

Timber recycles carbon

TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE



4 August 2008

For immediate release

GOVERNMENT IGNORES GREEN ENERGY OPTIONS

Sawmill residue that could power 20,000 households is burned to waste due to ridiculous Government policy denying power stations the opportunity to use this green energy source says peak industry body Timber Queensland.

The Queensland Government will not allow sawmill waste from native forests to be used for power generation due to an obscure interpretation of the South East Queensland Forestry Agreement.

Consequently, sawmill waste produced as a result of sawing rectangular timber sections from round logs, which are sourced legally and legitimately from native forests and managed under internationally certified sustainability practices, is currently burned in open pits or conical burners emitting hundreds of thousands of tonnes of greenhouse gas.

Rod McInnes, CEO, Timber Queensland says the residue is adding to the climate change problem when it could supplement coal in meeting Queensland's green energy targets.

"We're calling on the Bligh Government to abandon this crazy policy and allow legitimate waste from sawmills to be used for power generation," said Rod McInnes.

"Other states use this material for power generation and it's acceptable under the Commonwealth's Mandatory Renewable Energy Target (MRET) but the Queensland Government seems hell bent on Queenslanders having the most expensive electricity as well as being Australia's biggest Greenhouse gas emitter," he said.

"The Bligh Government needs to support green energy options and stop wasting this valuable resource," Rod McInnes concluded.

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