ASHDOWN, Ark. — Domtar is permanently shutting down its Ashdown Mill A62 paper machine and will solely be producing pulp.

About 109 employee jobs will be lost, according to a news release from Domtar.

"The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic slowdown continue to negatively affect demand for communications paper grades. Some recovery in demand for communications paper has occurred as the economy has started to re-open. But unfortunately, Domtar has not seen enough demand recovery to justify restarting operations on the A62 paper machine at the Ashdown Mill. Therefore, we have decided to permanently idle the A62 paper machine to maintain a balance between our production needs and our customer demand. With this line closure, the mill will now solely produce pulp," said Tammy Waters, manager for communications and government relations for Domtar's Ashdown mill.

The machine was put on idle in April of this year.

Waters said Domtar will continue to assist and care for employees and their families during this time.