

John Kaye is going to put these Questions on Notice to both the Minister for Environment and Minister for Energy.

1. What environmental standards does the EPA or any other government agency apply to emissions from wood fired electricity generation?
2. What guarantees can the Minister give that no dioxin, mercury, arsenates, lead, toluene or hydrogen sulphide will be produced in the generation of electricity from wood "waste" at the Eden chipmill, particularly in view of the mill's close proximity to the sea and the likelihood of salt contamination of feedstocks?
3. What guarantees can he/she give that the dominant south westerly* prevailing wind will not deliver toxic gasses or particulates to the town of Eden?

*according to p.27 of the EIS for the Proposed Multi-purpose Wharf and Naval Ammunitioning Facility at Twofold Bay, NSW: Assessment Report. August 2000 (Commonwealth Government Environment Assessment Branch, Environment Australia New South Wales Government, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning) the dominant prevailing wind from the SW – the exact direction needed to take stuff to the town.

The more I look at this human health angle, the better it gets! I am sure there are people in Eden who will not care about the forests being destroyed. There may even be people who are beyond worrying about getting poisoned, but I can't imagine anyone who will look forward to a dose of rotten egg gas every time the south westerly blows! ;-)

Another question on notice. John Kaye will ask Keneally this one:

1. Will the Minister take into account likely impacts on human health from gaseous and particulate emissions when deciding on the Part 3A application by South East Fibre Exports for a wood fired power station at the Eden chipmill?
2. Is she aware of a study for the Government of British Columbia (Canada) published in June 2008: "Emissions from Wood-Fired Combustion Equipment"
http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/industrial/pulp_paper_lumber/pdf/emissions_report_08.pdf which found that basic emissions from wood fired electricity generation could be expected to include:

Acetaldehyde, Alpha-pinene, Beta-pinene, Carbon monoxide (CO), Formaldehyde, Methanol, Naphthalene, Toluene, Turpentine, 2,3,7,8, Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin (TCDD) C/P, 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-p-furan C, Hydrogen sulphide, C/S Nitrogen oxides (NOx), Beryllium, Cadmium and compounds, Chromium, Cobalt, Copper, Copper, Iron, Lead arsenate, Lead chromate, Magnesium, Manganese, Molybdenum, Nickel and compounds, Particulate matter (PM): Phosphorus, Selenium,

Silver, Thallium, Zinc, Arsenic and inorganic arsenic compounds, Mercury, Hydrochloric acid, Sulphuric acid, Sulphur dioxide (SO₂).

3. Is she aware that the location of the chipmill – with the coast to one side and Twofold Bay on the other – is likely to lead to salt contamination of the power station feedstock and thus increase the probability that dioxins will be produced?
4. Is she aware that, according to p.27 of the EIS for the Proposed Multi-purpose Wharf and Naval Ammunitioning Facility at Twofold Bay, NSW: Assessment Report. August 2008 (Commonwealth Government Environment Assessment Branch, Environment Australia and New South Wales Government, Department of Urban Affairs and Planning) the dominant prevailing wind is from the south west, which would carry emissions directly to the town of Eden.