

As a 27-year employee of Domtar's pulp and paper mill in Nekoosa, Wisconsin, I am very disturbed that Congress is considering eliminating the alternative fuel use tax credit for the United States pulp and paper industry--a move that singles out our industry and could have a devastating impact on me, my family, my employer, my community, and the nation's pulp and paper industry.

This credit, which was designed to give companies an incentive for the production of fish oil--a substance very similar in makeup to black liquor--is critical for maintaining our facility's viability in this extraordinary challenging economic environment. Our mill fulfills a large percentage of our power needs from burning black liquor--a residual of the pulp process comprised of lignin, the organic "glue" or liquid biomass that binds wood fibers together. The pulp and paper industry far outpaces every other industry in production and use of renewable power. However, until now we have largely been unable to take advantage of incentives for renewable power. This tax credit has been a critical lifeline for our mill in the midst of what everyone -- economists, politicians and mill workers -- agrees are extraordinarily dire economic conditions.

We urge you to help save our jobs and the jobs of hundreds of thousands of U.S. workers in the forest, transportation, and chemical industries that support us. Please keep this alternative fuel credit in place through its sunset date of December 31, 2009, as was promised by Congress when the legislation became law. As my voice in Washington, D.C., I urge you to act in the best interest of America's hardworking, tax-paying paper mill employees! Thank you.

Tammi Knuth-Brown

Tammi Knuth-Brown | Domtar A.W. LLC | HR Generalist |