Whilst Tasmania has the highest rate of asthma in Australia, the forest industries continue to burn their waste and the Asthma Foundation (Tasmania) refuse to lobby on behalf of its members to stop the smoke at the source.

Instead, AFT prefer to see asthmatics affected by the smoke put on medications to control their symptoms so forestry can keep on burning.

http://www.cleanairtas.com/asthma.htm

This practice can bring additional life-threatening risks to asthma suffers according to the following information:

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently issued new restrictions for four popular long-acting asthma drugs. Novartis AG's Foradil, GlaxoSmithKline's Serevent and Advair, and AstraZeneca's Symbicort, all contain an ingredient that relaxes airway muscles in the lungs which can cause asthma-related death. If not accompanied by other asthma drugs to offset this life-threatening side effect, the consequences could be fatal.

It defies logic to try to figure out how asthma drugs that can kill people by causing severe asthma attacks are considered to be useful and effective medicine

It is unclear from the agency's press release exactly how it intends to strengthen the drugs' current death warning.

Since 2002, the FDA had continually rejected all of the overwhelming evidence presented to it that LABAs are inherently dangerous. Only in 2008 did the FDA first admit that the drugs were dangerous, particularly for children and some adults. Prior to that, the agency seemed to be in agreement with a series of industry spin pieces concocted by the drug industry to defend the alleged safety of the drugs; this alone exhibits the FDA's lunacy in asking the industry to conduct *more* of its own safety studies.

While warning that the drugs should only be used "as necessary" seems like a step in the right direction, the FDA should be taking a leap to pull these drugs off the market. Many experts agree that these drugs are wholly dangerous, and that the industry has been aware of these dangers for nearly a decade. Once again, the FDA is giving lip service to the public it is supposed to be defending while protecting drug industry interests instead.

The full article can be found here:

http://www.naturalnews.com/028544_asthma_attacks_drugs.html

Clive Stott http://www.cleanairtas.com 12/4/2010