



MINNESOTA FOREST INDUSTRIES

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January 11, 2023

Senator Foug Hawj
3231 Senate Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Commissioner Strommen Support

Senator Hawj,

I am writing to support Sarah Strommen's confirmation for re-appointment as Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Minnesota Forest Industries, Inc. (MFI) is an association representing Minnesota's primary forest product companies. MFI and its member companies encourage conservation, proper forest management, and industry development that foster sound environmental stewardship, multiple use of timber lands, and sustainable, long-term timber supply.

MFI members are part of a forest products industry which contributes \$16.8 billion to Minnesota's economy and provides nearly 68,000 jobs. MFI members, and the forest products economy are reliant on continuous and year-round supply of timber harvested from the forests of the state.

Commissioner Strommen has been very responsive to the needs and interests of the forest products industry. She and her staff have been very open to meeting to discuss forest management planning, legislative initiatives, issues pertaining to timber harvest. Her budget proposals include funding for the state's forest management activities to ensure that our forests are sustainably managed to meet the social, economic and ecological needs of the people of Minnesota. We look forward to working with her again on forest-related issues.

MFI strongly supports confirmation of Commissioner Strommen's re-appointment to the post.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rick Horton
MFI Executive Vice President

cc: Senator Justin Eichorn
Senator Kari Dziedzic
Senator Mark Johnson