the VADEQ. The final facility-wide remedy will be implemented through a Hazardous Waste Management Post-Closure and Facility-Wide Corrective Action Permit under the direction of the VADEQ. VADEQ will provide the oversight of the remedy activities to confirm that they continue to be protective of human health and the environment.

## **Contaminants**

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Based on a review of the Risk Assessments, EPA concluded that there are no risks regarding on-site soils and there are no known imminent threats to human health or the environment from International Paper’s Franklin Mill facility. .

## Community Interaction

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International Paper's Franklin Mill conducts a community outreach program as part of its normal operations. International Paper submitted a Community Relations Plan, as required under the Facility Lead Agreement, to EPA on June 12, 2003.

## Institutional Controls

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Institutional Controls will be implemented as part of the final remedy at the Franklin Mill. These controls will prohibit residential use of the property in perpetuity; limit the use of the groundwater from the upper aquifer; and prohibit the disturbance of the cap on the former Highground Disposal Area.

## Government Contacts

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## Facility Contact

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For more information about EPA's corrective action programs, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: [www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm](http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm)