



STATE OF MAINE
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
LAND USE REGULATION COMMISSION
18 ELKINS LANE – HARLOW BUILDING
22 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0022



PATRICK MCGOWAN
COMMISSIONER

April 19, 2005

James K. Lehner
General Manager, Northeast Region
Plum Creek Timber Company
49 Mountain Ave
P.O. Box 400
Fairfield, ME 04937-0400

Dear Mr. Lehner:

As a follow-up to our conversation last week, I'm writing to clarify LURC's position regarding your question as to whether Plum Creek should host and/or attend meetings to inform interested groups about the Moosehead Lake region concept plan proposal. As discussed, Plum Creek representatives are free to host or attend any meetings during the review of this proposal. We hoped, however, you would avoid hosting a broadly advertised public meeting during the review of this proposal as it may be confused with similar meetings that LURC plans on hosting in the near future.

LURC's primary concern is that interested persons will share their thoughts about the proposal to Plum Creek during such a meeting and will falsely assume that such comments submitted to Plum Creek will be forwarded to LURC for the agency's consideration during its review. LURC is committed to carrying out a comprehensive evaluation of this proposal, which must include considerable opportunity for public participation to be effective. As a result, we want to make certain that persons who attend any non-LURC sponsored meetings are aware that information presented and comments made will not be part of the public record. LURC will only consider testimony submitted to the agency directly (either via correspondence or oral testimony during the public hearing phase) when the time comes to make a decision on this proposal.

In order to minimize potential confusion regarding this matter, we ask that Plum Creek representatives share this information at any meetings where the topic of discussion is the concept plan proposal, and specifically make it clear that such meetings are not legitimate venues for public comment or testimony. In addition, we ask that attendees of such meetings also be informed of upcoming LURC-sponsored public meetings and hearings.

If you have any questions about this matter, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Agnieszka Pinette

Agnieszka Pinette, Senior Planner
Planning & Administration Division

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Land Use Regulation Commission
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