



GEORGE WOODBURY



11/05/2018

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Dave Schmid:

This is to object to the POW LAA Draft ROD.

Most of the information provided in the Draft ROD is standard information that is common knowledge to anyone interested in resource development on the Tongass.

One of the objections has to do with the lack of any description or activity related to the economics of the plan. Is there an activity that tracks the economics of the plan and develops information on specific data such as unit size, location, logging system, road requirements etc. All items necessary to be able to evaluate the economic viability of the project? In order to avoid developing a costly project that turns out deficit and cannot be advertised or results in minimal volume that destroys its cost effectiveness economic evaluation must be part of the plan development.

In addition, stating an available gross volume in the Draft that has had no economic screen gives a false impression of what can be expected from the project. Past experience has had average over statements of more that 70% and in the case of the Wrangell project over 95%. This makes it impossible for prospective purchasers and those trying to decide on the future of their operations to make reliable decisions.



While the LAA process is a good concept the current lack of timber under contract and a limited pipe line the time is not right for tying up the POW timber volume in one project. This objection is against the concentration of the POW timber supply under one plan that will be appealed, litigated and be subject to a possible injunction. It would be more realistic to have a series of small sales on POW covered by EA's or CE's in addition to the LAA in order to assure an ongoing supply of timber from the area while the LAA works through the process.

Sincerely,


George Woodbury