

# **Biomass Sourcing**

**Capital Markets Day** 

17 October 2013



## **Agenda**

### Matthew Rivers - Director of Fuel Procurement

**Biomass Overview** 

**Forest Industry and Wood Pellet Market** 

**Initial Focus on North America** 

**Supply Chain and Suppliers** 

**Fuel Contracting** 

**Looking Forward** 



### **Biomass**

### Conversion of existing coal units requires a specific type of biomass

Sensitivity to corrosion, slagging and fouling

Clean wood focus; limited other biomass



Large quantities; proven technology - product similar to coal

**Pellet form** 



Greenhouse gas emissions and cost

Conversion at source



### **Biomass is an Abundant Resource**

#### Biomass is the fourth largest energy resource

By 2050 sustainable biomass could supply 10%-20% of the world's primary energy requirement<sup>(1)</sup>

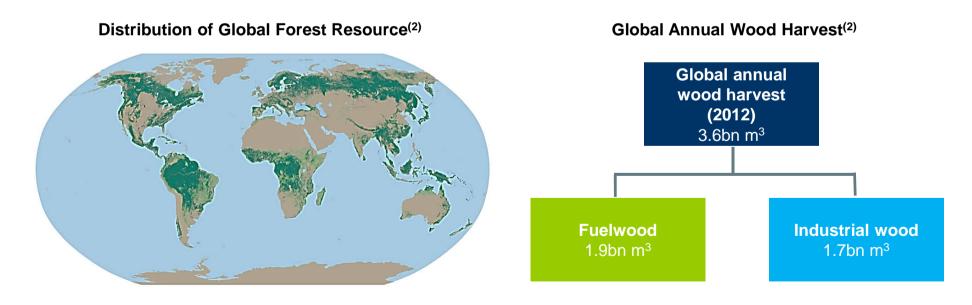
#### 4 billion hectares of forest globally

c.30% of the total land area

#### More than 50% total annual harvest is consumed as fuelwood

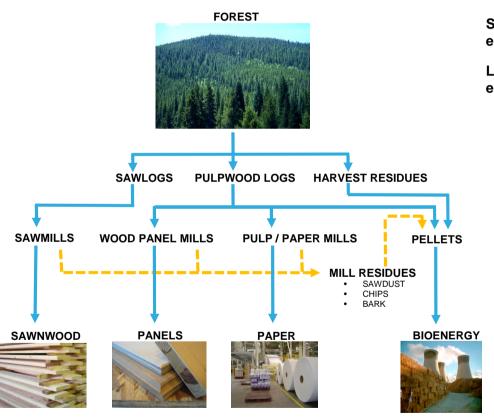
Predominantly for small scale domestic use

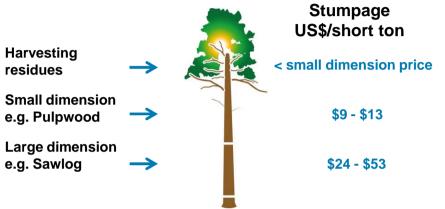
Global annual wood harvest is equivalent to c.1.8 billion tonnes of wood pellets



## **Global Forest Product Industry**

# Large, well established and most often highly interdependent





**Indicative US South East** 

Stumpage = value of standing timber c. 2.2 short tons = 1 metric tonne of pellets

- Primary economic driver is sawlog
- Traditional wood markets in decline in selective areas
  - Consumption by forest products industry declining
- Wood pellets can be complementary to existing forest products
  - Higher utilisation
- Un-merchantable whole trees can also be utilised for pellets
  - Optimising sustainable forest management e.g. undersized, misshapen, 'off' species

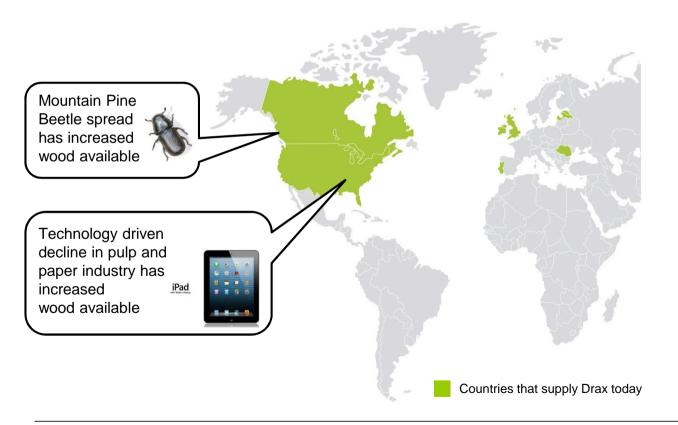
### **Concentration in North America**

### Early growth of the biomass supply portfolio focused on:

Speed to market in politically stable regions

Existing sustainable forestry industry, some pelleting infrastructure and good logistics

