

Clearwater Paper Corp
Form 11-K
June 19, 2012
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 001-34146

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

Clearwater Paper Salaried 401(k) Plan

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

CLEARWATER PAPER CORPORATION

601 West Riverside Avenue, Suite 1100

Spokane, Washington 99201

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

December 31, 2011 and 2010

(With Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm)

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Table of Contents

| | Page(s) |
|--|----------------|
| <u>Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u> | 1 |
| <u>Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits at December 31, 2011 and 2010</u> | 2 |
| <u>Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010</u> | 3 |
| <u>Notes to Financial Statements</u> | 4 14 |
| Supplemental Schedule | |
| <u>Schedule H, Line 4i Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) at December 31, 2011</u> | 15 |
| <u>Signature</u> | 16 |
| <u>Exhibit Index</u> | 17 |

Table of Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Plan Administrator

Clearwater Paper Salaried 401(k) Plan:

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of Clearwater Paper Salaried 401(k) Plan (the Plan) as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule H, line 4i schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2011 is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Seattle, Washington

June 18, 2012

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

December 31, 2011 and 2010

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Assets: | | |
| Investments, at fair value | \$ 114,548,533 | 118,761,556 |
| Receivables: | | |
| Employer contribution receivable | 102,535 | 143,463 |
| Notes receivable from participants | 2,976,663 | 2,834,430 |
| Total receivables | 3,079,198 | 2,977,893 |
| Total assets | 117,627,731 | 121,739,449 |
| Liabilities: | | |
| Excess contributions payable | | 2,908 |
| Net assets available for benefits, prior to contract value adjustment | 117,627,731 | 121,736,541 |
| Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts | (1,065,465) | (1,558,337) |
| Net assets available for benefits | \$ 116,562,266 | 120,178,204 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Table of Contents**CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN**

Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| Investment (loss) income: | | |
| Interest income | \$ 1,032,846 | 1,108,087 |
| Dividend income | 1,941,617 | 1,929,506 |
| Net (depreciation) appreciation of fair value investments | (4,045,791) | 12,278,152 |
| Net investment (loss) income | (1,071,328) | 15,315,745 |
| Interest from participant notes receivable | 100,997 | 108,791 |
| Contributions: | | |
| Employee | 5,408,948 | 5,108,485 |
| Rollover | 490,750 | 378,589 |
| Employer | 2,365,044 | 2,251,133 |
| Total contributions | 8,264,742 | 7,738,207 |
| Distributions to participants | 12,466,880 | 9,546,219 |
| Loan and administrative fees | 18,496 | 20,010 |
| Net (decrease) increase prior to transfers | (5,190,965) | 13,596,514 |
| Net transfers from other plans | 1,575,027 | 1,323,506 |
| Net (decrease) increase | (3,615,938) | 14,920,020 |
| Net assets available for benefits: | | |
| Beginning of year | 120,178,204 | 105,258,184 |
| End of year | \$ 116,562,266 | 120,178,204 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

(1) Description of Plan

The following description of the Clearwater Paper Salaried 401(k) Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information. Participants should refer to the summary plan description for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

(a) General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan established under the provisions of Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended (IRC), which includes a cash or deferred arrangement under Section 401(k) of the IRC, and is subject to the applicable provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

(b) Plan Sponsor and Administration

Clearwater Paper Corporation (Clearwater Paper or the Company) sponsors the Plan.

The Plan is administered by the Clearwater Paper Benefits Committee (the Committee). Mercer Trust Company and Mercer HR Services (collectively, Mercer) serve as the Trustee and record keeper, respectively.

(c) Eligibility and Contributions

Regular status salaried eligible employees are eligible for participation in the Plan on the first day of the month following their date of hire.

The Plan provides that each eligible salaried employee may elect a participating contribution up to 6% of his or her per pay period earnings and a voluntary contribution up to 69% (19% prior to August 1, 2010) of such per pay period earnings on a pre-tax or after tax basis. Participants may also make rollover contributions representing distributions from certain other retirement plans. Eligible participants age 50 or older may elect additional catch-up contributions.

Salaried employees hired by the Company are automatically enrolled in the Plan at a 3% deferral rate on a pre-tax basis 30 days after the employee becomes eligible, unless he or she elects otherwise. This deferral percentage is increased by 1% annually until the percentage reaches 6%, unless the participant elects otherwise.

The Company makes matching contributions into a participant's account under the Plan equal to 70% of such participant's contributions up to 6% of eligible compensation, although the Company may approve a higher or lower rate.

All contributions are limited by certain restrictions as defined by the IRC.

