



File: ARCS-00280-30/471824F

Reference: 278020

2024-02-27

Dear Mill Representative:

Re: 2023 Annual Major Timber Processing Facilities Survey

I am writing to request your participation in the 2023 Major Timber Processing Facilities Survey (Mill List Survey). This annual survey collects information on the operation of primary timber processing facilities in British Columbia (BC or the Province). The survey is a critical source of information for the Province to understand industry trends and evaluate policy options.

As the Province strives to maintain a competitive and high-value forest industry that provides jobs, economic stability, and benefits to First Nations and communities, please provide the requested information to ensure that the Province has the most accurate information possible. In addition to informing policy discussions, the survey responses will help decision-makers better understand the status of fibre use and industrial trends. Survey results will also be used in BC's response to trade issues (e.g., the softwood lumber dispute).

Please note that the Mill List Survey information is requested under Section 136 of the *Forest Act*. Failure to respond within the required time frame may result in enforcement action by the Compliance and Enforcement Branch of the Ministry of Forests.

A large portion of the data you provide in this survey is strictly protected from disclosure under Section 21 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* unless certain conditions are met. Only the company name, mill location, and an estimate of annual output capacity will be publicly released without aggregation. Any other data that is released will be aggregated with data from other facilities, typically on a regional or provincial level. This aggregation ensures no company-specific information will be released without your prior consent.

Using the survey responses, the Ministry of Forests publishes a report entitled Major Timber Processing Facilities in British Columbia (available at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/competitive-forest-industry/forest-industry-economics/fibre-mill-information/major-timber-processing-facilities-survey>).

The Mill List Survey will be sent to you electronically. We would appreciate it if you could complete and return the survey by the requested response date.

If you are not the appropriate person to complete the survey, please forward the survey to the proper contact. Should you have any questions, please contact our staff at (778) 698-7378 or (778) 974-2039 or via email at mill.survey@gov.bc.ca.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MS', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Melissa Sanderson
Assistant Deputy Minister
Timber, Range and Economics Division