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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3204

April 13, 2005

Ms. Denise M. Sheehan
Acting Commissioner
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233

Dear Ms. Sheehan:

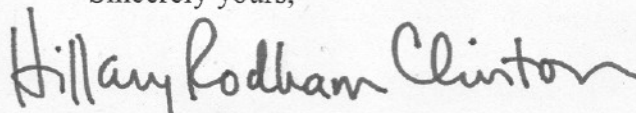
I write to urge you to approve International Paper's (IP) Title 5 Air Permit application, which was filed with your office January 31, 2005. This application would allow IP's Ticonderoga mill to conduct a two week test of Tire Derived Fuel (TDF) in the mill's power boiler. TDF would make up 10 percent of the fuel used, displacing a portion of the fuel oil currently utilized.

IP estimates that burning tires would save approximately \$1.5 million annually in energy costs at a facility where high energy costs create a competitive disadvantage in a global marketplace that includes subsidized exports of foreign competitors. In addition, the proposal has the potential to provide a disposal alternative for a portion of the ever-growing stock of used tires.

I know that some are concerned about the potential air quality impact of burning tires at the mill. I have been assured that the TDF trial would be conducted within all of the mill's current permit limitations. In addition, I understand that air emissions would be closely monitored during the trial to verify the performance of the mill's pollution control equipment. With these safeguards in place, I believe it is important that the trial move forward. When the trial is complete, the data will be available for everyone to evaluate.

The mill has a long history in Ticonderoga, dating back to 1925. It currently employs more than 700 workers, making it one of the North Country's biggest employers. I am strongly committed to working to ensure that IP's Ticonderoga mill continues to thrive and provide hundreds of good paying jobs in Ticonderoga and the surrounding communities for generations to come. International Paper has a good proposal that looks to balance the needs of the economy and the environment. I believe that the two week test is merited and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely yours,



Hillary Rodham Clinton