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

(d) Participant Accounts

A separate account is maintained for each participant of the Plan. Each account is credited with the employee and employer contributions and earnings thereon. Participant accounts are valued each day the market is open based on quoted market prices.

(e) Investment Options

Participants may direct investment of their account balances in 1% increments into the investment options offered under the Plan, including registered investment company funds, the Clearwater Paper Stock Fund and common and collective trusts.

On December 16, 2008, Potlatch Corporation (Potlatch) distributed 100% of the issued and outstanding shares of Clearwater Paper common stock to the holders of record of Potlatch common stock as of the close of business on December 9, 2008, in a tax-free spin-off (the Spin-off). Each Potlatch stockholder received one share of Clearwater Paper common stock for every 3.5 shares of Potlatch common stock held on the record date. Accordingly, as a result of the Spin-off, the Clearwater Paper Stock Fund was established. Effective as of February 28, 2011, the Plan was amended such that a participant is not allowed to transfer existing account balances or direct new contributions to the Clearwater Paper Stock Fund if the balance in this fund is, or the direction causes it to be, 25% or more of the participant's total investment balance in the Plan.

With the exception of the Potlatch Stock Fund, which continued as a frozen investment option subsequent to the Spin-off, participants may change their investment elections and make transfers between investment options each day the market is open, subject to restrictions imposed by the registered investment companies and under the Plan. Participants under the Plan were allowed to maintain existing balances in the Potlatch Stock Fund subsequent to the Spin-off until August 31, 2011, at which time any remaining balances in the Potlatch Stock Fund were reallocated to other investment options available under the Plan or distributed to those participants eligible to take a distribution of Potlatch stock. The Potlatch Stock Fund was then removed as an investment option under the Plan.

During 2011, the following changes were made to the Plan's investment funds:

| Removed | Added |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Morgan Stanley Small Company Growth Fund | TCW Small Cap Growth, Class I |
| Potlatch Stock Fund | Vanguard Institutional Index Fund |
| Putnam S&P 500 Index Fund | |

The account of any participant automatically enrolled in the Plan and not electing otherwise is invested in a designated qualified default investment alternative, that is, the T. Rowe Price Retirement Fund with the target date closest to the year in which that participant will reach age 65.

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

Any contributions or other payments made to the Plan without investment instructions are similarly invested in the age-appropriate T. Rowe Price Retirement Fund until such time as the participant chooses to reinvest such funds. Transfers between certain investments may be temporarily held as cash balances prior to reinvestment.

(f) Vesting and Forfeitures

A participant's interest in all employee contribution accounts is fully vested and nonforfeitable at all times. A participant's interest in his or her matching account becomes vested based on the participant's years of service as defined in the Plan as follows:

| Years of service | Percentage vested |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Less than 2 | % |
| 2 or more | 100.0 |

A participant's matching account will become 100% vested if the Plan terminates, or if the participant attains age 65 while in service with the Company (or any affiliate), becomes totally and permanently disabled (as defined in the Plan) or dies while in service. The portion of a participant's matching account not vested will be forfeitable when the participant's employment terminates.

As of the end of each year, forfeitures and the earnings on such forfeitures not used to restore the matching accounts of former participants rehired during that year may be credited against matching contributions for the following year, used to pay plan expenses, or a combination thereof. At December 31, 2011 and 2010, unallocated forfeitures totaled approximately \$20,100 and \$1,300, respectively. During 2011 and 2010, forfeitures totaling approximately \$2,200 and \$700, respectively, were used to pay administrative expenses and reduce employer contributions.

(g) Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow 50% of their vested account balance up to a maximum of \$50,000 (as reduced for loans outstanding during the one year preceding the new loan) as provided by the Plan. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at a market rate, which is determined for the applicable loans during the applicable periods to be the prime rate in effect at the beginning of the month in which the loan is taken. Repayment of principal and interest is generally paid ratably through payroll deductions. Loans outstanding at December 31, 2011, bear interest at various rates ranging from 3.25% to 8.50% and mature at various times through July 2026.

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

(h) Distributions and Benefits

On termination of employment from Clearwater Paper and its affiliates, each participant may elect to receive payment in a lump sum equal to that participant's vested interest in his or her account, roll his or her account balance into an IRA or another employer's plan, or maintain his or her account in the Plan, subject to certain restrictions. If a participant's vested account balance is \$5,000 or less, he or she is generally not permitted to maintain an account balance in the Plan. Therefore, depending on the value of the vested account balance, one of the following will occur:

If the vested value is \$5,000 or less, but greater than \$1,000, a participant's account will be automatically rolled over to a Putnam Automatic Rollover IRA, unless the participant elects otherwise.

