



July 8, 2009

Honorable Max Baucus  
Honorable Charles Grassley  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510-1103

Dear Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am writing in support of continuing the alternative fuel mixture tax credit until it expires at the end of the year. The paper industry is critical to the Rome community's economic livelihood. Temple-Inland's containerboard mill here directly employs 571 workers. Hundreds of additional jobs outside the mill (loggers, trucking firms, etc.) also depend on Temple-Inland's continued existence for their weekly paychecks. These are high quality manufacturing jobs with excellent pay, health insurance and other benefits.

You may know that the U.S. paper industry is larger than our country's automotive industry, employing approximately one million workers. Unfortunately more than 300,000 workers have lost their forest industry jobs since 2006—almost one quarter of the industry's workforce. We do not want to see that occur here in Rome.

Moreover, the forest products industry generates 28.5 million megawatt hours of carbon-neutral renewable energy annually—enough to power 2.7 million homes. Paper mills can generate two-thirds of their energy needs from carbon-neutral biomass and black liquor generated onsite. This is more renewable energy than all solar, wind and geothermal sources combined.

Revoking the forest products industry's eligibility for the alternative fuel mixture tax credit before it expires later this year could have serious consequences for our mill communities. Please allow the credit to continue through 2009.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Albert M. Hodge, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Albert M. Hodge, Jr.  
President & CEO