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Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy  
Environmental Sustainability and Strategic Policy Division  
PO Box 9339 Stn Prov Govt.  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9M1

Attention: Jennifer McGuire, P. Ag. – Assistant Deputy Minister

Via email: [Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jennifer.Mcguire@gov.bc.ca)

**Re: Professional Reliance Submission**

My name is Stirling Angus and I have practiced as a registered professional forester (RPF) in British Columbia for over 30 years. I support the current model of professional reliance in natural resource management in British Columbia.

I work as a forestry consultant where my livelihood is dependent on my right to practice as a forest professional. I am acutely aware on a daily basis of my responsibilities, and the corresponding liabilities, associated with providing my professional opinions. I understand that people rely on my professional advice for their safety, businesses and environmental sustainability. In turn I depend on their trust of my work for my livelihood as well as my sense of purpose, and sense of self.

In my experience, the current professional reliance (PR) model works well to encourage professionals like me to fully understand the needs of all the people I am responsible to. These people include the public, my clients, other professionals and the various governmental authorities I am regularly corresponding with.

The current PR model in BC works well, but is not perfect. Areas where I believe the PR model can be improved include the following. Continuous training of professionals to remind us of current best practices as these practices change over time. Clearer legislation for such things as forest stewardship plans. Proactive, not just retro-active, enforcement of operations to serve as a reminder to everyone their responsibility to understand and follow plans. Improved conformance statements such as those that BC Timber Sales have been implementing.

In my experience PR works well to encourage different professionals to respectfully cooperate and coordinate in order to develop good, practical solutions.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide my opinion on this topic which is very important to me.

Yours truly,



Stirling Angus, RPF