

Bio-Energy Policy and Forest Resources: What Lessons can BC and Canada Learn from International Experience?

Friday May 9th, 2008

Westin Bayshore
Resort & Marina
1602 Bayshore Drive
Vancouver, BC

Location: Salon A

Objective

The purpose of this seminar is to survey directions in the development of renewable and bio-energy policy in the United States, Europe and globally in order to inform the formulation of policy in Canada.

Background

The potential of forest biomass to serve as a feedstock in the production of low-impact, renewable energy offers the potential of new economic opportunities for the forest industry, forest communities and resource owners. However, international experience suggests that incentives and other policies intended to realize the promise of bioenergy can give rise to unintended consequences. These can include distortion of markets for wood fibre, higher fibre prices and costs as well as the potential for diversion of fibre resources to less employment and value-added intensive uses.

This half day, by-invitation-only session will bring together leaders in the bio-energy field from industry, government and academe for dialogue with a group of leading international experts.

8:30 am **Introductory Remarks and Overview of Objectives**

*Speakers: Jack Saddler, UBC
Avrim Lazar, FPAC*

8:45 am **Convergence of Markets for Food, Fuel and Fibre and the Evolution of Energy and Climate Policy: A Land-Use Perspective**

Questions & discussion
Speakers: Don Roberts, CIBC World Markets

9:20 am **European Perspectives**

Moderated questions & discussion
*Moderator: David Gandossi, Mercer International
Speakers: Teresa Presas, Confederation of European Paper Industries, Brussels, Belgium
Peter Berg, McKinsey Consulting, Stockholm, Sweden*

10:30 am **Break**

10:45 am **The Evolution of US Bio-Energy Policy: A Forest Industry Perspective**

Questions & discussion
Speaker: TBC

11:15 am **Summary of Discussion and Lessons for BC & Canada**

*Speakers: Avrim Lazar, FPAC
Jack Saddler, UBC*

11:30 am **Adjourn**

Speakers

Peter Berg

Peter Berg is the Director of Knowledge for McKinsey & Company's global Paper & Forest Products Practice. He organizes and coordinates the industry-specific support to McKinsey's project teams around the world and advises teams and clients on the industry. In the past several years, Peter has published articles in several trade journals and presented McKinsey's view on the forest products industry at various industry conferences. His current particular field of interest concerns the developments in climate change, bio-energy, and bio-fuels connected to the forest products industry.

Peter joined the Stockholm office of McKinsey in 1992 as a generalist consultant and project manager and worked with companies in several sectors, including telecom, transportation, and energy, before focusing completely on the forest products industry in 1995.

Peter earned his MBA from INSEAD in 1994. He also holds a Master of Science degree in Materials Engineering from the University of Houston and a Master of Science degree in Engineering Physics from Uppsala University.

David Gandossi

From August 2003 to present, David Gandossi has served as Executive Vice-President, CFO and Secretary at Mercer International Inc., a major market pulp producer with operations in Germany and Canada. Mercer serves customers in Europe, North America and Asia. Mr. Gandossi has been instrumental in the company's rapid growth and evolution into a leading global supplier of high quality NBSK pulp. From June 2002 until August 2003, Mr. Gandossi was the CFO and Executive Vice-President of Formation Forest Products (a closely held corporation). Mr. Gandossi was CFO, Vice-President, Finance and Secretary of Pacifica Papers Inc., a 900,000 tonne per year North American specialty pulp and paper manufacturing company which was spun-off from MacMillan Bloedel Limited in 1998, and subsequently sold to Norske Skog in September 2001. From 1994 to 1998, Mr. Gandossi held the position of Controller and Treasurer with Harmac Pacific Inc., a Canadian pulp manufacturing company which, again, was spunoff from MacMillan Bloedel and subsequently sold to Pope & Talbot in 1998. Mr. Gandossi is a chartered accountant certified in British Columbia, Canada in 1982. He has worked extensively with forest industry clients of Arthur Andersen and Price Waterhouse throughout the period prior to joining Harmac in 1994. From 2007 he has chaired the BC Pulp & Paper Joint Task force, a government, industry and labour effort that is mandated to identify measures to renew British Columbia's pulp and paper industry.

Avrim D. Lazar

Avrim Lazar is President & CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada, since Jan. 1, 2002. He also chaired the National Business Association Roundtable and is the Past-President of the International Council of Forest and Paper Associations (ICFPA).

Mr. Lazar has held senior policy positions in the government of Canada in the Ministries of Justice, Agriculture, Environment and Human Resource Development. During this period he was responsible for national policy in areas as diverse as climate change, biodiversity, child poverty, employment insurance and labor force training.

Mr. Lazar was Chair of the Committee of the Whole of the Second UN Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1995.

Mr. Lazar taught high school in Vancouver and Zambia from 1969 to 1973. Over the years, Mr. Lazar has given many courses in the graduate studies programs at the University of Ottawa and Carleton University.

Mr. Lazar holds degrees in science and education, including a B.Sc (1968) from McGill University, a B.Ed (1970) and a PhD in Ed (1976) from the University of Ottawa.

Teresa Presas

Teresa Presas was born in 1952 in Portugal and has a degree in psychology from the Instituto de Psicologia Aplicada, Lisbon. From 1972 to 1974 she worked for the Consumer Research Department of Lintas International. She has worked as a journalist for the Semanario Expresso in Lisbon and has also worked on external & international relations at the Portuguese Film Institute.

Ms. Presas entered into the paper industry in 1982 as Director of Communication and Marketing Services for Tetra Pak Portugal. She later went on to become Director of Communication and Environment for Tetra Pak Europe and then, Vice President of European Affairs for Tetra Pak Europe and Africa and Director of Corporate Environmental Affairs for Tetra Pak International.

Between 1991 and 2003 she was member of the Board and Executive Committee of various organisations including, ACE (the Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment), ASSURE (Association for the Sustainable Use and Recovery of Resources in Europe) and EUROPEN (European Organisation for Packaging and the Environment). During that period she was vice-chairperson of the European Commission Consultative Forum for Environment and Sustainable Development.

Teresa Presas became Managing Director of CEPI in September 2003.