

From: Daryl Fahy [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday 7 February 2019 20:02
To: rses
Subject: RSES Submission from ECC Timber
Attachments: Forest Industries Ireland - Think Forests PDF.PDF; IFFPA Timber value forecast 2018 FINAL.PDF

To whom it may concern;

I am writing to you in relation to the Draft RSES and wish to make the following submission.

ECC is one of Irelands leading processors of round log and a major employer in the western and northern region employing over 350 people derived predominantly from the western region. Since its inception, the company has grown to become one of the leading suppliers of timber products in Europe, utilising over 450,000 m3 of round logs per annum. The company is the largest customer for round logs from semi-state forestry company Coillte, purchasing over €25 million worth of round logs per annum and Irelands largest exporter of sawn timber products.

Our submission is directly related to the Forestry Section. The priority for this submission is to highlight the importance of forestry and forestry related activities and employment to rural areas of the west of Ireland. In addition to ECC, there are a number of other major processors located in this region who provide major employment directly and also indirectly in areas of establishment, construction, maintenance, haulage and extraction. Here are some important facts to support this statement and which should be considered in the next draft:

- Nationally, there are approximately 12,000 people working in the industry with a \$2.6Bn contribution to the economy – all of which is going into rural Ireland.
- There are 4,210 people working in forestry in the Northern and Western Regional Assembly area, the majority of which are in rural locations. Cavan 380, Donegal 545, Leitrim 565, Galway 950, Mayo 700, Monaghan 120, Roscommon 505, Sligo 445. Source: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
- 4,081 farmers in the NWRA area received €18,518,420 in forest premium payments in 2017. Source: Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine.
- Apart from Masonite, there are a number of other significant processors in the region including harvesters, transport companys, sawmills and wood fuel companys.
- I also enclose IBEC's 2018 Irish Timber Value Forecast for your information

I have attached a document from the recently formed FII (Forest Industries Ireland) association of forestry companies which gives the forest cover by county along with other industry information.

Please contact me should you require any additional information.

Best regards,

Daryl Fahy
Managing Director

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