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# BIOMASS: THE CHAIN OF DESTRUCTION REFERENCES & NOTES

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/223489/ROtransitionconsultation17July2013.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/223489/ROtransitionconsultation17July2013.pdf))

() [10] This figure is based on our regularly updated map and spreadsheet found at <http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/wp-content/maps/uk-biomass.html> (<http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/wp-content/maps/uk-biomass.html>). Projects marked as 'withdrawn' or 'rejected' have been excluded when calculating the overall forecast demand.

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() [13] Note that all tonnage figures refer to green tonnes, i.e. tonnes of wood as it is harvested, rather than dried wood.

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() [15] <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/144494.aspx> (<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/sectors/144494.aspx>) – See spreadsheet about NOx emissions, which are comparable to those from coal combustion. Very low NOx emissions therefore indicate that the power station was run at a small fraction of its capacity.

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() [23] See <http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/uk-campaign/coal-biomass-conversions/> (<https://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/uk-campaign/coal-biomass-conversions/>)

() [24] <http://biofuelwatch.org.uk/docs/DECC%20FoI%20EIR%2013-0340%20Q1%20Documents%20Drax%20etc%209May%202013.pdf> (<https://biofuelwatch.org.uk/docs/DECC%20FoI%20EIR%2013-0340%20Q1%20Documents%20Drax%20etc%209May%202013.pdf>)

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## 2. INTERNATIONAL IMPACTS

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- () [4] The authors of this report conducted a field visit to the area and to various communities impacted by Suzano's operations between the 13th and 17th May 2013. We have chosen not to reveal the names of the people quoted in interviews in order to protect their identities, given the tense situation surrounding land conflicts in the area.
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([19] The Bacuri, also referred to as Bacurizeiro, is a majestic tree with an impressive diversity of shapes and heights.

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([32] <http://www.blogfolha.com/?p=71467> (<http://www.blogfolha.com/?p=71467>).

([33] <http://smdh.org.br/?p=426> (<http://smdh.org.br/?p=426>).

([34] <http://180graus.com/aquiles-nairo/semarpi-cancela-licenca-ambiental-que-o-estado-tinha-concedido-a-empresa-suzano>

(<http://180graus.com/aquiles-nairo/semarpi-cancela-licenca-ambiental-que-o-estado-tinha-concedido-a-empresa-suzano>).

([35] Conselho de Manejo Florestal – Forest Stewardship Council ([www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org) ([www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org))).

- () [36] See recent book by investigative journalist Lúcio Vaz called “Leeches of Brazil” about the common practice of companies donating to politicians who promote monoculture tree plantations (see <http://www.geracaoeditorial.com.br/hotsite/sanguessugas/> (<http://www.geracaoeditorial.com.br/hotsite/sanguessugas/>))
- () [37] [www.tse.jus.br](http://www.tse.jus.br) ([www.tse.jus.br](http://www.tse.jus.br))
- () [38] <http://blog.jornalpequeno.com.br/johncutrim/2012/11/30/veja-as-empresas-que-doaram-ao-pmdb-da-oligarquia-na-campanha-para-prefeito-de-sao-luis/> (<http://blog.jornalpequeno.com.br/johncutrim/2012/11/30/veja-as-empresas-que-doaram-ao-pmdb-da-oligarquia-na-campanha-para-prefeito-de-sao-luis/>)
- () [39] Written by Horácio Antunes, Professor of Sociology of the Federal University of Maranhão (UFMA). In: Régis, Mayron, “As chapadas e os Bacuris” (The highland plateaus and the Bacuri trees), 2011. Carajás Forum.
- () [40] [http://www.wrm.org.uy/plantations/Tree\\_plantations\\_to\\_generate\\_energy.html](http://www.wrm.org.uy/plantations/Tree_plantations_to_generate_energy.html) ([http://www.wrm.org.uy/plantations/Tree\\_plantations\\_to\\_generate\\_energy.html](http://www.wrm.org.uy/plantations/Tree_plantations_to_generate_energy.html))

