



7 February 2023



**SENT TO LSU AGCENTER/LOUISIANA FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT CENTER - FOREST SECTOR / FORESTY PRODUCTS INTEREST GROUP**

## **Resident Perceptions of the Pellet Industry-US South**

A new research article: *"What do people think about the environmental, social, and economic impacts of the wood pellet industry? An exploratory study of residents living near pellet plants vs. urban residents in states with pellet manufacturers"* by Mason LeBlanc (*Drax Group US*) and Richard Vlosky (*Louisiana State University Agricultural Center*) has been published today in our Journal of Forest Business Research (JFBR).

US South is the world's largest producer and exporter of wood pellets. This peer-reviewed research paper provides insight into the wood pellet manufacturing industry from residents' perspectives, focusing on ESG constructs. Urban-area respondents had a greater affinity for the environment and were generally more concerned with humans producing negative environmental impacts. On the other hand, rural/proximal respondents were more aware of the existence of the wood pellet industry, thought that the wood pellets sector is more effective in protecting the environment, and felt that the pellet industry is a superior sector in supporting communities, as it is concerned about the needs of communities, creates quality jobs, and is a good industry to work for. The authors concluded that new sectors, such as the pellet industry, can provide much-needed economic development in rural geographic areas.

You can read the whole paper here: <https://www.forest-journal.com/index.php/JFBR/article/view/resident-perceptions-wood-pellets-usa>

**(Please keep in mind that the deadline to submit papers for the current issue at JFBR is **March 1, 2023**. Discover more at our website: <https://www.forest-journal.com/>)**

All the best,

**Rafal Chudy**

*Executive Editor*



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