

Environmental Leadership Survey

Newsprint Producers

Introduction

The following survey is designed to better inform [company name] as we evaluate the environmental leadership of our current and potential supply chain partners. The information obtained through this survey will also assist [company name] as we develop and implement our environmental goals regarding paper consumption.

Newsprint with Environmental Attributes

1. Does your company offer/produce newsprint grades that contain recycled fiber? *Please list brand names and basic specifications including percentage of post-consumer and pre-consumer fiber for each.*

2. How much, if any, of your newsprint grades are (a) Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified and also contain recycled content? (b) How much, if any, is third party chain of custody certified (SFI, CSA, etc.)? *Please list brand names and basic specifications including percentage of post-consumer and pre-consumer fiber for each.*

3. Do you have plans to develop new grades that are FSC certified and contain recycled fiber? Please describe goals and give some indication of intended timelines.

Forest Resources

1. Which mill(s) are currently producing newsprint for our company? Please provide mill names and locations including country of origin, state or province, and nearest city.

2. What percent of virgin pulp is produced from forestlands owned and/or managed by your company or by a third party supplier with whom you have a long-term contract?

3. What percent of virgin pulp is sourced from the open market? Who are the primary pulp providers and what are the geographic areas for the primary forests of origin for this virgin pulp? Please include country of origin, state or province, and nearest town in addition to forest management unit name and/or GPS coordinates if known.

4. If your company owns or manages forestlands, are they (a) FSC certified? (b) Third party chain-of-custody certified? If so, which certification system(s)?

5. If your company does not own or manage forestlands, then what percent of the virgin pulp is FSC certified? What percent of virgin pulp meets the FSC controlled wood standard? What percent comes from certified sources? Which certification system(s)?

6. If your company owns or manages forestlands, have you conducted a High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) Assessment in the tenures that supply the mills that we buy from and have these involved other interested parties (e.g. local and indigenous communities or NGOs)? If so, have the recommendations coming out of those studies for maintaining HCVFs been adopted and implemented?

7. If your company manages forestland, how are you replanting in the region? With single or multiple tree species?

8. If your company manages forestlands, do you currently manage forests with herbicides and/or fertilizers?

9. Is your company committed to ending the conversion of native forests to tree plantations? Please explain.

10. Do you plan to manage/support management of forests to the FSC standard in the near future? If no, why not?

Energy and Climate Change

1. What percent of your overall energy use is supplied by co-generation?
2. What percent of your overall energy use is supplied by the grid? How much from wind, solar, or biogas sources? Other (please specify)?
3. Is any energy supplied by burning tires? If yes, where is the source located and what air pollution controls have been established?
4. Does your company purchase renewable energy credits (RECs)? If so, please provide details.
5. Do you plan to expand your use of wind, solar, biogas, or other renewable energy sources in the future? Please explain.
6. Please describe any energy conservation efforts and accomplishments.

Clean Production

1. Which bleaching technologies are currently used to produce your newsprint and/or are used by the companies where you acquire market pulp?
2. Are there plans for the integration of Process Chlorine Free (PCF) technologies that make use of ozone and hydrogen peroxide? If no, are there plans for developing Enhanced Elemental Chlorine Free (EECF) technologies—making use of extended delignification?
3. Is the caustic soda used by your company or pulp suppliers produced without the use of mercury? If no, are there plans to switch to caustic soda produced without the use of mercury?

4. Please describe recent pollution prevention gains and future plans.

Other

1. Please describe how your company maintains transparency and works with diverse stakeholders.

2. Is your company willing to support industry advancements in increasing recovered fiber and more efficient processing? If so, how?

3. Has your company explored the development of agricultural fibers as a substitute for virgin wood fiber? If not, would you support exploring it yourself or supporting other companies who already have?

4. Is your company willing to provide newsprint that contains at least 50% recycled content and is FSC certified at comparable pricing?

5. Does your company produce a regular Corporate Sustainability Report? If so, please provide the link if it is available online. If not, please send a copy with your responses to this survey.

6. Is your company interested in participating in a future solicitation for pricing related to newsprint with strong environmental attributes?

Thank you for your time and thoughtful attention to these important questions. We look forward to working more closely with you to reduce our ecological and climate footprint with regard to the newsprint we use for our publications.