Opportunities best placed to obtain finance



# US has > 300M hectares forest land

**US** forests are growing

# US South has vast resource of sustainable forests

- Relatively short rotation
- South East inventories increased > 90% since 1950<sup>(1)</sup>

# Consumption by forest products industry declining

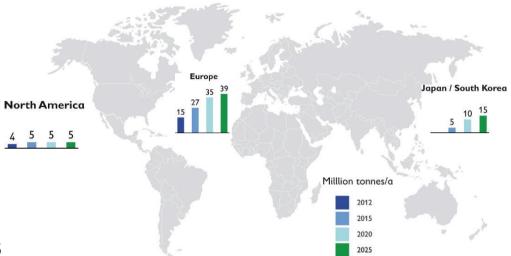
• By >100Mt since 2000<sup>(2)</sup>

## Global Market – Flow from North America to Europe

### Wood pellet demand

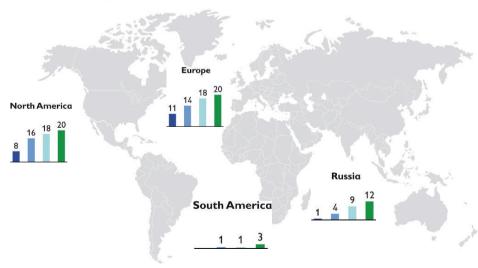
Total wood pellet demand was c.21Mt in 2012<sup>(1)</sup>

Largest demand and growth is Europe



**Projected Demand for Pellets: 2012-2025** 

#### **Projected Production of Pellets: 2012-2025**



### Wood pellet supply

# Significant growth in wood pellet imports into Europe

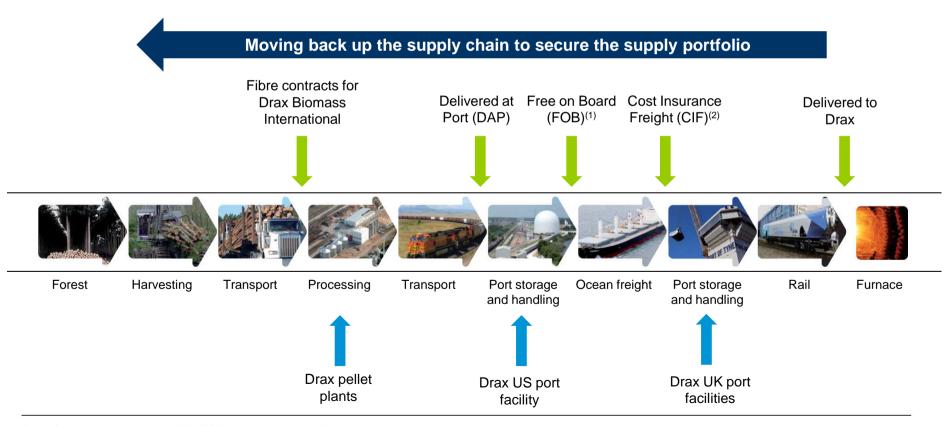
- 2009-2012 CAGR<sup>(2)</sup> of 35% to 4.3Mt
- Industrial market projected to represent c.50% of total pellet market by 2020<sup>(3)</sup>
- Global pellet market expansion expected to maintain historic growth rate

# **Growing the Wood Pellet Supply Market**

#### Wood pellet supply market will develop with demand growth

Drax facilitating investment to grow the supply chain through a combination of:

- Long-term take or pay contracts
- Selected own-investment in the supply chain
- Fostering a partnership approach



## **Logistics Infrastructure – UK Ports**



#### Coal import relationships provided springboard for biomass port developments

Deep water ports and smaller local ports to optimise portfolio and gain access to short-sea market

