Reference: 238439

April 25, 2018

Dear Mill Contact,

Re: Annual Major Primary Timber Processing Facilities Survey

The vision for the British Columbia (B.C.) forest sector is a vibrant and sustainable forest industry that provides enormous benefits for current and future generations. The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development (the Ministry) strategic priorities are set out in the July 2017 Minister's Mandate Letter. One of the key goals is to increase domestic manufacturing potential and support rural economies and workers in the forest sector. The annual major primary timber processing facilities survey is critical to support this goal and aid British Columbia's response in trade issues (e.g. softwood lumber). Your industry association, if you are affiliated, may have highlighted the value of this survey and encouraged your company to respond.

This annual survey has collected critical operational information on each type of mill across the province since 1991. Much of the information you provide in this survey is protected from disclosure under Section 21 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Only the company name, mill location, and an estimate of annual production capacity will be published. The other data will be aggregated with other mills to provide provincial and regional information on the historical log and residual use. The company-specific information will not be released without your prior consent.

Based on the survey responses, the Ministry publishes an annual report, Major Primary Timber Processing Facilities in British Columbia, also known as the B.C. Mill List report. The latest report is available on the Ministry's website at https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/forestry/fibre-mills/2016_mill_list_report_final2.pdf.

This survey is sent to you electronically. The detailed instructions on how to complete the survey are provided in the email. We would appreciate your completing and returning the survey by the requested reply date.

If you are not the appropriate person to complete the survey, please forward this email to the proper contact. Should you have any questions, please contact Jiali (Julie) Leng at (778) 974-2403 or email her at Mill.Survey@gov.bc.ca.

Thank you in advance for your participation and cooperation.

Vera Sit
Executive Director
Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations Division
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development

Executive Director
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