

The InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council prepared a resolution dated January 27, 2020 regarding the Mendocino Forest Products pellet facility located in Calpella, CA.

Mendocino Forest Products found a number of comments that would benefit from additional correction, clarification or commentary which are presented on the right side of the page in green italics.

Substantial factual information on Mendocino and Humboldt Redwood forests and its practices are available at www.MendoCo.com. Wherever possible we have provided direct links to specific material on our website to help the readers have easy access.

<p>Text of Press Release <i>Text of article begins below, spaces placed to allow facts to line up with text of article.</i></p>	<p><i>Facts from Mendocino Forest Products</i></p>
<p>[BEGINNING OF RESOLUTION]</p> <p>WHEREAS, InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council (hereinafter the Council), founded in 1986, is an incorporated non-profit Tribal environmental organization comprised of ten sovereign, federally-recognized California Indian Tribes;</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Council's Board of Directors is authorized to conduct activities for the benefit of the organization and its constituent Tribes and Tribal citizens;</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Council advocates for the sovereignty, recognition, respect, and protection of its constituent Tribes and their Tribal cultural values, including the inherent right and responsibility of Tribes to protect and care for their communities, ways of life, and the lands, airs and waters of their traditional territories;</p> <p>WHEREAS, the Council and its constituent Tribes have serious concerns pertaining to negative environmental and health impacts from the wood pellet production plant located in Calpella California, which is owned by Forest Energy Corporation and operated in partnership with Mendocino Forest Products;</p> <p>[RESOLUTION CONTINUES BELOW]</p>	

WHEREAS, the wood pellet plant produces fuel pellets through a process that emits high concentrations of harmful particulates that negatively impact air and water quality and the health and wellbeing of neighboring populations of humans, animals and plants;

WHEREAS, local residents have complained about the odor, particulate fallout, pulmonary and other effects of the wood pellet plant since its start of operations;

WHEREAS, emissions from the Calpella wood pellet plant, located within close proximity to the Reservation of Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the facilities of Consolidated Tribal Health Project (CTHP), and the Reservation of Redwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians pose sustained, cumulative and potentially severe health and environmental hazards to the Tribes' residents and to clients of CTHP;

WHEREAS, emissions from the Calpella wood pellet plant also pose potential health and environmental hazards to other member Tribes of the Council, and to other Tribes of the region;

WHEREAS, emissions from the Calpella wood pellet plant, within close proximity to the Waldorf School of Mendocino County, the Calpella Elementary School and the Eagle Peak Middle School, pose sustained, cumulative and potentially severe health and environmental hazards to the schools' students and teachers;

WHEREAS, studies show that environmental and health impacts of wood pellet plants are serious and long lasting, and that far from being a sustainable industry, large-scale production of wood pellets results in a variety of longterm and substantial costs to the communities in which they are situated;

[RESOLUTION CONTINUES BELOW]

The plume at the pellet facility is water vapor. The plume is monitored and tested and has been found to be in compliance Mendocino County Air Quality Management District (MCAQMD) rules and regulations. Weekly reports are sent to the MCAQMD to ensure this compliance continues.

Significant investments in control technology have been completed at the pellet plant to ensure full compliance with MCAQMD rules and regulations. Testing of the system revealed it is within the rules and regulations.

Separately, the MCAQMD installed their own monitoring technology near Calpella Elementary School for nearly eight (8) months. The results of this totally independent monitoring, performed by the MCAQMD, confirmed the lack of impacts to air quality at this location.

Logs coming from the forests in Mendocino County, and all of California, are regulated by seven (7) state and federal agencies and in many cases are independently reviewed and certified by Forest Steward Ship Council as sustainable. Logs in Mendocino County are used to produce lumber through a sawmill. The resulting bark, sawdust, shavings and chips are used in a wide variety of sustainable products from animal bedding, to landscaping, to energy and also to make pellets.

AND WHEREAS, the plant's owners and operators, The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors and the California Air Resources Board need to provide adequate public discussion and disclosure regarding citizen complaints, investigations, permitting processes, and other vitally important factual information pertaining to the operations and impacts of the wood pellet plant;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution No. 01-27-2020-01 constitutes the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council's unequivocal opposition to Forest Energy Corporation's wood pellet production plant and its operation by Forest Energy Corporation, Mendocino Forest Products and any other parties, and the Council's support of the Tribes' opposition to the wood pellet plant.

[END OF RESOLUTION]