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To: General Director, Arkhangelsk Pulp&Paper Mill, D. Zylev

From: World Wildlife Fund

«16» March 2017.

Dear Dmitriy Igorevich,

In reply to your letter No. 10/03 dated 10 March 2017, please be informed that WWF appreciates the standpoint of the GK Titan, the Arkhangelsk PPM and the Lesozavod 25 (<http://new.wwf.ru/resources/news/lesa/lesnoy-biznes-v-Ystupaet-za-sozdanie-zakaznika-v-dvinskoy-tayge/>) on the necessity of establishing a protected area in the interfluvium between the Northern Dvina and the Pinega Rivers, as stipulated in the Forest Plan for Arkhangelsk Oblast and the Territorial Planning Scheme. As a holder of an FSC chain-of-custody certificate, Arkhangelsk PPM has undertaken the obligations to preserve intact forest landscapes that refer to high conservation value forests. Specifically, the Arkhangelsk PPM purchases round timber from the GK Titan, which signed an agreement on Intact Forest Landscapes preservation in the watershed of the Northern Dvina and Pinega rivers with WWF Russia and Greenpeace Russia in February 2013. From the date of signing the agreement, the GK Titan has been meeting its obligations and has agreed upon the establishment of a protected area in its lease areas within the borders approved by the State Environmental Expertise.

We believe that the next step for the Arkhangelsk PPM along with the GK Titan towards sustainable forest management can be the reduction of dependency on the timber coming from the IFL and transfer to sustainable forest management. It can be confirmed by prompt development and implementation of a long-term forest management strategy. Its fulfillment will aim at developing sustainable forest management in the secondary (already transformed) forests and it will make it possible to completely stop harvesting in the IFL. Besides, we hope that the Arkhangelsk PPM will be further taking active part in the negotiations on establishing a nature reserve at the level of Arkhangelsk Oblast government.

Annex. WWF Russia standpoint on IFL preservation in Arkhangelsk Oblast and the role of FSC: Q&A, 3p

Nikolay Shmatkov, Director, Forest Program