

My name is Ray Doerner. I am a county commissioner from Douglas County, Oregon. I am here today representing the Association of Oregon Counties and the O & C Counties Association.

The Oregon counties' interest in the the log export question can best be described by reviewing some of the county philosophy with respect to the timber resource, its management, and its ultimate use.

The Association of Oregon Counties has consistently believed that intensive forest management through the application of the multiple use and high yield concept will produce an optimum level of timber harvest, and if processed by our domestic industries, will provide the greatest return to our communities, our schools and our local government in the long term analysis.

Immediate high stumpage rates brought about by external forces that remove our unprocessed resource (timber) from our communities may appear to be a beneficial program, but county officials in Oregon prefer the long term concept rather than the short-sighted, short-term approach. We believe that a sustained timber yield supplied to a domestic industry will provide a tax base benefit many fold over the benefit of a possible short run gain resulting from inflated stumpage prices paid for timber destined for export.

We feel confident that wise decisions will resolve this problem, recognizing that we have certain international responsibilities, but recognizing equally that we have a great responsibility to domestic industries that sustain our regions and the local communities therein.

Thank you for the opportunity of meeting with you.