

North Washington Region • 505 N. Pearl St • Centralia, WA 98531

October 16, 2017

SVENA

Attn: Inessa Pearce

34825 Sultan Startup Road

Sultan, WA 98294

Dear Ms. Pearce:

We received your letter to our President and CEO, Doyle Simons, dated September 19, 2017. We share your interest in the safe and sustainable management of our lands and the protection of public resources. The use of herbicides is an important tool in managing forests to help provide our new seedlings with the chance to grow and thrive against competing vegetation. We conduct herbicide applications to re-establish healthy forests. The herbicides that are used in forestry operations are the same as those commonly used by residential homeowners, but we use a more diluted mixture.

Additionally, we undertake numerous measures to ensure all herbicides are applied in a safe manner. These include:

- All herbicides are approved for the intended use by both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Agriculture.
- Avoiding the application of herbicides in or near bodies of water, such as streams and rivers.
- Closely monitoring weather conditions throughout the operation to prevent drift and, if weather is unfavorable, ceasing operations. We will not apply herbicides if wind or poor weather conditions could carry them onto an adjacent property.

Treating our harvested stands effectively, prior to planting our seedlings, reduces the need for future herbicide treatments. We plant large, healthy seedlings which further reduces the need for additional treatments. Most sites require only one or two treatments over a 40-to-50-year period.

We manage our forests to produce a sustainable supply of wood for our customers and society. At the same time, we are careful to protect biological diversity, recreation needs, water quality and the many other benefits provided by our forests. Herbicides are an important tool in our ability to practice sustainable forestry and we will continue to use them, as appropriate, in a safe and efficient manner.

Sincerely,



Travis Ridgway

North Washington Region Manager