

Hi, my name is Kevin Neely. I own a Consumer Electronic Store called Merv's Audiotronic. With me is Grant Wicks. He is General Manager of our largest retailer, The Swan Valley Consumers Coop. Grant has brought Jason Ryden, a General Manager Trainee.

We are local business people and Grant and I are also directors on the Swan River Chamber of Commerce. We are here to represent the Chamber of Commerce with a membership of over 170 businesses and professionals in Swan River and the surrounding area.

We would like to thank the chairman, Edwin Yee and the panel for allowing us to speak. Our presentation is very short, but to the point.

I personally sat before a hearing as president of the Swan River Chamber of Commerce some fourteen years ago when Louisiana Pacific was in the process of getting started. This was an exciting time as our local economy and population were going backwards.

LP was nothing short of a godsend at the time and as a personal example I took the plunge to relocate my business to a location twice the size of my former location. This would never had happened if LP had not come to our valley.

LP has been a great boon to our local economy, not only providing badly needed jobs that pay very well, but also creating an incredible spin off of employment for logging and hauling as well as new businesses to support their needs. As an example when LP first came to Swan Valley we were actually down to one tire shop and now have four. I could site many more examples of the positive impact LP has had on our valley, but I think it is very obvoius. Lp has also been an incredible corporate citizen and have contributed to practicaly every positive cause in the valley. They have been the catalyst of the positive business environment and constant new construction of both real-estate and business expansion.

The business community has been deeply concerned about LP's future survival in the current recession and lack of demand for their product. That being said, today we are concerned that they are treated fairly and treated competitively. **"No other Canadian OSB mills are required to run RTO'S."** The new technology LP has invested in, in order to eliminate the need for RTO'S with no health risk to the Valley; along with the substantial reduction in green house gases is something we support.

It would be a sad story if Swan Valley's plant were to be shut down first, due to more excessive costly requirements that others do not use.

In closing we would like to say we have faith in our government and know with your recommendations they will make the right decision in this matter.

Thanks you for allowing us to be here today.

EXHIBIT NUMBER: _____
File Name: _____
Date: _____
Received by: _____
(Commission Secretary)