



Grady Mulbery, President and Chief Executive Officer
Allyn Ford, Chairman of the Board of Directors
Roseburg Forest Products
3660 Gateway Street
Springfield, Oregon 97477

December 18, 2018

Dear Mr. Mulbery and Mr. Ford,

I am writing to you on behalf of Water for Citizens of Weed, California (WCWC), an association of citizens working to protect the spring water upon which the people of Weed have depended for our community's entire existence. WCWC formed in 2016, at the time when Roseburg Forest Products was negotiating a Water Lease Agreement with the City of Weed intended to force our community off of our main source of drinking water, Beaughan Springs. We have two requests of your company: 1) To drop your appeal of the dismissal of WCWC and nine named individuals in what the Superior Court judge last year ruled was an illegal and inappropriate "SLAPP" (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation), and 2) To cease your pursuit of the 2.0 cubic feet per second of Beaughan Springs spring water historically used by the people of Weed.

We initially objected to the Water Lease Agreement for a number of reasons. First, it is simply wrong for a private corporation to take a vital public resource, such as drinking water, away from a community which depends on that resource. California State laws prioritize water for domestic use. Water as a human right is codified in the California Constitution affirming that water should be conserved for the "interest of the people and public welfare" (Article 10, section 2). California Water Code (section 106) explicitly states that "the use of water for domestic purposes is the highest use of water." California Health and Safety Code [section 116270(a)] guarantees that "Every citizen of California has the right to pure and safe drinking water." Furthermore, the California Right to Water Bill prioritizes water for personal and domestic uses over industrial and agricultural uses. Your company's actions are inconsistent with all of these statutes.

Secondly, your company has been exploiting a lack of clarity in the historical documentation regarding the transfer of ownership of this water to the City. Over the last two and a half years, we have researched the history of the Beaughan Springs water in detail. This has included a number of documents provided by your predecessor, International Paper, as well as those of the California Public Utilities Commission and other entities. These documents show without doubt that the intention of International Paper, at the time Weed transformed from being a company town to an incorporated city, was for the Beaughan Springs water in question to be given to the newly formed City of Weed. The historical record regarding International Paper's intentions is very clear. Your company is using a lack of clarity in the subsequent documentation of the water rights transfer to unfairly and illegitimately attempt to take this water away from our community.

Thirdly, the Water Lease Agreement was forced on our City. Many people in our community, while appalled at your company's actions, felt intimidated and unable to challenge you due to the wealth and resources of your company in comparison to those of our small community. We found it especially disturbing that your company

chose to initiate your efforts to take control of our water within weeks of a devastating fire that destroyed over 150 of our homes and community institutions.

In response, our organization has worked to resist the loss of our water through publicizing the situation and reaching out for assistance. We tried to avoid a time-consuming and costly legal battle by instead asking local and state water regulatory agencies to investigate the situation. Our city council agreed to support these efforts. In response, you sued WCWC, nine individual citizens who spoke out on the issue, and the City of Weed.

One year ago, in December 2017, during our Superior Court hearing, the presiding judge dismissed WCWC and the nine individuals from your lawsuit. She stated very clearly that we had merely been exercising our protected constitutional rights and should have never been named in this case. Instead of accepting this decision, you have chosen to appeal—yet, to date, you have not provided any valid legal justification for this appeal. This is forcing us to continue this time-consuming legal process for many more months. Your actions are those of a bully, designed to intimidate us into silence. Our presence at your corporate headquarters today, supported by many allies, demonstrates that this attempt has failed.

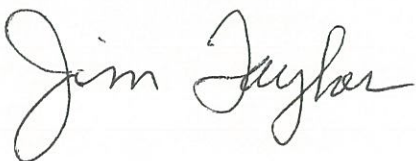
At the same time, your company is engaged in a legal fight with the City of Weed over the ownership of what has long been our community's portion of the water from Beaughan Springs. Your pursuit of this water and your lawsuit are draining resources from our economically-challenged and fire-affected community—resources that would be better spent on rebuilding and providing basic services to residents and businesses. That you apparently intend to use the water our community depends on to sell to the international bottling industry for export is particularly offensive. A community's drinking water is not meant to be just another commodity to be bought and sold. Whether you can legally force our community to give up our water is unclear. What is clear to all of us, however, is that this is an unethical action unbecoming of your company's historical relationship with the people of Weed.

Please listen to the words of the Superior Court judge and immediately drop your Appellate court appeal of the dismissal of WCWC and nine Weed citizens from your lawsuit. These parties should never have been named and it is your responsibility to recognize this and respond accordingly.

Please drop your lawsuit against the City of Weed and recognize the City's right to the 2 CFS of Beaughan Springs water. This is the right thing to do and would honor the intentions of the former mill owner, International Paper, comply with California statutes regarding water use priorities, and recognize the historical usage of the Beaughan Springs water by the people of Weed for domestic and municipal purposes.

Over the last three years, the reputation of Roseburg Forest Products has suffered considerable damage, both in our community and more widely, due to your pursuit of the City's portion of Beaughan Springs and your ill-considered SLAPP suit against WCWC and the nine named individuals. You still have an opportunity to do the right thing and restore your reputation. Fulfilling our two requests above are the first steps in doing so.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jim Taylor
President
Water for Citizens of Weed California
872 Stringtown Avenue
Weed, California 96094