



November 7th, 2008

Calvin Mukumoto
Acting Chair
Oregon Board of Forestry
2600 State Street
Salem, OR 97310

RE: Regulation of poplar grown on agricultural sites after 12 years

Dear Chair Mukumoto and Members of the Board of Forestry:

The staff report and recommendation before you today on hybrid poplar represents a lengthy and thought out compromise on the poplar issue that began in the legislature. Collins Pine has been a part of these negotiations and respectfully requests your support for this proposal.

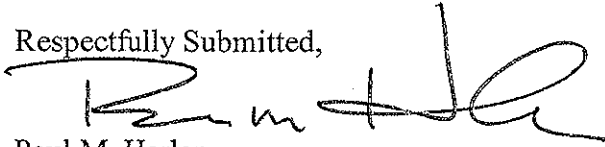
Currently the ability to create additional jobs in farm production and product manufacturing hinges on our abilities to extract quality products from the raw material. At age 12, the current extent of the allowance for hybrid poplar under the Forest Practices Act, the trees are at the verge of creating significant increased value and job growth.

It takes a tree two – three years to develop clear wood after pruning. The manufacturing processes in a sawmill creates lumber from the outside working in. It does this by making rectangular pieces out of a round profile. This means that the clearest and highest valued wood lies in the exterior of that profile. There has to be significant enough growth on the exterior of that tree in order to recover the investments like pruning from the log in a solid wood product.

The hybrid poplar tree farming technology today is working at reducing this ‘defect core’ as the center of the tree is called thorough pruning and tree selection. Even with these techniques there needs to be sufficient wood on the exterior of the log in order to extract higher grade and utility lumber from the tree and the investments in pruning. At age 12 the trees are just beginning to add this diameter on the tree that would allow for this value recovery. It will take additional growing seasons to produce this recoverable wood which is reflected in the proposal the staff has brought before you today.

Collins supports the hybrid poplar staff recommendations before you today and asks for your concurrence on this issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul M. Harlan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "H".

Paul M. Harlan
Vice-President, Resources
Collins Pine Company
PO box 1340
Lakeview, OR 97630