

Senate Finance Committee
June 30, 2009
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Alternative Fuel Tax Credit

Dear Finance Committee Members:

I am writing in regards to the “Alternative Fuel Mixture Credit” for the Pulp and Paper industry. I feel that repealing this tax incentive would have a dramatic negative impact in the overall economy, especially in small rural towns like Johnsonburg, PA. Domtar’s Pulp and Paper mill in Johnsonburg has been the center of this community for over 100 years, and is a source of well paying jobs throughout the region. During these difficult economic times, this tax credit has been a savior for this industry and community. Not only has this credit kept this mill competitive, it has also provided stability to the loggers, sawmills, and most other sectors of our local economy as our Paper Mill brings in a large amount of revenue. Without this credit, our area would surely be in a dire situation.

The Pulp and Paper industry for years has been a leader in the area of biomass utilization. This tax credit, as well as other policies, has provided motivation for our industry to continue to utilize biomass as a fuel source. We will also be able to continue to innovate and improve in the area of renewable energy. Because of the benefits that the Alternative Fuel Mixture Credit has provided our mill and community, the environment will also benefit in the long-term as we continue to be “Green”.

Overall, this tax credit has provided an invaluable boost in maintaining our facility’s viability during our current economy situation. It has provided stability for the employees and the community of Johnsonburg and the surrounding areas. The Pulp and Power industry, which has been a leader in using biomass as a fuel source for years, should not be punished, but rather rewarded for the “Green” initiatives we currently practice and will continue to strive for in the future. Please vote to allow this tax credit to remain in effect through 2009 at a minimum.

Thanks,
Barry Rupprecht
Domtar – Johnsonburg Mill