



**NEW-INDY CATAWBA ENTERS CONSENT DECREE
WITH U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**
AGREEMENT DETAILS MILL IMPROVEMENTS, RESOLVES CLEAN AIR ACT ISSUES

December 29, 2021

Catawba, S.C. - New-Indy Catawba and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) entered a consent decree today that was filed in U.S. District Court in Rock Hill, S.C. The agreement resolves issues related to the Clean Air Act filed by the EPA and declares that New-Indy has taken many corrective actions since an initial EPA order in May 2021.

“New-Indy worked with the EPA and the U.S. Department of Justice to resolve this matter and will comply fully with the agreement,” said Tony Hobson, the mill’s manager. “The mill has cooperated with regulators throughout the process, implemented a long list of improvements, and is grateful for this positive and constructive outcome.”

As the decree states, the mill’s fence-line monitors have not detected any hydrogen sulfide exceedances of the fence-line concentration limits since June 2021, except for a brief period in early September as the facility continued to adjust its production process. The situation was quickly corrected. New-Indy publishes emissions findings from fence-line and off-site monitors every day on its website: <https://newindycatawba.com/>. The off-site monitors have never exceeded concentration limits and readings have been negligible or zero for months.

As part of the consent decree with the EPA, New-Indy will pay a fine of \$1.1 Million and continue to improve its operations. As part of the plan, New-Indy will operate its steam stripper when unbleached pulp is being processed, install a black-liquor containment system, install and maintain a carbon filtration system on its post-aeration tank, continue to monitor for hydrogen sulfide and improve its wastewater treatment system.

A steam stripper assists in the cleaning of volatile organic compounds from plant wastewater streams and a black liquor containment system captures mill process liquid byproduct to prevent overflow into the wastewater treatment system.

The next step is for a federal judge to give final approval to the decree after a 30-day comment period.