

Boise Cascade

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Vice President, Investor Relations and Public Policy

December 11, 2006

The Honorable David Ramsay, Minister
Ontario Department of Natural Resources
6th Floor, Room 6630
Whitney Block
99 Wellesley St. W.
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3
CANADA

Dear Minister Ramsay:

I am writing in regard to the Whiskey Jack Forest tenures in the context of the Kenora mill closure and potential tenure modifications planned by your Ministry. As a downstream customer of fiber from the Whiskey Jack, our policy regarding fiber procurement practices supports the consideration of stakeholders in the decision-making process as forest policies are developed and as tenures are granted and managed.

Boise Cascade is committed to sustainable business practices. We produce office papers at our mill in International Falls, Minnesota, in part with pulp produced by Abitibi-Consolidated at Fort Frances. It is my understanding that Abitibi-Consolidated sources fiber for the Fort Frances mill, in part, from the Whiskey Jack.

As you consider reviewing the allocation of the Whiskey Jack tenures, as a downstream customer, we need to continue to be supplied from sustainable sources. We believe that transparent, collaborative processes involving stakeholders leads to greater consensus, less uncertainty in the future, and ensures sustainability of natural resources and the sustainability of the communities that depend on those resources. While collaborative processes will not necessarily result in unanimity, they do allow all views to be aired for the benefit of decision makers.

We recognize that the Ontario Forest management framework and Sustainable Forest Management certification initiatives provide a good foundation. We want to reiterate that we see this as an opportunity for an open, transparent, and inclusive process for forest policies and tenure allocations.

If Boise Cascade can be of any help in this process, please feel free to call on me.

Sincerely,

Rob McNutt