“Looking at a cleared logging site, ‘Ya, this used to be a beautiful section of swamp to come down to on the river.’ But you’re starting to see a lot of this, where the industry is coming down specifically for the bottomland hardwoods... I’m really worried about the rivers and what will pass as a ‘forest’ in the next 15 years,” Tim McCormick, River Guide, Southampton, VA.

“We believe that everyone should have a clean, safe place to live, work, and play. Enviva has come in and detracted the living conditions of the community. This is what the community has to live with and it’s an injustice to them,” Belinda Joyner, Northeastern Organizer, Clean Water for NC.

“Our homes are here and the industry has put a facility right in the middle of the community. It just ain’t right. I didn’t think anyone could just rob us of our sleep,” Isolene Sherrill, Local Resident, Northampton County, NC.

“[When you look at biomass clearcuts] it looks like a bomb has gone off, or a tornado has come through. The devastation is going to last for decades. Repairing the ecosystem that has been destroyed is going to take a long time,” James (JC) Woodley, Sierra Club.

“If they want to fill the demand for biomass from wood, they’ll have to fill it with industrial clearcutting. There’s no way to fill this demand without industrial logging...If we’re talking about clean energy, actually green energy, the first thing you have to do is acknowledge that biomass moves us backwards, not forwards,” Ecologist Dr. Andrew George, Adjunct Faculty, UNC Chapel Hill.

“They’ve torn our roads up completely so we can’t go that way, we have to go out another way. We hear noise, the buffer from the forests is gone, and we hear more noise from the highway,” Jane Thornton, Local Resident, Sampson County, NC.

“I can’t even stand to be out on the back deck. I have to go inside when I’m out in the yard for an extended time for a breathing treatment because my allergies are so flared up,” Kayla Walker, Bayou Wood Pellet Plant, KNOE.

“My husband has to get up at 4am to go to work. He can’t get any sleep. His bronchitis is acting up, my son’s sinuses and allergies are acting up real bad...” Kathy Claiborne, Local Resident, Garysburg, NC.