

News Release Corner Pulp and Paper Limited

Company Withdraws Request to Amend the 1997-2001 Five-Year Operating Plan for the Main River-Sheffield Lake Areas in Forest Management District 16

Corner Brook, NF - Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited (CBPP) announced today that it has notified the Minister of Environment and Labour that it is withdrawing the request it made in December 1999 to amend the 1997-2001 Five-Year Operating Plan for the Main River-Sheffield Lake areas of Forest Management District (FMD) 16.

Kevin Sheahan, CBPP's Vice President and General Manager stated that "we decided to withdraw this request because we could not count on receiving approval in sufficient time to allow harvesting next spring given the timeframe required to complete our analysis of the additional information and the environmental assessment process."

As a result CBPP has modified its 2001 operating plan for FMD 16. CBPP has adopted several temporary measures that will allow the mill to have an adequate supply of fibre next spring. These temporary measures include increasing mill-yard inventory and purchasing pulpwood on the spot market from suppliers located outside of the province.

"There are consequences related to these temporary measures, however, given the timeframe we had no choice but to adjust our operating plan for next year" said Sheahan.

"FMD 16 remains a very important source of fibre for Corner Brook Pulp and Paper. The issues raised during the public review of this request to amend the current five-year plan in FMD 16 are important and they must be resolved in a balanced way. CBPP will continue to work with all stakeholders during the coming months as the 2002-2006 Five-Year Operating Plan for FMD 16 is being put together" Sheahan concluded.

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