



March 9, 2004

The Honourable Mr Paul Lennon MHA
Premier of Tasmania
Level 11, Executive Building, 15 Murray Street
Hobart, Tasmania 7001

Dear Mr Lennon,

As you are no doubt aware, Greenpeace Japan and The Wilderness Society of Australia have continued in their efforts to stop supply of woodchips from Tasmania to Japan. They have sent their request directly to major Japanese pulp and paper companies, including Nippon Paper Industries, on a number of occasions which, in itself, is cause for concern.

Nippon Paper Industries has built up a long and beneficial business relationship with our friends in Tasmania for over 30 years. However never before have issues that are essentially local Tasmanian issues, come to interfere with our business and cause confusion with our own paper customers here in Japan.

Our business relationship is based on trust and I am confident that Gunns Limited and Forestry Tasmania are proceeding with their business in accordance with the Regional Forest Agreement and the law in Australia. I believe that Tasmanian forests are managed properly on a sustainable basis and that RFA is supported by most Tasmanian residents. It is therefore most regretful that Nippon Paper Industries as the largest customer for woodchips from Tasmania are being pulled into this debate.

The issue of how Tasmania's forests should be managed is to be a Tasmanian domestic issue. I sincerely request that you, given your position of strength in the community and knowledge in the forest industry in Tasmania, take some positive steps to conclude this divisive debate. If the main issue is between the State Government and the environmental groups, then please take an active role to mediate the matter.

Our genuine request for you is to try to resolve the current matter quickly and effectively, then by all means we wish to continue our established relationship in Tasmania and further build upon it.

Yours truly,

Takahiko Miyoshi
President
Nippon Paper Industries Co., Ltd.