



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 23, 2008**

### **West Fraser and EPCOR exploring biomass power opportunity**

HOUSTON, BRITISH COLUMBIA – West Fraser and EPCOR are working together to explore the potential of a biomass fueled 50-70 megawatt power generation facility in the area of Houston, BC.

The project is at the pre-feasibility stage. If the project does proceed, it would be developed as part of BC Hydro's Phase II bio-energy Request for Proposal process and would utilize sawmill waste, forest residuals from harvesting activities such as slash and tree limbs, and low-grade beetle-killed wood.

A decision on proceeding with the project is not expected until late 2008 and will be subject to West Fraser and EPCOR confirming the economic viability of the project and being successful bidders in the BC Hydro process. The project would also be subject to satisfactory contractual agreements being reached among all parties and various permit and government approvals being obtained, including the approval of the BC Utilities Commission.

West Fraser operates sawmills and holds timber tenures in the area. EPCOR is one of Canada's leading providers of power and water services and operates one of North America's largest biomass power plants, located in Williams Lake, BC.

**West Fraser** is an integrated wood products company that produces lumber, wood chips, LVL, MDF, plywood, pulp, linerboard, kraft paper and newsprint. The Company has manufacturing operations in western Canada and the southern United States. West Fraser has approximately 9,000 employees and is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia.

**EPCOR Utilities Inc.** builds, owns and operates power plants, electrical transmission and distribution networks, water and wastewater treatment facilities and infrastructure in Canada and the United States. EPCOR, headquartered in Edmonton, Alberta, has been named one of Canada's Top 100 Employers for eight consecutive years and was selected as one of Canada's 10 Most Earth-Friendly Employers. EPCOR's web-site is [www.epcor.ca](http://www.epcor.ca).

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### **Forward looking Statements for West Fraser:**

This release contains forward-looking statements and a warning about such statements (which is incorporated into this release) can be found in our most recent Annual Report at [www.westfraser.com](http://www.westfraser.com).

### **Forward-looking Statements for EPCOR:**

Certain information in this press release is forward-looking and related to anticipated financial performance, events and strategies. When used in this context, words such as "will", "anticipate", "believe", "plan", "intend", "target", "expect" or similar words suggest future outcomes. By their nature, such statements are subject to significant risks and uncertainties, which could cause EPCOR's actual results and experience to be materially different than the anticipated results. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, operating performance, commodity prices and volumes, load settlement, regulatory and government decisions, weather and economic conditions, competitive pressures, construction risks, obtaining financing and the performance of partners, contractors and suppliers.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as actual results could differ materially from the plans, expectations, estimates or intentions expressed in the forward-looking statements. Except as required by law, EPCOR disclaims any intention and assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement even if new information becomes available, as a result of future events or for any other reason.