Typically long-term throughput arrangements with minimum take or pay

Port of Tyne – existing facility, up to Panamax<sup>(1)</sup>

2Mt pa throughput

**Immingham – in construction, up to Panamax** 

3Mt pa throughput, 100kt storage

Hull – in construction, up to small Handysize<sup>(2)</sup>

1Mt pa throughput

Other port facilities in progress

#### **Port of Tyne Biomass Discharge Hoppers**



## **Logistics Infrastructure – UK Rail**



#### **New biomass rail wagons**

# 8 x 25 wagon sets now secured with option for more

- Carry up to 50% more than current trains
- Efficient load / unload with full weather protection

#### First wagons now in early operation

# Rail paths secured with Network Rail from key ports

#### **New Biomass Rail Wagon Set**



## **Fuel Contract Pricing**

#### Most biomass is imported

Significant focus understanding underlying markets and supplier cost base

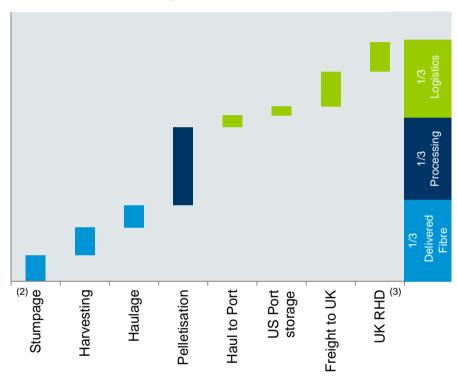
# Detailed supply chain knowledge allows informed contracting

- Drivers of upward pressure on pellet prices
  - Procurement from sources further away from export facilities
  - Expanding to new geographies
- Strategy to mitigate upward pressure
  - Hedging
  - Driving efficiencies through aggregation and economies of scale
  - Potential to widen fuel envelope (agricultural residues)

#### £8/GJ (2013 prices) remains firm guidance

Biomass pellets delivered to Drax

#### Wood Pellets – Components of Cost<sup>(1)</sup>



- (1) Illustrative only, based on wood pellets delivered to Drax from US Gulf Coast
- (2) Stumpage = value of standing timber
- (3) RHD = receiving, handling and delivery

# **North American Port Export Aggregation**

#### Aggregation at key hubs to minimise logistic costs and unlock additional volume

The depth in portfolio enables capture of economies of scale

**Medium-term transition to larger ships** 

1

#### **Drax Baton Rouge investment**

3Mt pa Panamax capable port hub

#### **Drax / Pinnacle Pellets contracts**

2

 Will utilise new Panamax capable port at Prince Rupert

#### **Drax / Rentech contracts**



 Underpins development of new Ultramax capable port in Quebec City



# **Drax evaluating East Coast development strategy**

Focus on aggregation potential

#### **North American Hub Ports**



## **Profile of Suppliers**

#### Focus areas when selecting suppliers:

Wood supply that is technically acceptable, secure and sustainable

**Greenhouse gas balance** 

Availability of finance, execution capability and track record

#### Two new suppliers:



#### **Graanul Invest**

Based in Tallin, Estonia

Produce 0.8Mt pa of pellets from 6 plants

Raw material from sawmill co-products and forest thinnings

**Export facilities at the ports of Riga, Parnu and Tallin** 



#### **Georgia Biomass**

- Owned by RWE Innogy
- Based in Waycross, Georgia, US

World's largest pellet plant with nameplate capacity c.750kt pa

Raw material primarily thinnings from managed forest plantations

Own load port facility in Savannah, Georgia

## **Biomass Supply in the Future**

#### More of the same

Growing North American supply through aggregation and leveraging supply chain investments Continue to grow Baltic and European supplies

### Geographic and product diversification within the Atlantic basin

Facilitate growth of secure supplies from Southern Hemisphere

Atlantic basin – large proportion of global industrial wood and agricultural supply sources



Larger ships



Agri-fuel development
Subject to technical limits



Industrial plantations
- Southern Hemisphere



## **Summary**

#### Biomass is an abundant sustainable resource

The world's fourth largest energy source

#### **Initial focus on North American woody biomass**

**Speed to market and existing infrastructure** 

### **Commitments to supply chain**

**Economic signals to underpin further supply chain development** 

### Medium-term geographic and product diversification

**Focus on Atlantic basin** 



