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**APPENDIX A.**  
**Scoping Letter, Notice of Availability and Distribution Lists**

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## Department of Energy

Golden Field Office  
1617 Cole Boulevard  
Golden, Colorado 80401-3393

June 1, 2011

**SUBJECT: Notice of Scoping - Old Town Fuel and Fiber Proposed Demonstration-Scale Integrated Biorefinery, Old Town, Maine, (DOE/EA-1888)**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to authorize the expenditure of federal funding to Red Shield Associates, LLC (a subsidiary of Old Town Fuel and Fiber; hereinafter, "OTFF"). OTFF is proposing to install and operate a demonstration-scale integrated biorefinery at their existing pulp mill in Old Town, Maine, demonstrating the production of n-butanol from lignocellulosic (wood) extract. When operating, the facility would annually produce the following saleable products: 1.32 million gallons of n-butanol, 2.13 million gallons of acetic acid, 740,000 gallons of formic acid, and 410,000 gallons of acetone. Details of the proposed project and its location are contained in the attachment. Pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the procedural provision of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and DOE's implementing procedures for compliance with NEPA (10 CFR 1021), DOE is preparing a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to:

- Identify any adverse environmental effects that cannot be avoided should this proposed project be implemented.
- Evaluate viable alternatives to the proposed project.
- Describe the relationship between local short-term uses of the environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity.
- Characterize any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources that would be involved should this proposed project be implemented.

### **Probable Environmental Effects/Issues Scoped for the Environmental Assessment**

The EA will describe and analyze any potential impacts on the environment that would be caused by the project and will identify possible mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate those impacts that may result to:

- Land Use
- Biological Resources
- Noise and Odor
- Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice
- Traffic and Transportation
- Waste Management and Hazardous Materials
- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Safety and Occupational Health
- Utilities
- Aesthetics
- Water Resources

### **Development of a Reasonable Range of Alternatives**

DOE is required to consider a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed action during an environmental review. The definition of alternatives is governed by the "rule of reason." An EA must consider a reasonable range of options that could accomplish the agency's purpose and need



and reduce environmental effects. Reasonable alternatives are those that may be feasibly carried out based on environmental, technical, and economic factors.

The No Action Alternative will be addressed. The No Action Alternative includes the scenario where the DOE would not provide funding for the project.

### **Public Scoping**

This letter will be available to all interested state, local, and federal agencies to supply input on issues to be discussed in the EA. Agencies should identify the issues, within their statutory responsibilities, that should be considered in the EA. The general public is also invited to submit written comments on the scope and content of the EA. Comments and related personally identifying information will be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and comments may be published as part of the EA and other related documents. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name, street address, or email address from public review and disclosure under the FOIA, you must state this prominently at the beginning of the written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety. The DOE will not accept anonymous comments.

The DOE Golden Field Office welcomes your input throughout our NEPA process. Please provide any comments on this scoping letter on or before June 21, 2011 to:

Christopher Carusona II  
NEPA Document Manager  
Department of Energy  
1617 Cole Boulevard  
Golden, Colorado 80401  
[Christopher.Carusona@go.doe.gov](mailto:Christopher.Carusona@go.doe.gov)  
Fax: 720-356-1560

No formal public scoping meeting is currently planned for this project. This letter as well as the draft EA, when it is available, will be posted in the DOE Golden Field Office online reading room: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/golden/ReadingRoom.aspx>.

Thank you for your participation in the environmental review process.

Sincerely,



Christopher Carusona II  
NEPA Document Manager

Attachment: *Old Town Fuel and Fiber Demonstration Scale Biorefinery  
Proposed Project Description and Location*

## **Old Town Fuel and Fiber Demonstration Scale Biorefinery Proposed Project Description and Location**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to authorize the expenditure of federal funding to Red Shield Associates, LLC (a subsidiary of Old Town Fuel and Fiber; hereinafter, "OTFF") to install and operate a small scale biorefinery at their existing pulp mill in Old Town, Maine, demonstrating the production of n-butanol from lignocellulosic (wood) extract. The project as proposed by OTFF would utilize a process that would convert sugars in the wood chips into n-butanol. The biorefinery would utilize the existing feedstock of wood chips that are used to make pulp at the mill. Prior to entering the pulp mill, sugars in the wood chips would be extracted in an existing extraction vessel in the pulp mill. The resulting extract would be sent via feedline to the biorefinery and then concentrated, hydrolyzed using acid, neutralized using lime, fermented, and distilled. The resulting n-butanol would be stored prior to loadout. Following sugar separation, the wastewater would be returned to the existing onsite pulp mill wastewater treatment plant for treatment and discharge using the existing outfalls into the Penobscot River permitted by Maine Department of Environmental Protection under the National Pollutant Discharge System (NPDES). In addition to n-butanol, acetic acid, formic acid, and acetone would be produced and stored onsite prior to loadout.

