

## **To the Independent Planning Commission - Objection to Redbank Power Station proposal to use biomass as a fuel source**

This proposal to harvest so called invasive native species on a vast scale to power the Redbank power station must be seen as a retrograde step in the transition to a renewable energy future. Burning wood waste is not a clean process and emits more CO<sub>2</sub> and fine particulates than coal. There are other opportunities for landholders to diversify their operations with the growth in Agrisolar and wind power which benefits both the environment and the landholder.

It's been demonstrated in countries in Europe that have gone down this road that it leads to negative impacts on the natural environment, forests being over harvested to meet the demands of a hungry power station.

The other issue is factoring in the emissions from the harvesting, chipping and transporting of the resource and that impact on the community of all those truck movements.

The Panel also needs to consider the impacts on the natural landscape – determining what constitutes invasive native species should not be up to landholders with a vested interest. Clearing can result in habitat loss and connectivity for wildlife dependent on vegetation for survival. Loss of habitat is the biggest contributor to species loss.

I hope that common sense prevails and our collective future is powered by genuine renewable energy and this proposal is refused on the grounds that it doesn't align with that goal. Burning is an old technology we can not afford it if we are to meet emissions targets.

Regards Cynthia Brook