



**MFL Occupational
Health Centre**

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Mr. Terry Sargent
Chairperson
Manitoba Clean Environment Commission
305-155 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, MB
R3C 3H8



Dear Mr. Sargent:

We are writing with respect to Louisiana Pacific's application to discontinue use of the Regenerative Thermal Oxidizers and to increase the emission of toxins from their plant in Swan Valley, Manitoba.

While Louisiana Pacific contends that the increase in emissions will not adversely affect human health, it is important to bear in mind that established exposure limits have the following limitations:

- a lack of established exposure limits for some air contaminants
- some people will experience health problems at exposures that are below exposure limits
- the inability to adequately account for the cumulative health impact of multiple airborne hazards

For these reasons, the Commission should not solely rely upon exposure limits to protect the health of workers and the community.

The Occupational Health Centre advocates the application of the Precautionary Principle in decisions related to the environment and human health. In keeping with the precautionary principle, we urge you to examine the full range of alternatives for controlling toxic emissions at Louisiana Pacific and to ensure that the alternative with the least potential impact on human health and the environment is selected.

The Occupational Health Centre is Manitoba's community health centre specializing in work-related health issues.

Sincerely,

Carol Loveridge
Executive Director

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