The Transatlantic Trade in Wood for Energy

A Dialogue on Sustainability Standards and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

U.S. South

- Markets, markets, markets.

- +60% of US timber is produced in the south.

- Plantations are 16% of timberland in the region and can produce up to 3x the timber of natural forests.

- Plantation acreage 20 – 40 million acres (1990 -2010), maybe increase 7 - 27 million acres in next 50 years.

Source: USDA Forest Service

U.S. South

- A diverse region in forest type and ownership.

- 89% of timber is on private land (200 million acres), 2/3 are non-industrial forests.

- More than 60% of NIPF parcels are at least 100 acres.

- 3% of NIPFs have written forest management plans and 13% have received forest management advice.

Source: USDA Forest Service

Pellets – a "Big Deal" for the South

- The USFS projects potential for 11 - 23 million acres of forest lost across the south by 2060? Fragmentation?

- With the largest loss set to occur with weak timber markets, much of this will occur in the coastal plain.

- Bioenergy is the biggest new source of fiber demand.

- Largest wood pellet producing region globally.

Source: USDA Forest Service

Pellets – a "Big Deal" for the South

- 1.4 million tons exported from South Jan - Jul 2013.
- 16 pellet plants geared for export in the South.
- 6 new plants in 2014 - 2015 at ~3.4 million tons.
- GA is top exporter. ~1.5 million tons in 2013.

Source: The Argus Group, 2013.

Pellets – a “Big Deal” for the South

- UK is presently the top importer.
- European demand for *imported* pellets $\leq$60 million tons annually over next 20 years.
- Can EU meet 20/20/20 without imported wood pellets?
- What sustainability requirements govern trade?

Source: Joudrey, 2012. The Argus Group, 2013.