

Letter to the Editor

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Why are the forestry industries in Tasmania being allowed to conduct smoky burns that ruin everyone's health, when their own National Association of Forestry Industries highlights the massive contribution wood waste can make to Australia's renewable energy targets.

They go onto say, "Bioenergy generated from wood waste is a low-cost renewable, clean energy option available to Australia; it's significantly cheaper to produce than wind or solar power"

It could:

- "reduce greenhouse gas emissions by around 3 million tonnes of CO₂ a year,
- create over 2300 new direct jobs and 6900 indirect jobs
- deliver over \$800 million in direct investment in renewable energy facilities; and
- supply renewable electricity to at least 400,000 Australian homes; and
- provide around 7 percent of Australia's goal of a 20 percent share of renewable energy by 2020."

That's what their own national body claims. So why are our forest industries and our FPA pushing on to conduct smoky planned residue burns here in Tasmania? It doesn't make sense given the health cost and financial cost to every Tasmanian as a result of this head in the sand attitude.

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