

File: 135-40/Part 10.1 – Weyerhaeuser

February 22, 2000

Doug McCormick
Area Engineer, Project Leader
Weyerhaeuser – Stillwater Division
#201 7373 Duncan St.
Powell River, British Columbia
V8A 1W6

Dear Doug McCormick:

Thank you for submitting a preliminary proposal to pilot test new methods of regulating forest practices and for participating with staff from the Ministry of Forests (MoF) and Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks (MELP), in conducting an assessment of the proposal. The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) has reviewed your pilot project proposal and sees merit in your proposal to now convene a project advisory group to aid in your development of a more comprehensive piloting proposal for Block 1 of Tree Farm Licence # 39 in the Powell River area. On its behalf, I am pleased to respond with the following comments. The JSC:



- highlights the need to develop a strategy for proposing a mechanism for balancing competing values and interests. The proposed public advisory group should keep this uppermost on its agenda and ensure that terms of reference clarify the roles of community and identified stakeholders. Care will be needed to ensure the process does not become drawn out and cumbersome.
- notes that you are proposing changes to the present system of cutting permits. You should work closely with MoF staff to ensure that proposed changes to the permitting process do not adversely impact government revenues or the stumpage determination process.
- believes that your detailed proposal will need to fill in the gaps on quality assurance/Compliance and Enforcement and associated monitoring and evaluation criteria.
- highlights the need to ensure that the flexibility you are seeking to move operations does not lead to high-grading of the timber resource.
- suggests that careful attention be given to developing procedures for consulting with first nations in the proposed planning, permitting and approval model.

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The JSC suggests that your next step in fully developing your proposal should be to meet with the Regional Manger, MoF and Regional Director, MELP, or their designates, to agree to a process for establishing the public advisory group as you work towards developing a detailed proposal. You should give full consideration to the above points when formulating the terms of reference for that group.

The JSC appreciates having had the opportunity to review and comment on your preliminary proposal. The second step in the process calls for you to fully develop a proposal that achieves the essential purpose of meeting the legislated tests in Section 10.1 of the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*. Special attention will then need to be given to ensuring adequate review and support of public and agencies, and appropriate methods of information exchange with First Nations. Nothing in this letter should be construed to limit in any way that essential purpose.

The JSC offers its best wishes to you in proceeding with the continuing development of your piloting proposal.

Yours truly,

Guenter Stahl
Project Manger
Result Based Code Pilots

pc: Regional Manger, MoF – Ken Collingwood
Regional Director, MELP – Jim McCracken
District Manager, MoF – Greg Hemphill
Joint Steering Committee – c/o Dawna Biffert, Forest Practices Branch
Ralph Archibald, Director Forest Practices Branch – MoF
Rod Davis, Director Habitat Branch Branch – MELP