

Letter to Bega District News 25th Aug 2009

Coming to a town near us - a furnace burning native forest wood for electricity, courtesy of the passing of the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target (MERT) Scheme.

And, incidentally, in the whole life cycle, producing many times more emissions than a coal fired plant. And underpricing true renewable energy.

What hope has the world got when our elected representatives fail to recognize the importance of natural, native forests in the stabilization of planet's climate.

When will they listen to the science and understand that the oceans can absorb no more CO₂?

And that natural forests are the quickest way of drawing down the carbon debt from centuries of deforestation and degradation.

And that yes, fossil fuel reduction and soil carbon and multi-aged, multi-species reforestation might help in time.

And we have no time.

Burning native forest wood is not clean, green or renewable energy.

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