

NAME OF UNDERTAKING:

Proposed Harvest Operating Areas in Forest Management District 12, Harpoon Branch North (2004-A12-08).

PROPONENT:

- (I) Abitibi-Consolidated Company of Canada, Newfoundland Woodlands
- (II) 7 Mill Road, Grand Falls – Windsor, NL., A2A 2K1
- (III) Woodlands Manager:
Mr. William Furey
(709) 292-3161
- (IV) Principal Contact:
Mr. Donald Brain, RPF
Superintendent of Forestry & Continuous Improvement
(709) 292-3371

UNDERTAKING:

Abitibi-Consolidated Company of Canada is proposing to harvest a total of approximately 14,800 cubic meters of mature softwood timber, representing approximately 126 hectares. This proposed harvest is outside the current five-year operating plan for Forest Management District 12 (2003-2007), and upon proper approvals will be scheduled for harvest during the summer / fall of 2004.

To adequately access the merchantable timber, Newfoundland Woodlands is also proposing to upgrade approximately 1.7 kilometers of existing road and construct approximately 2.9 Kilometers of new operational road (Class “C”).

DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING:

This area is located within Forest Management District 12 on Forest Inventory Maps 08544 or Topographic Map 12A/10. Approval of this amendment will allow harvesting of the merchantable softwood species in a sustainable manner under the current five-year annual allowable cut calculations by the Department of Forest Resources & Agrifoods (2001-2005).

All conditions associated with the Environmental Protection Guidelines for Ecologically based forest resource management will be strictly followed. During harvest operation, all fuels will be stored in approved tanks and kept a minimum of 100 meters from any waterbody. There will also be an Environmental Response Kit located near the worksite during all operational phases. As well, under its Forest Environmental Management System (FEMS), which is registered to the ISO 14001 Standard, dedicated Environmental Awareness and proper operating procedures have been delivered to all associated employees involved in various activity such as: road construction, culvert / bridge installation, fuel handling and emergency response.

Operational occupations associated with proposal include:

8 Mechanical Harvester Operators &/or 15 Manual Loggers		
1 Excavator Operator	1 Mechanic	2 Field Technicians
4 Truck Drivers	1 Production Foreman	
4 Forwarder Operators	1 Logging Superintendent	

APPROVAL OF THE UNDERTAKING:

Abitibi-Consolidated Company of Canada, Newfoundland Woodlands, will obtain proper stream crossing approvals from the Department of Fisheries & Oceans, Department of Environment (Water Resources Division), and if required Canadian Coast Guard (Navigable Waters Protection Act), for all water crossings identified on a 1:50,000 Topographic map, or streams that are greater than one meter in width.

As well, a copy of this proposal is sent to the Department of Forest Resources & Agrifoods (Forest Management District 12) in Springdale for inclusion into Abitibi-Consolidated's Annual Work Schedule for 2004, when released from further Environmental Assessment.

SCHEDULE:

It is anticipated that the construction of roads and subsequent harvest would commence on or near May 01, 2004.