

Public Comment

for November 20, 2017

RCEA Board of Directors Meeting

From: Jack Nounnan [REDACTED]
Date: Sun, Nov 19, 2017 at 1:55 PM
Subject: RCEA meeting Nov.20, 17
To:

Some Activist work ahead.....

RCEA - Biomass Burning To Be More Than Doubled Soon!

This:... 'All about absurdities which run our lives',
in this case... biomass burning for local electric power...ignoring,
how we DO HAVE CLEAN LESS COSTLY solar power that's available!
Footnote: How this tree waste comes from HRC.

Speaking to you of the forest industries 'hold' on our best chances
their pushing for use of carbon intensive use of biomass!
'So incredible in face of all authentic evidences' ...
**of the dire need to end tree demolitions
and keep our forests standing!**
Not enough million already burned, cut, across our world?

Many still unwilling to see what Climate brings?
Who claim to not be among the deniers...
Yet human 'will'...human habits 'locked in' for consuming,
which equals great changes for life demanded... still not inclusive!
A "Go" for forest industry to keep ruin on track to meet 'people' demand?
Destroying forests for decks n' all galore, still our highest priority?

Such times call for Authentic Sustaining Changes

**Call RCEA: 269-1700 'Tell them what you most want'.
or E-mail afieldding@redwoodenergy.org,**

**If you're able...
They're meeting Monday
November 20, 2017
Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District Office
[828 7th St, Eureka, CA 95501](#) Monday, 3:15 p.m.**

'We the people'... lot's a us diggin' graves for those who follow?.
Jobs n' security 'demands' ...more vital than askin' loggers
why not job changes thst don't just bring us down?
How long will such jobs do ...n' all such' privilege survive...
a' what climates surely bringin'?

Biomass, this forever accumulating consequences.. a' destroyed trees.

'bout jobs, security and profits... 'a must'?

What all we're used to anyway so why not put this off...again!?

As if there be no answers worth finding ...

no way, but adding to humanities turmoil?...

No alternatives to this..no ridding ourselves a' too much biomass?

A pipe dream..."puttin life first" ... this livin' sane n' safe"?

"Aye' there's a thrivin good answer by no a' creatin' a 'mess'....

How leavin' trees growin' big n' gettin' old... no stretch a' dreamin!

... so natural there... digestin' such a mass a carbons

oot there jus doin their natural healin' thing.

as if they always a knowin how

even befer mans takeover a 'brainstormin' n' upheaval

in makin' a 'Harvest' Plan a' tha' whole natural damn wonder!!!

Earth First! Forest Defense

Climate Crisis Humboldt

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From: Sandy Farrell [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, November 19, 2017 2:13 PM

To: afielding@redwoodenergy.org

Subject: No Burning

We want non polluting renewables!

**We can not afford to put more green houses gases
into our atmosphere.**



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Humboldt County Needs to Save its Biomass Industry

Introduction

Biomass power plants, like DG Fairhaven, combust wood waste to produce electricity – material that would otherwise create adverse environmental impacts. Among the wood waste used are:

- Agricultural waste like orchard removals, pruning, rice hulls and fruit pits.
- Sawmill wood waste like wood scraps and sawdust.
- Forest waste like small trees and undergrowth cleared from forests as part of thinning or fire suppression.

Unlike most renewable power, biomass plants are baseload renewable and have capacity factors much higher than wind and solar assets. Aside from renewable energy, biomass plants provide positive environmental and economic impacts that other sources of renewable energy cannot.

About DG Fairhaven



Fairhaven Power is located approximately five miles from Eureka, California, in Samoa, it started commercial operation in 1986. The plant generates power from burning wood-waste in a Riley inclined water-cooled stationary pinhole stoker boiler. The steam generated by the boiler powers an 18.75 (gross) MW Westinghouse steam turbine generator. The facility operated under a long-term Power Purchase Agreement with PG&E for most of its life. PG&E would not

renew the contract when it expired in February 2017 and the facility was forced to idle. DG Fairhaven has been involved with the RCEA procurement process for over a year and remains hopeful that there is room within the portfolio for a biomass asset that is local and provides real value to the community.

Environmental Benefits

DG Fairhaven uses more than 225,000 tons of wood waste as fuel annually that would otherwise clog local landfills, be left to decay and serve as a fire hazard in the forest, or be open burned. Biomass plants promote healthier forests by reducing the amount of overgrowth materials in the forests as well as open burns by the agricultural community.

Biomass feedstocks, like the wood waste material used by DG Fairhaven, are considered to provide favorable greenhouse gas benefits, since their use avoids the release of methane caused by decomposition. The EPA refers to these as “carbon benefits,” provided the biomass is sourced sustainably.

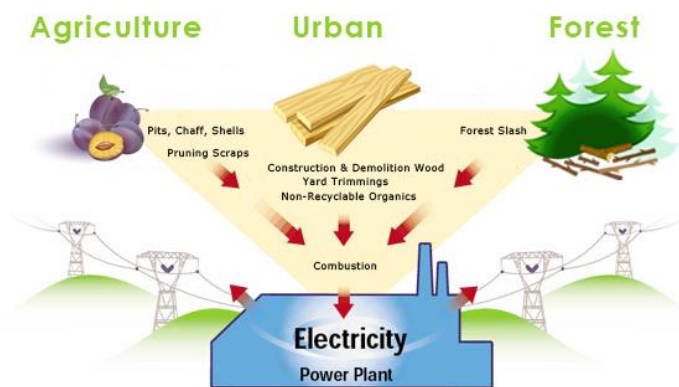
This information was provided to Redwood Coast Energy Authority by EWP Renewable Corp., DG Fairhaven's parent company, for distribution at RCEA's November 2017 Board of Directors meeting.

Char is a process by-product which is collected and distributed to a local filtering company. Fly ash is certified as an organic input material by the State and used as an agricultural amendment on nearby farms under permitted applications independently certified by a local engineering firm. Bottom ash has been approved as non-hazardous fill material and is used in local beneficial projects.

Economic Benefits

DG Fairhaven's biomass plants employ 22 people directly and support between 100 and 150 additional dedicated indirect jobs used in gathering and transporting fuel supply. Many of these jobs are in rural areas that often face higher unemployment.

DG Fairhaven spends more than \$2 million in benefits and salaries. It also has annual expenditures in excess of \$9.5 million and contributes over \$0.5 million in emissions fees and state and local taxes.



Energy Benefits

Biomass is a reliable, renewable, baseload electric power source that provides a steady flow of power regardless of external conditions. DG Fairhaven has provided local grid support when transmission lines bringing in outside power were disrupted. The biomass plants provide another valuable tool in ensuring that the state meets its current renewable portfolio standard of 33% by 2020.

Biomass Industry In Jeopardy

Despite the benefits of biomass power, DG Fairhaven is in jeopardy. Without a new contract and revenue stream that rewards the plant for its attributes, DG Fairhaven will cease to exist.

That means more than 115,000 megawatt hours of baseload renewable energy will no longer be available. A quarter-million tons of wood waste will once again be open burned or sent to landfills. Local sawmills will lose the waste disposal outlet and be forced to find other disposal outlets – most likely landfills. Most importantly, more than 150 people will be out of work.

Solution

Humboldt County needs biomass power to meet its various environmental, health and economic goals. The benefits of awarding DG Fairhaven with a short-term contract far outweigh the trade-offs that the RCEA Staff is likely to present. Without a RCEA contract award and a short term extension, DG Fairhaven will not restart and this asset will be lost forever to the Humboldt community.