

# WestRock Tacoma Steam Limit Project



## Contact & Information

**Submit comments online at:**  
<http://ac.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=ENcDR>

**Or by mail to:**  
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P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

**Document review locations**  
Tacoma Public Library  
Main Branch  
1102 Tacoma Ave South  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
Phone: 253-292-2001

Department of Ecology  
Industrial Section  
300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA, 98503  
Phone: 360-407-6916

**Webpage**  
<https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Industrial-facilities-permits/WestRock>

## Comment period: Nov 16 – Dec 28, 2018

We invite you to comment on the WestRock Tacoma pulp and paper mill's proposed steam limit project:

- Air Quality Notice of Construction Order No. 4153 modification
- State Environmental Policy Act Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance

## Steam limit project

The mill proposes to increase the use of its natural gas boiler, giving it the ability to use additional steam to generate electricity for sale.

As part of the project, the mill plans to increase its use of natural gas as fuel.

## Air quality impacts

This project would increase greenhouse gases (GHGs) by about 60,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>e) per year. This is equivalent to the amount of CO<sub>2</sub>e released by approximately 12,000 passenger vehicles.

Due to this potential GHG impacts, we issued a Mitigated Determination of Nonsignificance (MDNS). This requires the mill to offset GHGs produced (emitted) by the proposed project above 30,000 tons per year using purchased certified GHG offsets or an alternative approved by the Department of Ecology.

Additionally, the mill must install low nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) burners to reduce NO<sub>x</sub> emissions before the project can take place.

Other air pollutants expected to increase due to this project include:

- Particulate matter above 2.5 microns in size by 3.78 tons/year (TPY)

## Special accommodations

To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-7393 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

- Sulfur dioxide by 0.28 TPY
- Nitrogen oxides by 2.99 TPY
- Lead by .0000623 TPY

These increases will not exceed air quality standards.

## Commenting

Effective comments tell us if we correctly applied current laws, rules, and regulations to this action. They:

- Are specific. Tell us what your concern is and how you think the SEPA determination or Order should change.
- Are focused. Refer to the conditions and requirements in the SEPA checklist or Order. Relate the potential impacts to water quality from this action.
- Describe the state or federal rules and regulations you think have not been applied correctly.

When the comment period ends, we'll review the comments received and make appropriate changes before finalizing the order.

## Public event

### Public meeting

A public meeting to learn about the project and ask questions will take place:

Date: November 29, 2018

Time: Starting at 5:30 p.m.

Location: Best Western Hotel, 2611 East E Street, Tacoma, WA

### Public hearing

A public webinar will take place:

Date: December 17, 2018

Time: Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Location: Best Western Hotel, 2611 East E Street, Tacoma, WA

Online by webinar:

<https://watech.webex.com/watech/j.php?MTID=m6862bbff556e52ea7a7e5f00f1f18b45>

## Facility information

Located at 801 Portland Ave in Tacoma, the WestRock pulp and paper mill makes about 1,400 tons of bleached and unbleached packaging-grade paper, linerboard, and unbleached pulp each day.

