

# ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT COMPARISON TOOL

*A tool for understanding environmental decisions related to the pulp and paper industry*



## EFFECTS OF DECREASED GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS ON ENERGY USE

### Avoiding Emissions Elsewhere in Society

Societal greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions can be reduced by burning non-recyclable wood, used paper and paperboard products, or methane from landfills, in place of fossil fuels. In all three cases, the practice results in the forest products value chain producing biomass-based energy for society. Reducing societal GHG emissions by displacing high GHG-intensity electricity from the grid with low GHG-intensity power will increase the energy consumption at the mill producing the electricity. Societal energy consumption may increase or decrease depending on how efficiently the “new” fuel and the “displaced” fuel are used to produce electricity.

### References

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). 2006. Stationary combustion. Chapter 2 in *Energy*. Volume 2 in 2006 IPCC guidelines for national greenhouse gas inventories. <http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/index.html>