

# Domtar's CEO Royer unafraid to go green; says forestry and environmentalists share sustainability goals

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LOS ANGELES, May 7, 2007 (Forestweb) — Domtar Corp.'s CEO Raymond Royer recently discussed his pro-environmental support when he attended the recent Green Living Show in Toronto, Ont., where he had gone to hear Al Gore speak and to spend time with his eco-allies, The Globe and Mail reported May 5.

In an interview with the Globe, Royer described his own experiences with "green living," and his attitudes have implications for the merger of Montreal-based Domtar Inc. with the fine paper division of Weyerhaeuser Co., Federal Way, Wash., creating Domtar Corp.

He said Domtar has been involved with the World Wildlife Federation for several years, from when the province of Ontario was discussing the Lands for Life program for wilderness protection, and he realized the company shared forest sustainability goals with the environmentalists.

Royer said that at first the paper industry criticized him for talking to environmental groups. However, he asked Domtar employees how the company could work with the green groups. Lands for Life became a success in Ontario, and the company broadened its relationships with the green community.

Last year, Domtar obtained Forest Stewardship Council certification for its forests, and the same issues came up in the industry, Royer said. He said the forestry industry been traditional and resists change, but the world market demands a different approach.

Royer said he had shown Al Gore's movie, "An Inconvenient Truth," to all Domtar management. He repeated that showing to Weyerhaeuser senior management after the companies completed their deal and those attending were thankful, Royer said.

He admitted that the company, when it was Dominion Tar and Chemical Co., left some environmental problems, but said the company knows all the sites, monitors them, and has more than C\$50 million in provisions to address site problems.

About increasing competition from China, CEO Royer said that China's extremely low labor costs are offset somewhat by transportation costs to North America. His company's competitive response is to increase the level of service to customers, he said.

Royer said Domtar will remain Canadian, as both companies agreed on it. He said Weyerhaeuser saw the efficiency Domtar brought to the merger and how each company's best practices support each other.

*The primary source of this article is The Globe and Mail, Toronto, Ont., on May 7, 2007.*