The OTFF biorefinery would be installed in the former tissue paper machine building (tissue building) within the existing OTFF pulp mill at 24 Portland Street, Old Town, Penobscot County, Maine (approximately 120 miles north-east of Portland, 15 miles north of Bangor); see Figure 1 and 2. The site is approximately 180 acres, the proposed biorefinery would require 0.9 acre (40,000 square feet) in the 5.7 acre (250,000 square foot) tissue building (now vacant). The property is owned by OTFF and is currently zoned for industrial use. Single family residences are located immediately adjacent to the property boundaries, the nearest being approximately 650 feet from the proposed project as well as across the river, approximately 1,300 feet from the proposed project. All construction activities would occur within the existing tissue building or immediately outside the tissue building in areas that are either asphalt or unvegetated, exposed compacted dirt.

The OTFF biorefinery would require steam, process water, electricity, natural gas, wastewater treatment, potable and non-potable water, and sanitary wastewater systems. This entire supporting infrastructure currently exists on site. An additional 2.5 MW of power would be required to operate the biorefinery. An existing gas turbine would be utilized to generate 9.5 MW of power. The additional power to the mill, 6.9 MW, would be sold on the open market.

The proposed project would annually produce the following saleable products; 1.32 million gallons of n-butanol, 2.13 million gallons of acetic acid, 740,000 gallons of formic acid, and 410,000 gallons of acetone.

Project location maps of the proposed site location are attached.

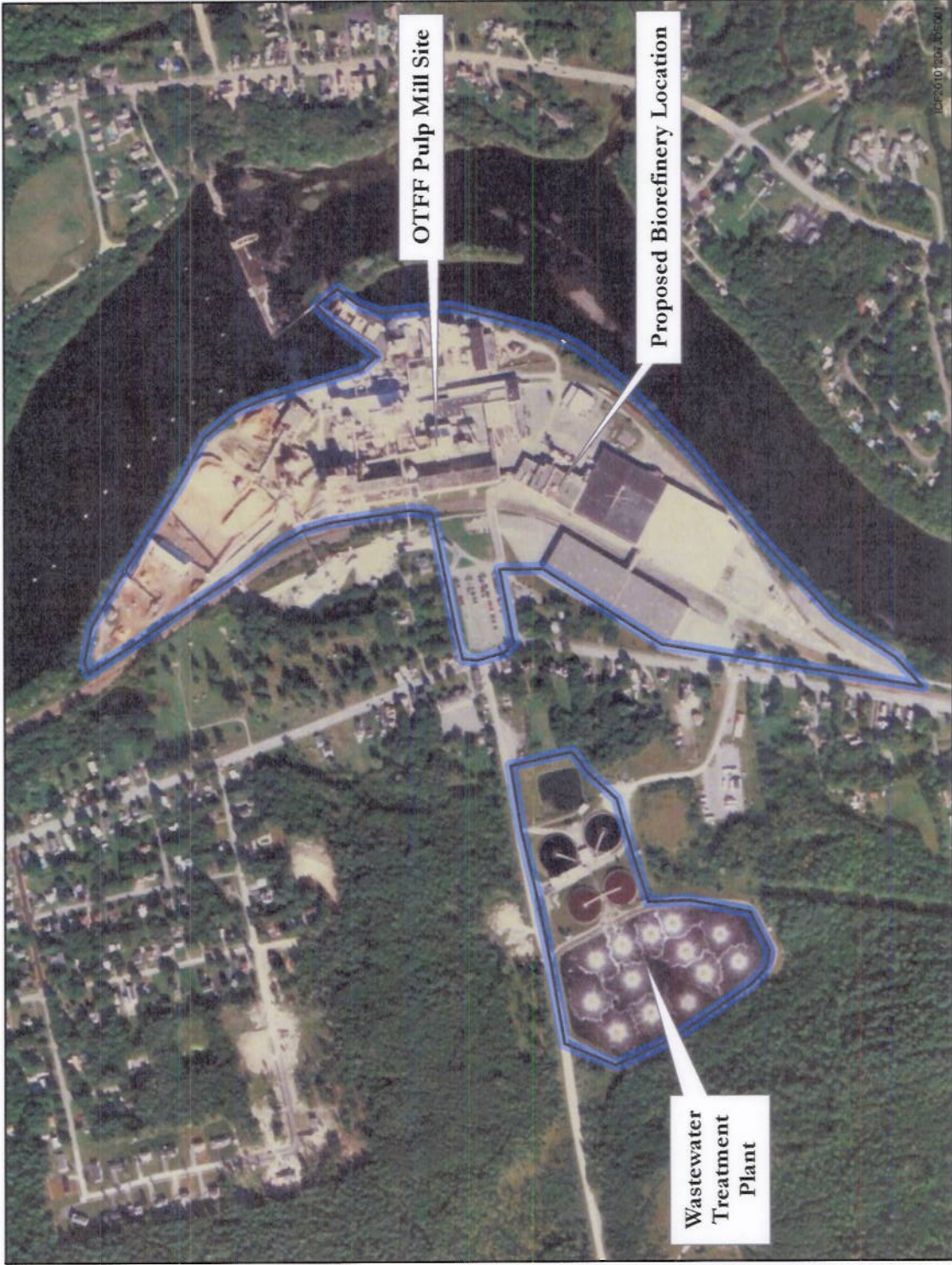
Figure 1 - Proposed site location map

Figure 2 - Proposed site aerial photo

Figure 1 - Proposed site location map



Figure 2 - Proposed site aerial photo



## Scoping Letter Distribution List

### **Tribal Contacts**

Aroostook Band of Micmac Indians  
Attn: Tribal Chairman  
7 Northern RD  
Presque Isle ME 04769

