

Date September 13, 2017

Director Alisa Ramrattan

Dear Alisa,

Further to our recent discussions on this matter, LP believes there is an opportunity to align the Forest Management Plan (FMP) approval process under *The Forest Act* and the environmental assessment and licensing process under *The Environment Act*.

This alignment opportunity would assist the Manitoba government in achieving the goals of the Red Tape Reduction Task Force as it relates to the forest industry in Manitoba. Currently, there is considerable duplication of effort, consulting time, and report writing in the preparation of an FMP, and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) required by the environmental assessment and licensing process.

The FMP and EIS processes both require:

- Information Sharing and Engagement with Indigenous communities, Metis, stakeholders, and the public
- description of past management activities
- current biophysical, socio-economic, and land use conditions
- various future conditions be explored with scenario planning
- the most beneficial, sustainable management scenario chosen for implementation, and
- development of a monitoring section.

The one area where there is not overlap between the FMP and EIS processes is the requirement for an effects assessment. This is only required in the EIS process.

As you know, LP will be submitting an FMP on December 31, 2019.

Accordingly, LP requests the Department provide for an alignment between the FMP approval process under *The Forest Act*, and the environmental assessment and licensing process under *The Environment Act*. The submission of our FMP, once approved, will address the regulatory requirements of both Acts. LP proposes to include an effects assessment section in our FMP, to

address the EIS process requirement. Guidelines from the Department would assist us in ensuring the effects assessment is complete and meets all requirements.

LP is supportive of the work of the Red Tape Reduction Task Force, and believes the reduction of unnecessary regulatory red tape provides significant benefits to both the Province of Manitoba and to developers - as greater certainty for projects to proceed in a timely fashion leads to greater investment and economic growth in the province. We look forward to hearing back from you on our request. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dan Toivonen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dan Toivonen
Regional FRD Manager/Louisiana Pacific Corp.
715-634-5471

Cc: Tracey Braun