

From: Alan Massey
Sent: 11 December 2008 21:04
To: liz.kirk@forestry.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: FCS Climate Consultation

Liz.

I would like to make the following offering to the debate.

I welcome the minister initiative which is very timely but would flag up the following concerns:-

- 1) Standards of forest management must be maintained & improved.
- 2) That timber flows and the market forces of demand & supply are not interfered with unduly, so as to sustain our very modern, added value and internationally successful forest products industry. Insuring its global competitiveness.
- 3) That the integrity of the industries environmental credentials are not compromised by bad forest practice, or the public perception of bad forest practice and our well earned international reputation for sustainable forest management is not compromised. (FSC certification will insure this I am sure)
- 4) That the important role the industry plays in rural job creation (not just forestry jobs & downstream timber processing but also the creation of environments conducive to tourism and the subsequent creation of jobs in that sector of the economy) is not compromised.
- 5) That FC Scotland implements the Forest Acts impartially over the whole industry and that controls & current safeguards are maintained. If this is done I see no reason to fear that UK standards of forestry practice will drop. There may even be a case that standards will improve.

Finally, Scotland has little manufacturing industry left & with the demise of the service sector Scotland will need all the jobs in primary industry it can create, any lease of public assets must safeguard these and the downstream jobs in industry, I have no concerns with the transfer of public jobs to the private sector, only the loss of jobs in total.

Best wishes.

Alan Massey FICFor, MIWSc.

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