

AbitibiBowater Inc.  
Form 425  
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**Filed by Bowater Incorporated**

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**Pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act of 1933**

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**Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Subject Company: AbitibiBowater Inc.**

**Commission File No. 333-141428**

Forward-Looking Statements

Any statements made regarding the proposed combination between Abitibi-Consolidated Inc. and Bowater Incorporated, the expected timetable for completing the combination, benefits or synergies of the combination, and other statements contained in the following excerpts that are not historical fact are forward-looking statements, that are based on management's beliefs, certain assumptions and current expectations. These statements may be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as the words expects, thinks, hopes, believes, anticipates and other terms with similar meaning indicating possible future events or actions or potential impact on the businesses or shareholders of Abitibi-Consolidated and Bowater (separately and together the Companies). Such statements include, but are not limited to, statements about the progress of various regulatory approvals and the likelihood that such approvals will be obtained, the timing of the transaction, the progress of the integration efforts, future financial and operating results, Abitibi-Consolidated's and Bowater's plans, objectives, expectations and intentions, the markets for Abitibi-Consolidated's and Bowater's products, the future development of Abitibi-Consolidated's and Bowater's business, and the contingencies and uncertainties to which Abitibi-Consolidated and Bowater may be subject and other statements that are not historical facts. The following excerpts also include information that has not been reviewed by the Companies' independent auditors. There is no assurance the combination contemplated in the following excerpts will be completed at all, or completed upon the same terms and conditions described. All forward-looking statements in the following excerpts are expressly qualified by information contained in each company's filings with regulatory authorities.

The following factors, among others, could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements: the ability to obtain required governmental or third party approvals of the combination on the proposed terms and schedule and without material concessions; the failure of Abitibi-Consolidated or Bowater shareholders to approve the combination; the exercise by a material percentage of Abitibi-Consolidated shareholders of their dissent rights; the risk that the businesses will not be integrated successfully; the risk that the cost savings and other expected synergies from the combination may not be fully realized or may take longer to realize than expected; and disruption from the combination making it more difficult to maintain relationships with customers, employees or suppliers. Additional factors that could cause Abitibi-Consolidated's and Bowater's results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements can be found in the periodic reports filed by Abitibi-Consolidated and Bowater with the SEC and the Canadian securities regulatory authorities and available at the SEC's internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>) and on SEDAR (<http://www.sedar.com>). Neither Abitibi-Consolidated nor Bowater undertakes and each specifically disclaims, any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

Additional Information and Where to Find It

In connection with the proposed combination, AbitibiBowater has filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) a registration statement on Form S-4, which includes a

preliminary proxy statement of Bowater, a preliminary prospectus of AbitibiBowater and a management information circular of Abitibi-Consolidated. Shareholders are urged to read the preliminary joint proxy statement/prospectus/management information circular regarding the proposed combination, and the definitive proxy statement/prospectus/management information circular when it becomes available, because it contains or will contain important information. Shareholders will be able to obtain a free copy of the definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus/management information circular, as well as other filings containing information about Abitibi-Consolidated and Bowater, without charge, at the SEC's internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>) and on SEDAR (<http://www.sedar.com>). Copies of the definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus/management information circular and the filings with the SEC and the Canadian securities regulatory authorities that will be incorporated by reference in the definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus/management information circular can also be obtained, without charge, by directing a request to Abitibi-Consolidated, 1155 Metcalfe Street, Suite 800, Montréal, Québec, Canada H3B 5H2, Attention: Investor Relations Department, (514) 875-2160, or to Bowater, 55 E. Camperdown Way, Greenville, SC, USA, 29602, Attention: Investor Relations Department, (864) 282-9473.

#### Participants in the Solicitation

Abitibi-Consolidated, Bowater and their respective directors and executive officers and other persons may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies in respect of the proposed combination. Information regarding Abitibi-Consolidated's directors and executive officers is available in the 2006 Annual Report on Form 40-F filed with the SEC by Abitibi-Consolidated on March 15, 2007, and the management information circular with respect to Abitibi-Consolidated's 2007 Annual Meeting of Shareholders filed by Abitibi-Consolidated on SEDAR on April 5, 2007. Information regarding Bowater's directors and executive officers is available in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2006 filed with the SEC by Bowater on March 1, 2007 and in the preliminary proxy statement with respect to Bowater's 2007 Annual Meeting of Stockholders which is included in the registration statement on Form S-4 filed by AbitibiBowater on March 20, 2007. Other information regarding the participants in the proxy solicitation and a description of their direct and indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, is contained in the preliminary proxy statement/prospectus/management information circular filed with the SEC and will be contained in the definitive joint proxy statement/prospectus/management information circular and other relevant materials to be filed with the SEC and the Canadian securities regulatory authorities when they become available.

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Set forth below are excerpts from the April 26, 2007 conference call held following the release of Bowater's earnings for the first quarter of 2007. The following statements were made by David J. Paterson, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Bowater, and relate to the pending combination of Bowater and Abitibi-Consolidated Inc.

#### Excerpt 1

In terms of the Abitibi merger process, we have received a second request from the US Department of Justice, as expected. We are working diligently to respond to this request and submit additional information to the Justice Department.

In Canada, we are similarly working with The Competition Bureau to provide the information it needs in order to make a timely decision on the transaction. Given the realities of today's global market, we are confident that our transaction will be approved by both governments. I am pleased with the current status of the deal and continue to expect a third quarter closing.

We are also working towards a seamless integration and have set up integration teams to drive the success of the transaction. These teams are responsible for executing and realizing synergies and preparing day-one-readiness plans. These plans will include recommendations for the most efficient and effective organizational structure. They will also support the integration of our two companies' cultures. We continue to be very enthusiastic about the possibilities.

#### Excerpt 2

**Q Peter Ruschmeier:** All right, great. And just lastly Dave if I could, if you can't answer it I understand, but what sign posts should we be looking for over the next 3, 4 months as it relates to Abitibi, things that you can share in terms of maybe help us to better understand the process from here?

**A David Paterson:** Well, the real sign post that matters is the approval from the regulatory agencies. So, we are quite engaged with them. I think both parties are working independently to satisfy those agencies requirements and hopefully the next big news you will hear is that we have regulatory approval.