A terminated participant with vested benefits of \$1,000 or less will automatically receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account as a lump sum cash distribution, unless he or she elects otherwise.

Participants are permitted to make in-service and hardship withdrawals while still employed by the Company and its affiliates under certain conditions specified under the Plan. A participant's right to contribute to the Plan will be suspended for up to six months upon receiving a withdrawal.

(i) Excess Contributions

Excess Contributions represent amounts contributed in excess of IRC limitations and refunded subsequent to year end.

(j) Plan and Administrative Fees

Plan expenses are generally paid by the Company, except to the extent that expenses are paid from participant forfeitures of employer matching contributions. Loan service fees, fees associated with processing of qualified domestic relations orders and certain trustee and recordkeeper expenses are paid for by the affected participant.

(k) Party-in-Interest and Related-Party Transactions

Certain plan investments are managed by an affiliate or related party of Mercer. These transactions and transactions within the Clearwater Paper Stock Fund are considered party-in-interest transactions.

(l) Net Transfers from Other Plans

Net transfers from other plans represent the net amount of participant account balances transferred during the year to the Plan from other plans sponsored by the Company and its affiliates as a result of the participants changing employment status within the Company and its affiliates.

(m) Plan Termination

Although the Company expects to continue the Plan indefinitely, inasmuch as future conditions cannot be foreseen, the Company reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan at any time and

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

for any reason subject to the rules of ERISA. In the event of plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their employer accounts.

(2) Summary of the Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. Distributions to participants are recorded when paid.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires the Plan sponsor to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of increases and decreases in net assets available for benefits during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates and assumptions.

(a) Investment Valuation

As described in Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) guidance, investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at fair value. However, contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan.

The Plan invests in the Putnam Stable Value Fund, a common and collective trust that invests in guaranteed investment contracts (GICs). As required by FASB guidance, the statement of net assets available for benefits presents the fair value of the investment in the collective trust as well as the adjustment of the investment in the collective trust from fair value to contract value relating to the investment contracts. The GICs are fully benefit-responsive and are recorded at contract value. Fair value is calculated by discounting the related cash flows based on current yields and similar investments. The statement of changes in net assets available for benefits is prepared on a contract value basis. The contract value of the Putnam Stable Value Fund represents contributions made under the contracts, plus earnings, less withdrawals and administrative expenses. The average yield and crediting interest rate for that fund were approximately 3.11% and 3.23%, respectively, at December 31, 2011 and 4.02% and 4.15%, respectively, at December 31, 2010.

As of December 31, 2011, there are no reserves against credit value for credit risk of the contract issuer. There are certain limited events that may limit the ability of the Trust to transact at contract value related to employer-initiated transaction provisions. Due to the size of the Stable Value Fund, it is highly unlikely that any event would occur that would limit the fund's ability to transact at contract value.

Investments in shares of the Potlatch and Clearwater Paper Stock Funds and registered investment company funds are stated at fair value, based on quoted market prices. Investments in the Putnam S&P 500 Index Fund, a common and collective trust that was removed as an investment option during 2011 and had a zero balance at December 31, 2011, are stated at fair value based on the quoted value of the underlying investments and are expressed in units.

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

(b) Income Recognition

Net (depreciation) appreciation in fair value of investments represents net realized gains and losses and the change in unrealized appreciation from one period to the next. Interest is recorded when earned. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade date basis.

(c) Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are stated at the outstanding balance of the loan plus accrued interest.

(d) Subsequent Events

Effective as of January 2012, the Plan was amended as follows:

The Plan was renamed the The Clearwater Paper 401(k) Plan.

Non-represented hourly eligible employees previously participating in the Clearwater Paper Hourly 401(k) Plan are eligible to participate in the Plan and their account balances totaling approximately \$5.6 million were transferred to the Plan.

Eligible participants receive a base employer contribution totaling 3.5% of eligible compensation. Participants aged 45 and older whose benefit was frozen on December 31, 2011, under the Clearwater Paper Salaried Retirement Plan and were participating in that plan prior to its closing to new participants on December 15, 2010, are also eligible to receive a transition benefit.

Non-represented eligible employees of Cellu Tissue locations, which were acquired in the acquisition of Cellu Tissue Holdings, Inc. on December 27, 2010, are eligible to participate in the Plan under the terms of the Plan.

