

From: Patricia Egli [REDACTED]
Sent: October 28, 2019 7:51 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel <legc.office@novascotia.ca>
Subject: Bill 213 amendments

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To the Law Amendments Hearing Committee,

Due to the very short notice about the hearings regarding the Sustainable Development Goals Act happening today, October 28, I was not able to attend. This is why I am writing you today.

I am recommending that burning forest biomass to generate electricity be removed from the list of sustainable, renewable energy sources.

1. At the rate at which wood is being burned for electricity, this source of fuel is NOT sustainable: it is harvested much faster than it can grow.
2. The burning of green wood at the Port Hawkesbury facility is so inefficient that, per unit of energy produced, it emits more CO₂ in the atmosphere than the burning of fossil fuel.
3. As biodiversity is threatened at an unprecedented level, clearcutting and whole tree harvesting is exacerbating the problem by vastly increasing habitat loss and fragmentation.
4. Trees are the best technology we have for removing CO₂ from the atmosphere. Even dead trees, which rot very slowly in Nova Scotia's climate represent a store of carbon sequestered in the forest soil. The more intact forests we have, the more we can sequester carbon released by fossil fuel burning.

Claiming that burning forests to generate electricity is environmentally friendly is green-washing a very destructive practice.

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Stoffyn, Ph.D.

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