

Jim Morrison

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10/08/25

Submission to the Independent Planning Commission on the restarting of Redbank Power Station by Verdant Earth Technologies.

The proposal to burn wood for power by Verdant Earth Technologies at the disused Redbank Power Station has been knocked back on a number of occasions for very good reasons, it is a terrible idea and should be banned permanently once and for all.

The proposal to use biomass from 'legal land clearing activities' if approved will become a major driver contributing to our already shocking land clearing rates in NSW.

As well as the the plan to clear and burn so called 'invasive native species,' under the present rules vegetation which has grown since 1990 can be generally cleared without consent. Thirty five-year-old vegetation likely contains important biodiversity and an accumulating carbon store. Its removal will release significant carbon from soil, from diesel fuel in transport and into the atmosphere when it is finally burned. This can hardly be considered a sustainable operation. The current state government has promised to significantly reduce land clearing in NSW, the approval of this proposal will provide an economic driver to clear vegetation which otherwise would not be cleared.

Wood fired power is just as polluting as coal fired power and should not be considered as sustainable or clean energy. With the current roll out of genuinely renewable energy through wind and solar well underway it would be a retrograde step for the Independent Planning Commission to approve this development.

Yours Sincerely

Jim Morrison.