Penobscot Indian Nation  
Tribal Administration  
Attn: Tribal Chairman  
12 Wabanaki Way  
Indian Island, ME 04468I  
Telephone (207) 827-7776  
Fax (207) 817-7482

Houlton Band of Maliseet  
Attn: Tribal Chairman  
88 Bell Road  
Littleton, ME 04730  
Phone: (207) 532-4273

Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point  
Attn: Tribal Chairman  
PO Box 343  
Perry, ME 04667  
207-853-2600

Passamaquoddy Tribe  
Donald Soctomah, THPO  
PO Box 159  
Princeton, ME 04668  
Tel: 207.796.2301  
Fax: 207.853.6039  
Email: soctomah@ainop.com

Penobscot Nation  
Bonnie Newsom, THPO  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
12 Wabanaki Way  
Indian Island, ME 04468  
Tel: 207.817.7332  
Fax: 207.817.7463  
Email: bonnie.newsom@penobscotnation.org

### **State of Maine**

Governor Paul LePage  
Office of the Governor  
1 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Department of Environmental Protection  
Attn: Commissioner James Brooks  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333  
Phone: 207-287-2812  
Fax: 207-287-2814

Maine Department of Conservation  
22 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0022

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife  
Attn: Steven A. Timpano, Environmental Coordinator,  
41 SHS, 284 State Street  
Augusta, ME 04333

Maine Department of Transportation  
Region #4  
Attn: Steve Theborge  
219 Hogan Road  
Bangor, ME 04401  
Telephone: (207) 941-4500

Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.  
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer  
Maine Historic Preservation Commission  
55 Capitol Street  
Augusta, ME 04333

### **Local Government**

County of Penobscot  
97 Hammond Street  
Bangor, Maine 04401

Old Town Municipal Building  
Attn: Margaret Daigle, City Manager  
265 Main Street  
Old Town, ME 04468

### **Federal Agencies**

Environmental Protection Agency  
Director, Office of Environmental Review  
Regional Administrator's Office  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Boston, MA 02109-3912

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Attn: Wende Mahany  
17 Godfrey Drive  
Orono, ME 04473



National Marine Fisheries Service  
Attn: Jeff Murphy  
17 Godfrey Drive  
Orono, ME 04473

**Other Potentially Interested Parties**

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.  
Great Lakes/Atlantic Regional Office  
1220 Eisenhower Place  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Environment Maine  
142 High St., Ste. 421  
Portland, ME 04101

Natural Resources Council of Maine  
3 Wade Street  
Augusta, Maine 04330

Nature Conservancy (Maine Field Office)  
14 Maine Street, Suite 401  
Brunswick, ME 04011  
(207) 729-5182  
naturemaine@tnc.org

Penobscot River Restoration Trust  
Attn: Laura Rose Day  
Executive Director  
P.O. Box 5695  
Augusta, ME 04332

Sierra Club (Maine Chapter)  
44 Oak St, Suite 301,  
Portland, ME 04101  
(207) 761-5616

Trout Unlimited  
Attn: Vice President for Governmental Affairs  
1300 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Arlington, VA 22209

**Local Library**  
Old Town Public Library  
46 Middle Street  
Old Town, ME 04468  
207-827-3972



## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze and describe the potential environmental impacts associated with:

**Old Town Fuel and Fiber's  
Proposed Demonstration-Scale Integrated Biorefinery,  
Old Town, Maine  
DOE/EA-1888**

DOE's Golden Field Office has prepared the EA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Old Town Fuel and Fiber is proposing to install and operate a demonstration-scale integrated biorefinery at their existing pulp mill in Old Town, Maine, demonstrating the production of n-butanol from lignocellulosic (wood) extract. The draft EA is available for review on the following website:

[http://www.eere.energy.gov/golden/Reading\\_Room.aspx](http://www.eere.energy.gov/golden/Reading_Room.aspx)

Public comments on the EA's analysis and results of the environmental impacts of implementing the proposed action will be accepted until **August 29, 2011**. Please mail comments to the **DOE Golden Field Office**, c/o Christopher Carusona II, NEPA Document Manager, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, CO 80401, or by email to [Christopher.Carusona@go.doe.gov](mailto:Christopher.Carusona@go.doe.gov).

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Houlton Band of Maliseet  
Attn: Tribal Chairman  
88 Bell Road  
Littleton, ME 04730  
Phone: (207) 532-4273

Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point  
Attn: Tribal Chairman  
PO Box 343  
Perry, ME 04667  
207-853-2600

Passamaquoddy Tribe  
Donald Soctomah, THPO  
PO Box 159  
Princeton, ME 04668  
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Fax: 207.853.6039  
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Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
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Fax: 207.817.7463  
Email: bonnie.newsom@penobscotnation.org

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17 State House Station  
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Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife  
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Region #4  
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219 Hogan Road  
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