

EXHIBIT R-17

May 1, 2009

Royal Trust Corporation of Canada
4th Floor, Royal Trust Tower
P.O. Box 7500, Station « A »
Toronto, Ontario
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Attn: RBC Investments-Trust Services

Fax: (416) 955-5091

Gentlemen

As you are aware, AbitibiBowater and certain of its subsidiaries ("AbitibiBowater") have filed for protection from creditors under the Canadian Companies Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) and Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code.

This letter is notification that, effective immediately, AbitibiBowater will stop paying all benefits under, and pursuant to, its unfunded Supplemental Executive Retirement Plans (the "SERPs") and other unfunded plans of AbitibiBowater, and will neither fund the benefits, secure the benefits nor renew any letter of credit securing the benefits, payable under and pursuant to these unfunded plans.

Best regards,



Jim Wright
Senior Vice President, Human Resources
JW/jl

SUPERIOR COURT
(Commercial Division)

N° 500-11-036133-094

CANADA
PROVINCE OF QUÉBEC
DISTRICT OF MONTRÉAL

IN THE MATTER OF THE PLAN OF
COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF :

ABITIBIBOWATER INC. AND AL.

Petitioners
-and-
ERNST & YOUNG INC.

BS0350 Monitor Our file: 041053-1170

EXHIBIT R-17

ORIGINAL

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