

Archived: Friday, September 27, 2019 10:51:20 AM
From: [Dogwood Alliance](#)
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2019 11:27:30 PM
To: [James White](#)
Subject: Registration Number 61653 - Protect our Forests and our Health
Importance: Normal

Sep 22, 2019

James White

Dear Permitting Officer, White,

I am writing to urge you to deny Enviva's proposed expansion. I oppose any expansion in production at the Enviva Southampton County wood pellet facility. Additionally, I call on VA DEQ to decouple Enviva's permit for expansion with their permit for air pollution controls. Enviva must be required to install air pollution controls that their competitors in other states have used for years. The public should have the ability to comment on these two separate issues independent of each other.

I am concerned with the expansion of the wood pellet industry, led by Enviva, and the industry's impact on Virginia's forests, communities, and the climate.

The urgency of the climate crisis demands that we dramatically scale up forest protection. We cannot afford the increased logging and degradation of our forests. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to meet our climate goals we must dramatically scale up forest protection, conservation, and restoration. Yet Enviva is driving the destruction and degradation of tens of thousands of acres of Southern forests per year. An increasing body of scientific evidence shows that burning trees for utility-scale electricity releases more greenhouse gas emissions than fossil fuels do. If the Southampton County increase goes through, it will increase logging to 19,000 acres per year, and carbon emissions to 1,430,757 tpy - the equivalence of 303,770 additional cars on the road per year.

Enviva has been documented numerous times logging in the Roanoke River Basin, a river that has already flooded Southampton County numerous times. As our coastal communities prepare for more frequent and intense hurricanes, it is more important than ever to invest in nature to protect communities from the damage wrought by these intense storms. Natural forests and wetlands absorb floodwaters and slow them down, buffering communities from flooding and reducing costly property damage.

Furthermore, this expansion request comes amidst revelations of years-long violations of the Clean Air Act, and attempts by the industry to cover this up. A recent report by Environmental Integrity Project shows a shocking pattern of air quality violations or

noncompliance at almost all wood pellet facilities, with Virginia's Enviva facility being amongst the worst. For years, Enviva has been spewing hazardous pollutants into the air, emissions that have been linked to respiratory illness, heart disease, and cancer. Enviva consistently claims the health of communities living near their facilities is too expensive to protect. Enviva recently agreed to install proper air pollution controls at the Hamlet and Sampson County plants only after being dragged through court and threatened with an enforcement action.

Time and again, Enviva has misled the public, government, and investors on their emissions and sourcing practices. The company's past actions and missteps make it all the more imperative that it is strongly scrutinized at every step of the way.

I urge you to deny this Air Quality permit, Registration Number 61653, and any other proposals made by Enviva to expand operations. Additionally, I call on VA DEQ to decouple Enviva's permit for expansion with their permit for air pollution controls. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this permit.

Sincerely,

Fred Lavy
524 E Wolfe St
Harrisonburg, VA 22802-4822
(540) 433-1461
fred-cheryl@msn.com

Archived: Friday, September 27, 2019 10:51:20 AM
From: [Joyce Rouse](#)
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2019 6:18:41 PM
To: James.white@deq.virginia.gov
Subject: Concerning Enviva Pellets Southampton Air Permit
Importance: Normal

Dear Mr. White,

As we see the expanding destruction of our Virginia forests, both in our backyard and around the state we write to let you know we are VERY opposed to the expansion of the permit for this facility. We are losing our forests at an alarming rate and we can feel it now every day as it contributes to disruption of our climate.

Please deny Enviva's expansion or modification to their allowable cutting area.

Our air and water is more important than anything!

Sincerely,

Richard and Joyce Rouse

809 Cloverdale Lane

Independence, VA 24348

Enviva Pellets Southampton Air Permit

Enviva Pellets has applied for an air permit to modify its Southampton wood pellet production facility. The modification will include an increase in production capacity as well as the installation of additional air pollution control systems.

The expected effect on local air quality will be compliance with all applicable federal and state ambient air quality standards and concentrations.