The account balances of former non-represented participants of the Cellu Tissue Holdings, Inc. Retirement and Investment Plan totaling approximately \$18.1 million were transferred to the Plan.

An after-tax Roth 401(k) contribution feature is offered in replacement of the previous traditional before-tax 401(k) contribution, which was removed as an option.

The Plan allows for certain additional types of withdrawals, including after-tax withdrawals, rollover withdrawals, and age 59 1/2 withdrawals.

Table of Contents**CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

(3) Investments

The value of individual investments that represented 5% or more of the Plan's net assets available for benefits at December 31, 2011 and 2010 were as follows:

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Putnam Stable Value Fund | \$ 32,235,729 | 28,781,666 |
| Clearwater Paper Stock Fund | 15,192,013 | 15,940,770 |
| PIMCO Total Return Fund | 7,837,460 | 8,080,518 |
| Dodge & Cox Stock Fund | 6,043,199 | 6,417,679 |
| Artisan Mid-Cap Fund Institutional | 5,906,383 | 6,059,490 |
| Potlatch Stock Fund | | 11,897,327* |
| | 67,214,784 | 77,177,450 |
| Other investments | 47,333,749 | 41,584,106 |
| | \$ 114,548,533 | 118,761,556 |

* The Potlatch Stock Fund was removed as an investment option in 2011.

During the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, the Plan's investments (depreciated) appreciated, including net gains and losses on investments sold during the year and the net change in unrealized gains and losses at the end of the year, as follows:

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Clearwater Paper Stock Fund | \$ (1,540,181) | 5,092,586 |
| Potlatch Stock Fund | 383,973 | 464,777 |
| Common and collective trusts | 24,791 | 479,136 |
| Registered investment company funds | (2,914,374) | 6,241,653 |
| | \$ (4,045,791) | 12,278,152 |

(4) Fair Value Measurements

Fair value accounting guidance establishes a framework for measuring fair value, which provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

Level 1

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Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

Level 2 Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;

Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;

Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;

Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2011 and 2010.

Registered investment company funds and company stock: Valued at quoted market prices, which are the net asset value of shares held by the Plan at year end.

Common and collective trusts: The stable Value Fund is valued based on the net asset value of the fund and the present value of discounted cash flows. The Putnam S&P 500 Index Fund was valued based on the net asset value of the underlying investments. The methods described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while management believes the Plan's valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

Table of Contents**CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan investments at fair value:

| | December 31, 2011 | | | Total |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | |
| Registered investment company funds: | | | | |
| Growth funds | \$ 20,107,988 | | | 20,107,988 |
| Income funds | 9,700,071 | | | 9,700,071 |
| Index funds | 6,152,074 | | | 6,152,074 |
| Target retirement funds | 16,694,283 | | | 16,694,283 |
| Value funds | 14,412,173 | | | 14,412,173 |
| Common stock | 15,192,013 | | | 15,192,013 |
| Common and collective trust funds: | | | | |
| Stable value fund | | 32,235,729 | | 32,235,729 |
| Cash pending account | 54,202 | | | 54,202 |
| Total investments at fair value | \$ 82,312,804 | 32,235,729 | | 114,548,533 |

| | December 31, 2010 | | | Total |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | |
| Registered investment company funds: | | | | |
| Growth funds | \$ 21,240,112 | | | 21,240,112 |
| Income funds | 9,087,908 | | | 9,087,908 |
| Index funds | 1,936,847 | | | 1,936,847 |
| Target retirement funds | 9,259,234 | | | 9,259,234 |
| Value funds | 16,769,398 | | | 16,769,398 |
| Common stock | 27,838,097 | | | 27,838,097 |
| Common and collective trust funds: | | | | |
| Index fund | | 3,845,324 | | 3,845,324 |
| Stable value fund | | 28,781,666 | | 28,781,666 |
| Cash pending account | 2,970 | | | 2,970 |
| Total investments at fair value | \$ 86,134,566 | 32,626,990 | | 118,761,556 |

(5) Investment Risk

The Plan investments include shares of registered investment company funds, common and collective trusts, and common stock in the form of the Clearwater Paper Stock Fund. Common stock investments were also held in the Potlatch Stock Fund until September 2011, at which time the fund was removed as an investment option. The underlying investments of such funds, in general, are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with such

Table of Contents**CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN**

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

investments, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of underlying investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Certain funds invest in securities with contractual cash flows, such as asset backed securities, collateralized mortgage obligations and commercial mortgage backed securities, including securities backed by subprime mortgage loans. The value, liquidity and related income of these securities are sensitive to changes in economic conditions, including real estate value, delinquencies or defaults, or both, and may be adversely affected by shifts in the market's perception of the issuers and changes in interest rates.

