

(American University letterhead: American University, Washington DC, Physical Plant Services)

4/26/06

Dear Mr. Thomas Falk,

I am writing to express my concern about the Kimberly-Clark Corporation's continued reliance on fiber from ancient and endangered forests for disposable tissue paper products.

As the Facilities Management Director at American University I am dismayed to learn that Kimberly-Clark uses fiber from ancient forests, in particular, from the Great Northern Forest of North America, also known as the boreal forest. This forest region, the majority of which is found in Canada, makes up 25% of the world's remaining old-growth forests. It is home to bear, wolf and threatened caribou, and 50 percent of the 700 bird species found in North America rely on this forest for breeding and nesting grounds. It is also the home of hundreds of communities of indigenous people who depend on the boreal forest for their cultural sustenance and livelihood. The North American boreal is also the largest land-based storehouse of carbon, making it an essential tool in the fight against global warming pollution. Companies like Kimberly-Clark can not continue to foster the destruction of this valuable natural resource for the manufacture of throwaway paper products.

We aim to not only educate students about environmental stewardship, but also enable them to experience stewardship through sustainable best practices implemented at the university. Given that a large percentage of your worldwide fiber use comes from the North American boreal, and that your overall tissue paper production in North America contains less than 19% recycled content, we're concerned your company does not support the wise and sustainable use of natural resources. As such, I'm not interested in using Kimberly-Clark paper products until the company has made a commitment to:

Not source fiber from endangered forests.

Greatly increase the use of recycled fiber, including post consumer content, in all paper products.

Only source virgin fiber from logging operations that have been certified to the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council.

I hope that you will support my commitment to developing American as a learning institution dedicated to the pursuit of environmental sustainability.

Sincerely yours,

Willy Suter  
Director, Facilities Management  
American University

Cc: Cheryl Perkins, Senior VP & Chief Technical Officer, Kimberly-Clark  
Ken Strassner, Vice President of Energy and Environment, Kimberly-Clark  
W. Dudley Lehman, Group President of Business to Business, Kimberly-Clark