Archived: Friday, September 27, 2019 10:51:21 AM

From: [Alicia Gumpert-Shiels \(aliciashiels9@icloud.com\)](mailto:aliciashiels9@icloud.com) Sent You a Personal Message

Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2019 1:18:55 PM

To: james.white@deq.virginia.gov

Subject: Registration Number 61653 - Protect our Forests and our Health

Importance: Normal

Dear Virginia Department Of Environmental Quality,

I am writing to urge you to deny Enviva's proposed expansion. I oppose any expansion in production at the Enviva Southampton County wood pellet facility. Additionally, I call on VA DEQ to decouple Enviva's permit for expansion with their permit for air pollution controls. Enviva must be required to install air pollution controls that their competitors in other states have used for years. The public should have the ability to comment on these two separate issues independent of each other.

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Enviva has been documented numerous times logging in the Roanoke River Basin, a river that has already flooded Southampton County numerous times. As our coastal communities prepare for more frequent and intense hurricanes, it is more important than ever to invest in nature to protect communities from the damage wrought by these intense storms. Natural forests and wetlands absorb floodwaters and slow them down, buffering communities from flooding and reducing costly property damage.

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Sincerely,

Alicia Gumpert-Shiels

14234 Rock Canyon Dr
Centerville, VA 20121
aliciashiels9@icloud.com
(540) 270-4239

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact Lillian Miller at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500 for more information.

Archived: Friday, September 27, 2019 10:51:21 AM
From: [Angela Adams \(aladams712@aol.com\)](mailto:aladams712@aol.com) Sent You a Personal Message
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2019 11:22:17 AM
To: james.white@deq.virginia.gov
Subject: Registration Number 61653 - Protect our Forests and our Health
Importance: Normal

Dear Virginia Department Of Environmental Quality,

I am writing to urge you to deny Enviva's proposed expansion. I oppose any expansion in production at the Enviva Southampton County wood pellet facility. Additionally, I call on VA DEQ to decouple Enviva's permit for expansion with their permit for air pollution controls. Enviva must be required to install air pollution controls that their competitors in other states have used for years. The public should have the ability to comment on these two separate issues independent of each other.

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Sincerely,

Angela Adams

3112 Dashiell Rd
Falls Church, VA 22042
aladams712@aol.com
(703) 989-7834

This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. Please contact Lillian Miller at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500 for more information.

Archived: Friday, September 27, 2019 10:51:21 AM
From: [Finley-Brook, Mary](#)
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2019 7:07:53 AM
To: James.white@deq.virginia.gov
Cc: qshabazz@vaejc.org; bethroachgrants@gmail.com
Subject: EJSCREEN, BACT and Enviva
Importance: Normal

Hi James, can you please send me the Environmental Justice analysis (probably mainly EJSCREEN) that was done on the Enviva pellet plant? I heard it was on display at the public information session in Southampton and very confusing even to people with experience with EJSCREEN so I would like to take a look at DEQ's methods. Please let me know what is available or where to find it. I have the permit and engineering analysis off the website and surprisingly there is no mention of the vulnerability of this community based on poverty and/or race.

Also, I know DEQ's proposed BACT makes the levels of several criteria pollutants go up. Would it not be possible to put additional emissions controls to capture and reduce these emissions? This has been poorly explained to the public. Please explain in layman terms so I can share with residents who are asking why the emissions controls are so ineffective. Is it a matter of trying to avoid the additional cost to add more devices, or there really is no available technology that could lower these criteria emissions below current levels? The phrase BACT gets thrown around so narrowly and carelessly it is hard to know what the decision making parameters were utilized.

Please provide more information. I wish to make a public comment in the permit by Friday's deadline and the information on the web does not provide the information necessary.

Sincerely, Mary

Mary Finley-Brook
Associate Professor of Geography, Environmental Studies & Global Studies
University of Richmond
#211 Richmond Way
Richmond VA, 23173
<http://geography.richmond.edu/faculty/mbrook/>

I support the mission & vision of the [Virginia Environmental Justice Collaborative](#).
A Clean, Healthy, Just & Equitable Environment for all.