(6) Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service has determined by a letter dated November 29, 2011, that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the IRC. Such determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service states that the Plan continues to be a tax-qualified plan. The Plan has been amended since the IRS's issuance of the determination letter. Management believes that the Plan is designed, and continues to operate, in material compliance as a qualified plan.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded to the best of its knowledge that as of December 31, 2011, there are no uncertain positions taken or that could reasonably be expected to be taken that require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to audits by the Internal Revenue Service; however, there are currently no audits pending for any tax periods. The plan administrator believes that the Plan is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2008.

(7) Reconciliation of Financial Statements to the Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of the net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500 at December 31, 2011 and 2010:

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|----------------|-------------|
| Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements | \$ 116,562,266 | 120,178,204 |
| Loans in deemed distributed status | (72,657) | (66,936) |
| Adjustment from contract value to fair value of fully benefit-responsive investment contracts | 1,065,465 | 1,558,337 |
| Net assets available for benefits per the Form 5500 | \$ 117,555,074 | 121,669,605 |

Table of Contents

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2011 and 2010

The following is a reconciliation of the net (decrease) increase in net assets available for Plan benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500 for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010:

| | 2011 | 2010 |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Net (decrease) increase in net assets available for benefits prior to transfers per the financial statements | \$ (5,190,965) | 13,596,514 |
| Change in deemed distributed loans | (5,721) | (10,853) |
| Add reversal of prior year adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts | (1,558,337) | (1,124,521) |
| Plus current year adjustment from contract value to fair value for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts | 1,065,465 | 1,558,337 |
| Total net (loss) income per the Form 5500 | \$ (5,689,558) | 14,019,477 |

Table of Contents

Schedule I

CLEARWATER PAPER SALARIED 401(k) PLAN

Schedule H, Line 4i Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

December 31, 2011

Description of investment including maturity

| Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party | date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value | Current value |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| | Shares of registered investment company funds: | |
| PIMCO Funds | PIMCO Total Return Fund | \$ 7,837,460 |
| Dodge & Cox Funds | Dodge & Cox Stock Fund | 6,043,199 |
| Artisan Funds | Artisan Mid-Cap Fund Institutional | 5,906,383 |
| Mainstay Funds | Mainstay Large Cap Growth Fund | 5,736,881 |
| Artisan Funds | Artisan Mid-Cap Value Fund | 4,922,692 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2020 Fund | 4,374,232 |
| Vanguard Funds | Vanguard Institutional Index Fund | 3,778,239 |
| Timesquare Funds | Timesquare Mid-Cap Growth Fund | 3,686,975 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2015 Fund | 3,566,589 |
| Dodge & Cox Funds | Dodge & Cox International Fund | 3,446,282 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2025 Fund | 3,387,207 |
| Artisan Funds | Artisan International Fund Institutional | 2,583,135 |
| TCW | TCW Small Cap Growth, Class I | 2,194,614 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2030 Fund | 2,052,165 |
| Vanguard Funds | Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund Signal | 1,862,611 |
| Vanguard Funds | Vanguard Extended Market Index Fund Signal | 1,412,941 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2035 Fund | 1,135,255 |
| Vanguard Funds | Vanguard Total International Stock Index Fund | 960,894 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2010 Fund | 740,074 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2040 Fund | 698,134 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2045 Fund | 345,018 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2005 Fund | 149,447 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2050 Fund | 118,755 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement Income Fund | 70,723 |
| T. Rowe Price Funds | T. Rowe Price Retirement 2055 Fund | 56,684 |
| | Common and collective trusts: | |
| Putnam Investments | Putnam Stable Value Fund | 32,235,729 |
| | Common stock: | |
| * Clearwater Paper Corporation | Clearwater Paper Stock Fund | 15,192,013 |
| * Mercer Trust | Interest bearing cash account | 54,202 |
| * Participant loans | Interest rates from 3.25% to 8.50%, maturing through July 2026 | 2,976,663 |
| | Total | \$ 117,525,196 |

* Represents a party-in-interest at December 31, 2011.

See accompanying Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Table of Contents

SIGNATURE

The Plan. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized:

Clearwater Paper Salaried 401(k) Plan

By: /s/ Linda K. Massman
Linda K. Massman
Chair of Clearwater Paper Benefits Committee

Date: June 18, 2012

Table of Contents

Exhibit Index

| | Exhibit |
|--|----------------|
| Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm | 23 |