Board of Commissioners

301 Court Avenue Park Rapids, MN 56470

Phone: 218 732-2310 • Fax: 218 732-2321

March 17, 2020

To: The Minnesota Senate

The Minnesota House of Representatives

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please accept this Letter of Support for a Production Incentive of \$25 per metric ton in favor of NorthStar Pellets, as proposed in S.F. No. 3229 and H.F. No. 3484.

The Minnesota Sawmill Residual Demand is a readily available residual fiber source. A wood pellet plant in Hubbard County, Minnesota would provide direct and significant economic impact, including (1) 45 direct jobs, with a 245 job total impact; (2) \$17 million per year of export revenue, resulting in \$14.7 million in wages and over \$56 million in annual economic activity; and (3) creation of a new residual market, while (4) opening Minnesota to a growing global renewable energy markets and improving forest health. This legislation would also help similarly situated manufacturers of wood pellet products.

Thank you for your consideration, and we hope that you will support this worthy venture, that would provide a significant benefit to our remote, Northern economy.

Hubbard County Commissioners

Charles Shristers _ Charlene Christenson

Board Chair