

Dear Sir or Madam Finance Committee Members:

I currently work in the paper industry as an Account Manager for Domtar Papers in Wisconsin. I have been following the Alternative Fuel Tax credit for most of this year and am very disappointed to hear that a credit that has been a lifeline to our struggling industry is now being considered unnecessary and even abused.

With all of the discussion of late on the "green" movement and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, I am shocked that the Finance Committee is looking at a narrow view and saying that the pulp and paper industry does not deserve to be recognized for the efforts we have made toward improving our environment.

Our mill fulfills over 70 percent of our power needs from burning black liquor - a residual of the pulping 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. Currently, restrictions exist in the Section 45 renewable electricity tax credit which disqualify renewable biomass power that is generated and consumed on site - a practice we employ here at Domtar. Meanwhile, those that compete with us for wood fiber, such as independent power producers and facilities that make cellulosic transportation fuels, benefit fully from Section 45 and other production tax incentives.

We view the alternative mixture credit as helping to level the playing field while providing a needed boost to our mill - a mill that sustains good paying jobs in a rural community that depends on these jobs to drive economic activity in the area. With all of the struggles of our industry over the past few years I have seen many mill closures in my company and in my competitor's companies. Each of these closures affects hundreds of people not only at the mills but also in these communities. Without this tax credit, more mills will surely close. I wonder how long I will be employed in this industry and if this industry will still be around until I retire.

I am asking that you offer your support in preserving the current Alternative Fuel Mixture Credit until the end of the year when it is set to expire and not to end the credit prior to the end of 2009.

Thank you for your consideration of my view.

Stacy J. Mael

Domtar Account Manager
Merchant Sales - Wisconsin