

Masonite

I would like to register my support for the Forestry Bill 2020.

We are a US multinational based in Drumsna, County Leitrim and have been manufacturing door skins from Irish timber for over 23 years.

We are a rural based business, employing 140 people, predominantly from Leitrim, Roscommon and Longford and make a significant contribution to the local economy since 1997 with over €8.0M in wages alone annually going into the local economy.

We are at the end of the supply chain for timber, using wood chip waste from saw mills after they process the wood into timber for pallet manufacturing and construction. If they can not get logs, we can not get wood chips.

We are extremely concerned with the long delays to licences caused by the FAC who are not able to cope with the workload. It is vital that the FAC is reformed and is fit for purpose to support our industry.

These delays are now causing us grave concern and we need to put plans in place to protect our customers. In the months ahead and into 2021, we will be required to import door skins from our other sister factories in North America to support our European customers. This will be at the detriment to our plant in Leitrim and jobs in the local economy.

If you require any further information and input, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,