



NEWS RELEASE

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Omak Mill Temporarily Stops Production

(Coulee Dam, Wash. Jan. 20, 2009) – The Colville Indian Plywood and Veneer (CIPV) plant located in Omak, Wash. temporarily stopped production of plywood on January 16, 2009 affecting 200 employees. CIPV is one of 17 enterprises operated by Colville Tribal Enterprise Corporation (CTEC).

“We cannot control the market price of our plywood. Our workers have continuously improved production and the timing of this market reduction is unfortunate,” said Troy Johnson, chief executive officer of CTEC.

The mill employed approximately 230 employees. Small groups of employees will remain at CIPV in the chipping, maintenance, shipping and security departments.

Local community support such as WorkSource, Community Action, DSHS, and Colville tribal programs were brought in to discuss their services with employees on Friday.

Colville tribal members will have priority for any open positions for CTEC and the Tribe.

Johnson said, “We anticipate reopening the plywood side when the market conditions bounce back.”

CIPV began its operation in March 2002.

CTEC was founded in 1984 and currently manages enterprises in gaming, recreation and tourism, retail, construction and wood products. The corporation employs about 800 people.

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