

(9) Use of Pressurized Ozone and Compressed Air Flotation with Membrane Filtration for Industrial Process Water Treatment at a Forest Products Facility

In 18 months this project will demonstrate a membrane filtration system at a molded fiber paper mill. The process will reduce the amount of fresh water needed for mill operations. This project expands upon a complementary project, which focuses only on the ozone system in the plant stream. Integrating the ozone process with efficient membrane filtration will provide an overall efficiency not available with separate independent systems.

Total project cost: \$848,132

Funding request: \$380,750

Project Lead: New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

Project Participants: Michigan Department of Consumer and Industrial Services – State Energy Office; Pactiv Corporation

Progress in Past Quarter and Current Status

NYSERDA has not yet achieved a signed contract with the industrial partner Pactiv – the project team is hopeful that such contract will get signed in late-2005 or early-2006. Several events have overlapped during previous quarters to cause delay – most have been resolved – one remains a stumbling block issue:

- * **STUMBLING BLOCK:** Pactiv corporate headquarters has recently established a moratorium on capital improvement projects (Pactiv manufactures packaging materials, this particular mill in Plattsburgh, NY, which is serving as the industrial partner, makes paper-based packaging – most of Pactiv’s other facilities nationwide make plastic-based packaging, therefore, the overall corporate performance has been detrimentally affected by the recent high costs of plastic which is related to the high cost of petroleum). The project champion at the mill in Plattsburgh, NY, is seeking an exemption from the corporate moratorium policy due to the participation of state and federal funding. We are awaiting a decision from Pactiv corporate headquarters.
- * A fire occurred at the Pactiv mill in Plattsburgh - it diverted attention. The mill is back in operation now. **Resolved.**
- * A new Director at Pactiv corporate HQ has taken over, and needed to be briefed on this project. He now supports the project. **Resolved.**
- * The mill manager at Pactiv in Plattsburgh retired; a new mill manager has been hired and needed to be briefed on this project. He now supports the project. **Resolved.**
- * A new financial request mechanism was instituted at Pactiv corporate HQ (the Capital Authorization Request – CAR) – all previous efforts to achieve a signed contract needed to be updated to present the information in the new CAR format for this project. A CAR has been submitted to Pactiv HQ. **Resolved.**

NEPA Determination: On 3/18/2005 NYSERDA was notified by STAC that the USDOE (c/o GFO) has granted NEPA approval of this project. On 6/1/2005 NYSERDA was again notified by STAC that the USDOE (c/o GFO) has granted NEPA approval of this project.

Plans for Next Quarter

The project team is hopeful that a contract between NYSERDA and the industrial partner Pactiv will get signed. Upon signing, the team will embark on Task 1 “Mobilization and Planning” to provide appropriate research and project planning work, including a detailed project workscope for the project. Also, the team will embark on Task 2 “Pilot Trial Development” by conducting pilot trials using the full-scale pilot pressurized ozone system located at Western Michigan University’s Paper Industry Pilot Plant.