

WI Council on Forestry
Sound Forestry and Policy Committee
Sustainable Aviation Fuel - Questions for Discussion
January 23, 2025

Fiber Supply

1. Please describe the type of woody material/biomass you would expect to procure for the Hayward facility from area forests. What kind of fiber supply analysis did you conduct, and what did you find, about volume growth and long-term supply to sustain the annual expected 900,000-tons needed within an economically viable wood procurement radius? (Sharing study outcomes and actual volume numbers about the supply and availability of that material and change from past harvest levels would be helpful.)
2. What level of competition do you anticipate with other existing markets for this material?
3. After 5 or more years, could the plant switch to manure, municipal waste, or other material that would affect the procured volume of material from WI forests?
4. How do you plan to ensure sustainable forest management practices throughout the supply chain, including accountability for best management practices? Specifically, what role if any will Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certification play in the supply chain?
5. There seems to be some uncertainty about how the EU, REDII and Corsia rules might be interpreted. Do you expect that whole tree fiber would be permitted, along with residues, as a qualifying source of feedstock? Do you anticipate that changes or further clarifications to the current EU standards will be necessary in order to use the anticipated woody material feedstock to produce aviation fuel at the Hayward facility?
6. Would harvest reentry times be shortened, and would loggers need to change harvest methods, such as transition from cut to length to whole tree chipping? Do you anticipate that plantations may be necessary to meet supply needs?
7. What has been done to examine delivered pricing for the material from area loggers and truckers to determine reasonable profitability for all sectors of the supply chain from the landowners to the mill? And is the pricing anticipated to be sufficient to entice landowners to market their suitable fiber?
8. What are the logistics for biomass production, such as how and when landowners would be paid? Would harvested fiber need to dry on the landing? What modifications might be expected of landowners, loggers, haulers to accommodate delivery to the processing facility?

Forest ecosystems

9. What changes would we expect to see with forest management and on forest ecosystems as a result of the Hayward plant? For instance, would large areas of spruce and other lowland forest types which are often not harvested, become harvested more regularly?
10. What analyses have you done and what did you find about the impacts on forest communities, riparian areas, and other unique ecosystems including game habitat and threatened and endangered species?
11. Would BMPs such as woody biomass harvest guidelines need to be modified to procure this fiber?

Carbon

12. What is the carbon intensity of the project? Has a greenhouse gas life cycle analysis, considering harvest, transportation, processing, and delivery to market, been completed, and what did you learn from that analysis?

Transportation Environmental Safeguards

13. How would the product be transported from Hayward to end markets and how would spills or other environmental accidents and related impacts be prevented?

Funding

14. In the proposed funding legislation in Wisconsin, what mechanisms exist to ensure Wisconsin's taxpayer contributions to this project are not lost, and that economic returns are worthy of the investment?