### 3. UK IMPACTS

- () [1] See for example: <http://www.pfpi.net/air-pollution-2> (<http://www.pfpi.net/air-pollution-2>)
- () [2] <http://planethazard.com/phmapenv.aspx?mode=topten&area=state&state=VT> (<http://planethazard.com/phmapenv.aspx?mode=topten&area=state&state=VT>) for the McNeil Station in Burlington
- () [3] <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm091110/text/91110w0010.htm> (<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm091110/text/91110w0010.htm>)
- () [4] There may still be a legal case for refusing applications if they would lead to or exacerbate a breach of the EU Air Quality Directive, however without an explicit reference in national planning policy, local authorities would likely be more even cautious about rejecting developments on pollution grounds.
- () [5] See <http://nosouthamptonbiomass.co.uk/> (<http://nosouthamptonbiomass.co.uk/>)
- () [6] The only dedicated biofuel power station in the UK that Biofuelwatch knows of is operated by Rocpower in Featherstone, Wakefield. We had found out about the proposal after the public consultation period had expired and days before it got approved. There have been serious problems with air pollution and odour and the plant has been operating at just a small fraction of its capacity as a result.
- () [7] The Coedbach Action Group attempted to challenge a decision to ignore biomass sustainability in a planning decision through the High Court, however their challenge was rejected on the grounds that they had no ‘legal interest’ in that case. The actual merits of the argument were not considered.
- () [8] Biofuels and biomass defined as ‘waste’ are treated differently in this respect.
- () [9] <http://www.forthenergy.co.uk/biomass-grangemouth-consent-application.asp> (<http://www.forthenergy.co.uk/biomass-grangemouth-consent-application.asp>)
- () [10] <http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/welsh-government-launches-action-plan-4692440> (<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/welsh-government-launches-action-plan-4692440>)
- () [11] See [http://geography.exeter.ac.uk/beyond\\_nimbyism/deliverables/reports\\_PortTalbot\\_Final.pdf](http://geography.exeter.ac.uk/beyond_nimbyism/deliverables/reports_PortTalbot_Final.pdf) ([http://geography.exeter.ac.uk/beyond\\_nimbyism/deliverables/reports\\_PortTalbot\\_Final.pdf](http://geography.exeter.ac.uk/beyond_nimbyism/deliverables/reports_PortTalbot_Final.pdf))
- () [12] <http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/Biomass-plant-campaigners-pay-pound-46-000-legal/story-16871545-detail/story.html#axzz2emDpYGJd> (<http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/Biomass-plant-campaigners-pay-pound-46-000-legal/story-16871545-detail/story.html#axzz2emDpYGJd>)
- () [13] See for example <http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/Fears-blaze-disaster-Port-Talbot-s-proposed/story-16881421-detail/story.html#axzz2emDpYGJd> (<http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/Fears-blaze-disaster-Port-Talbot-s-proposed/story-16881421-detail/story.html#axzz2emDpYGJd>)
- () [14] <http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/Campaigners-celebrate-Preenergy-cuts-ties-National/story-18167274-detail/story.html#axzz2emDpYGJd> (<http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/Campaigners-celebrate-Preenergy-cuts-ties-National/story-18167274-detail/story.html#axzz2emDpYGJd>)
- () [15] See [www.companycheck.co.uk](http://www.companycheck.co.uk) ([www.companycheck.co.uk](http://www.companycheck.co.uk))
- () [16] <http://www.planningresource.co.uk/news/1138264/> (<http://www.planningresource.co.uk/news/1138264/>)
- () [17] <http://www.solicitorsjournal.com/public/administrative-and-constitutional/update-judicial-review-legal-aid-cuts> (<http://www.solicitorsjournal.com/public/administrative-and-constitutional/update-judicial-review-legal-aid-cuts>)
- () [18] Reform of Protective Costs Orders in Environmental Judicial Reviews, Herbert Smith Freehills, Environment and Planning

(19] <http://www.saveourspeyside.co.uk> (<http://www.saveourspeyside.co.uk>)

(20] <http://pfpi.net/air-pollution-2> (<http://pfpi.net/air-pollution-2>)

(21] <http://www.letsrecycle.com/news/latest-news/wood/biomass-is-now-largest-market-for-waste-wood> (<http://www.letsrecycle.com/news/latest-news/wood/biomass-is-now-largest-market-for-waste-wood>)

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(23] Data on load factors in different years can be obtained from <http://www.ref.org.uk/roc-generators/search.php?mode=client&rid=&GeneratorName=&CtryCode=&kwaction>equals&InstalledkW=&TechGroup=BM&TechCode=&dateaction>equals&AccreditationDate=&Location=&CHP=&turbineaction>equals&NumTurbines=&TurbineModel=&HubHeight=&BladeDiam=&Developer=&Operator=&SiteOwner=&Postcode=&save=Search> (<http://www.ref.org.uk/roc-generators/search.php?mode=client&rid=&GeneratorName=&CtryCode=&kwaction>equals&InstalledkW=&TechGroup=BM&TechCode=&dateaction>equals&AccreditationDate=&Location=&CHP=&turbineaction>equals&NumTurbines=&TurbineModel=&HubHeight=&BladeDiam=&Developer=&Operator=&SiteOwner=&Postcode=&save=Search>) (click on generating station, then summary)

