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JAN - 2 2004

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

December 31, 2003

Mr. Bradley P. Halloran  
Hearing Officer  
Illinois Protection Control Board  
James R. Thompson Center  
100 West Randolph Street  
Suite 11-500  
Chicago, IL 60601

**RE: XCTC and Georgia Pacific Tissue v. IL EPA  
Alsip Mill Title V Air Permit Appeal  
PCB No. 2001-51**

+ PCB 2001-46

Dear Mr. Halloran:

This letter responds to the Motion to Dismiss filed on December 17, 2003, by IL EPA with respect to Georgia-Pacific Tissue's Amended Permit Appeal Petition in the above-captioned matter. We make the following points:

1. Georgia-Pacific Tissue (GPT) remains optimistic that this case, as well as the pending enforcement action in Cook County Circuit Court, will be soon settled. The parties are continuing to make progress toward that end, and we should know in the next few weeks if the final issue regarding Subpart G will be resolved. Once that issue is settled, we believe that a final settlement can be completed expeditiously.

2. GPT filed the Amended Appeal Petition solely as a protective measure in the event a settlement is not reached. No substantive action on this appeal has been taken since the original appeals were filed in September of 2000. Thus, this case is unique. For that reason, we do not feel that IL EPA is prejudiced by GPT's action in amending its original appeal to include the Subpart G issue at this time.

3. We request that the Hearing Officer defer ruling on IL EPA's motion at this time. We should be in a position to know whether the case is going to settle by January 21, 2004 -- the date of our next telephonic status conference with the Board's Hearing Officer (scheduled for

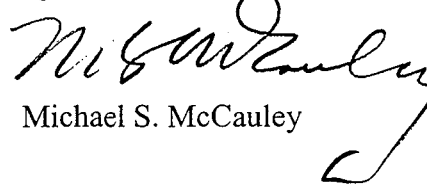
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9:45 a.m. that day). If there is progress toward settlement, GPT will consider voluntarily withdrawing its Amended Appeal Petition.

The undersigned states that a copy of this letter has been mailed today to counsel of record for the other parties in this matter and to the Clerk of the Board, as indicated below.

Very truly yours,

QUARLES & BRADY LLP



Michael S. McCauley

MSM:sda

cc: Mr. Robb H. Layman – IL EPA  
Mr. James T. Harrington – For XCTC  
Ms. Dorothy Gunn – IL Pollution Control Board