



From: Mike Ratte, Senior Air Quality Scientist, RCH Group
To: Project File - Hat Creek Lumber Environmental Impact Report Addendum – Air Quality
Date: December 1, 2023
Subject: Air Quality Technical Report and Updated Site Plan for Hat Creek Lumber

RCH Group (RCH) prepared the Air Quality Technical Report (dated April 14, 2023) associated with the proposed Hat Creek Lumber, Inc (proposed project) in Shasta County, California. The air quality analysis within the Air Quality Technical Report was conducted for the addition of a sawmill and two steam kilns at an existing industrial site. Additional proposed project emission sources include construction activities, employee vehicle trips, haul truck trips, a natural gas boiler associated with the steam kilns, grinder/planer, and operational equipment such as loaders and forklifts.

The Air Quality Technical Report found that daily construction emissions would not exceed the Shasta County Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) significance (Level B) thresholds) and that daily operational emissions would not exceed the SCAQMD significance (Level B) thresholds. The Air Quality Technical Report also found that project-related health impacts would be less than significant and that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with construction activities and operations would be less than significant.

The air quality analysis within the Air Quality Technical Report was conducted based on a site plan (dated October 24, 2022). Subsequently, the site plan associated with the proposed project has been updated (dated November 23, 2023). The updated site plan includes changes to the facility footprints for several of the processing operations (i.e., three steam kilns of 7,972 square foot each instead of two steam kilns of 5,400 square foot each) and the location within the facility boundary of several of the processing operations (i.e., movement of the steam kilns to the south).

It is our understanding that the operating conditions such as the number of proposed truck trips, the annual throughput within the steam kilns (25,500,000 board feet), the annual throughput within the sawmill (90,000 tons of logs), kiln operating temperature, and the hours of operation have not been modified. Given that the estimated air emissions associated with the proposed project are a direct function of the operating conditions, the air emissions within the Air Quality Technical Report would not change. The modifications related to footprint and location of emission sources within the site plan would not change the calculated air emissions nor would these items change the calculated health impacts.

Therefore, I certify that the results and conclusions documented within the Air Quality Technical Report (dated April 14, 2023) would not change as a result of the updated site plan. As a result, all air quality, health impacts, and GHG emissions impacts would remain less than significant under CEQA.

Sincerely,

Mike Ratte, Senior Air Quality Scientist, RCH Group
mratte@therchgroup.com