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(25] [http://www2.wrap.org.uk/downloads/Options\\_and\\_Risk\\_Assessment\\_for\\_Treated\\_Wood\\_Waste.015ec005.2237.pdf](http://www2.wrap.org.uk/downloads/Options_and_Risk_Assessment_for_Treated_Wood_Waste.015ec005.2237.pdf) ([http://www2.wrap.org.uk/downloads/Options\\_and\\_Risk\\_Assessment\\_for\\_Treated\\_Wood\\_Waste.015ec005.2237.pdf](http://www2.wrap.org.uk/downloads/Options_and_Risk_Assessment_for_Treated_Wood_Waste.015ec005.2237.pdf))

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(31] <http://www.plevin.co.uk/news> (<http://www.plevin.co.uk/news>), Plevin announce plans for £5 million waste wood recycling facility, 13th May 2013

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(33] [www.thisisbristol.co.uk/Avonmouth-residents-anger-collapsed-case/story-16901191-detail/story.html#axzz2bftRI46N](http://www.thisisbristol.co.uk/Avonmouth-residents-anger-collapsed-case/story-16901191-detail/story.html#axzz2bftRI46N) ([www.thisisbristol.co.uk/Avonmouth-residents-anger-collapsed-case/story-16901191-detail/story.html#axzz2bftRI46N](http://www.thisisbristol.co.uk/Avonmouth-residents-anger-collapsed-case/story-16901191-detail/story.html#axzz2bftRI46N))

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(37] <http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Classification/> (<http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Classification/>)

(38] [www.hse.gov.uk/coshh/industry/woodworking.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/coshh/industry/woodworking.htm) ([www.hse.gov.uk/coshh/industry/woodworking.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/coshh/industry/woodworking.htm))

(39] [www.cdc.gov/niosh/npgd0667.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npgd0667.html) (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npgd0667.html>)

(40] Promoting the science and engineering to children, Dr Dan Ridley-Ellis, Centre for Timber Engineering, Napier University, 2008, [http://researchrepository.napier.ac.uk/2531/1/Paper\\_066.pdf](http://researchrepository.napier.ac.uk/2531/1/Paper_066.pdf) ([http://researchrepository.napier.ac.uk/2531/1/Paper\\_066.pdf](http://researchrepository.napier.ac.uk/2531/1/Paper_066.pdf))

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([43] Section 79 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

([44] Monitoring of particulate matter in ambient air around waste facilities, Technical Guidance Document M17, Environment Agency, [http://persona.uk.com/kings\\_lynn/Core\\_docs/Q/Q1.pdf](http://persona.uk.com/kings_lynn/Core_docs/Q/Q1.pdf) ([http://persona.uk.com/kings\\_lynn/Core\\_docs/Q/Q1.pdf](http://persona.uk.com/kings_lynn/Core_docs/Q/Q1.pdf)).

([45] Please note: The discussion of the Trafford case should be read as a, sadly not unusual, experience of one community and their elected members when trying to stop a polluting development on air quality grounds. Please note that this section should not be considered a legal analysis of planning policy and air quality. Every planning application and appeal should be judged on its own merits and the outcome of this Public Inquiry was based on specific witness evidence. It therefore does not set a legal precedent and it does not affect relevant case law.

([46] <http://pfpi.net/air-pollution-2> (<http://pfpi.net/air-pollution-2>).

([47] Planning Policy Statement 23: Planning and Pollution Control

([48] For a list of all National Air Quality Objectives, see [http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/documents/National\\_air\\_quality\\_objectives.pdf](http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/documents/National_air_quality_objectives.pdf) ([http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/documents/National\\_air\\_quality\\_objectives.pdf](http://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/documents/National_air_quality_objectives.pdf))

([49] Environment Agency response to an Environmental Information Regulations request by the Breathe Clean Air Group

([50] <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-23850895> (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-23850895>).

([51] Site Status Report for Scotgen Ltd Dargavel Energy from Waste Facility, 21st June 2013, SEPA, downloaded from [http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste\\_regulation/energy\\_from\\_waste/efw\\_sites\\_in\\_scotland.aspx](http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_regulation/energy_from_waste/efw_sites_in_scotland.aspx) ([http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste\\_regulation/energy\\_from\\_waste/efw\\_sites\\_in\\_scotland.aspx](http://www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_regulation/energy_from_waste/efw_sites_in_scotland.aspx)).

([52] <http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/waste-firm-on-brink-of-closure.21955343> (<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/waste-firm-on-brink-of-closure.21955343> -Addendum-formatted2.pdf) (<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/waste-firm-on-brink-of-closure.21955343> -Addendum-formatted2.pdf).

([53] <http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Biofuelwatch-reponse-Peel-Energy>. (<https://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Biofuelwatch-reponse-Peel-Energy>).

([54] Burning biomass or fossil fuels emits two types of nitrogen oxides, mostly NO plus some NO<sub>2</sub>. Health impacts are associated with NO<sub>2</sub>, but once in the atmosphere, a large proportion of the NO emitted undergoes chemical reactions to NO<sub>2</sub>. Therefore, the level of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions is closely related to increases in NO<sub>2</sub> levels in the atmosphere and thus to health impacts.

([55] Pregenergy's proposed 350 MW power station in Port Talbot – the world's biggest new-built biomass power station – was approved in 2008 but has not attracted investment and thus not been built. It has faced strong opposition from a local group, Port Talbot Residents Against Power Stations.

### 3.11 Biomass power station location and deprivation

([1] Mitchell, G., and Dorling, D. (2003) An environmental justice analysis of British air quality. Environment and Planning, volume 35, pages 909-929

([2] Studies which have investigated the relationship between the location of polluting industries and the deprivation of surrounding communities include, but are not limited to:

Anderton, D.L., Anderson A.B., Oakes, J.M., & Fraser, M. (1994) Environmental equity: The demographics of dumping. Demography, 31, 221-240

Been, V. (1994) Locally undesirable land uses in minority neighbourhoods: Disproportionate siting or market dynamics? Yale Law Journal, 103 pp. 1301 – 1422.

Bullard, R.D., & Wright, B.H. (1987) Environmentalism and the politics of equity: Emergent trends in the black community. Mid American Review of Sociology, 12, 21-37

Chavis, B. F., & Lee, C. (1987) Toxic wastes and race in the united states: A national report on the racial and socio-economic characteristics of communities with hazardous waste sites. New York: Commission for Racial Justice, United Church of Christ.

Edelstein, M.R. (1988) Contaminated communities: The social and psychological impacts of residential toxic exposure. Boulder, CO: Westview.

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([5] Friends of the Earth (2001) Pollution and Poverty: Breaking the Link. (Friends of the Earth, London.)

([6] Biofuelwatch <https://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=t1lqFUlbaugNzp5eFsaVSDA>

(<https://spreadsheets.google.com/pub?key=t1lqFUlbaugNzp5eFsaVSDA>).

Note: This list of UK biomass power stations is based on ongoing web monitoring and up to date to the best of our knowledge.

## 4. GE TREES FOR BIOMASS

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([2] [www.arborgen.us/index.php/bioenergy?phpMyAdmin=WMUOU2lc%2CKuUvO9ItALWVHV0m25](http://www.arborgen.us/index.php/bioenergy?phpMyAdmin=WMUOU2lc%2CKuUvO9ItALWVHV0m25)

([www.arborgen.us/index.php/bioenergy?phpMyAdmin=WMUOU2lc%2CKuUvO9ItALWVHV0m25](http://www.arborgen.us/index.php/bioenergy?phpMyAdmin=WMUOU2lc%2CKuUvO9ItALWVHV0m25))

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([http://gmoinfo.jrc.ec.europa.eu/gmp\\_report.aspx?CurNot=B/SE/11/12623](http://gmoinfo.jrc.ec.europa.eu/gmp_report.aspx?CurNot=B/SE/11/12623)).

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and <http://climate-connections.org/2012/04/18/this-weeks-earth-minute-ge-tree-field-trials-destroyed-by-protesters-in-new-zealand/> (<http://climate-connections.org/2012/04/18/this-weeks-earth-minute-ge-tree-field-trials-destroyed-by-protesters-in-new-zealand/>).

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(<http://www.econexus.info/publication/genetically-engineered-trees-risk-assessment>).

← [PREVIOUS \(HTTPS://WWW.BIOFUELWATCH.ORG.UK/2013/BURNING-ISSUE-PR/\)](https://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/2013/burning-issue-pr/)

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