

①

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 December 2012 09:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Drax
Attachments: GIB Project Phoenix Release FINAL.doc

[REDACTED]

Find attached our announcement re the Drax deal. Drax will also send out a separate market announcement. Announcement of the deal is scheduled for 7am Thursday morning.

Can you let me have any reactive/supportive statements you would propose to make following announcement.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

UK Green Investment Bank plc | Waverley Court G1 | 4 East Market Street | Edinburgh | EH8 8BG | [REDACTED]

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[20] December 2012

UK Green Investment Bank Supports Drax's Biomass Conversion Plans

The UK Green Investment Bank (GIB) is pleased to confirm that it has supported Drax Group plc (Drax) in the completion of the financing required by the Group to support its transformation into a predominantly biomass-fuelled electricity generator.

As part of a financing package announced by Drax today, GIB will provide an amortising term loan facility of up to £100 million, alongside the Prudential and M&G UK Companies Financing Fund who committed equivalent funding in July 2012. The loan will be made on commercial terms. Drax also today announced a £400 million revolving credit facility maturing in April 2016, replacing the existing £310 million revolving credit facility.

Drax power station is located in North Yorkshire. It is the largest power station in Western Europe with generating capacity of 3,960 MW and provides approximately 7 percent of the UK's electricity supply.

The loan will enable Drax to complete a capital investment programme to convert three of its six 660 MW coal units and supporting infrastructure to operate on biomass. The conversion to sustainably sourced biomass is expected to save in the region of 3 million tonnes of CO2 per annum. This is equivalent to taking just over 1 million cars, or 4 percent of the UK car fleet, off the road.

Commenting on the financing, Shaun Kingsbury CEO of the UK Green Investment Bank, said: "We are delighted to support Drax in the delivery of its biomass strategy. Sustainably sourced biomass is a key form of renewable energy supported by UK government policy and will play an essential role in the UK's transition to a low carbon economy. This financing not only supports Drax in reducing future greenhouse gas emissions but also accelerates the UK's transition to a green economy."

ENDS

Media Contacts

Omar Mohammed
UK Green Investment Bank
0131 529 6267

Diane Stewart
Buchanan
0131 226 6150

Notes to Editors

The UK Green Investment Bank was formed as a public company in May 2012. With £3 billion of funding from the UK Government, it is the first bank of its kind in the world. It is a "for profit" bank, whose mission is to accelerate the UK's transition to a more green economy, and to create an enduring institution, operating independently of Government.

The bank became fully operational in October 2012 when it was granted State Aid approval by the European Commission to make investments on commercial terms. This approval covers a number of green sectors, certain of which have been chosen by the UK Government as "priority sectors", to which at least 80% of the bank's capital must be directed:

Priority sectors:

- Offshore wind
- Waste (treatment and recycling and energy from waste)
- Non-domestic energy efficiency
- Green Deal

Other permitted sectors:

- Biofuels for transport
- Biomass power
- Carbon capture and storage
- Marine energy
- Renewable heat

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 December 2012 10:49
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Drax
Attachments: 20121210 Deal Announcements QA - Drax.docx

I've attached the latest Drax draft market announcement together with our Q&As – together this should assist. Just be aware this is all market sensitive information given Drax's public company status.

In a nutshell:

- Drax Group plc (LSE:DRX) is a London listed electric power generation company whose principal subsidiary is Drax Power Limited, owner of the Drax power station.
- Drax power station is located in North Yorkshire. It is the largest coal fired power station in Western Europe with generating capacity of 3,960MW and it provides c. 7% of the United Kingdom's electricity supply. Drax runs principally on coal, but is currently capable of co-firing biomass. The plant is comprised of six 660 MW units and supporting infrastructure.
- Following DECC's announcement of the revised ROC banding support on 25 July 2012 and the successful results of extensive technical work undertaken by the Group, Drax announced plans to fully convert three of their six generating units from coal to biomass
- In support of this conversion, GIB is lending up to £100m on market terms

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UK Green Investment Bank plc | Waverley Court G1 | 4 East Market Street | Edinburgh | EH8 8BG | [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 December 2012 10:35
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Drax

[REDACTED] copy [REDACTED]

Thanks for that. Seeing copies of the press releases is helpful but could you let me have some further background information about the Drax project so I can explain the deals in simple layman's terms to Ministers. Details about the location of projects, the sponsors of the projects, the co-financing partners, exact amounts of finance being provided by the different parties, the anticipated green impact etc. These are the sorts of things we need to be able to describe.

Many thanks

[REDACTED]

18/03/2013

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 December 2012 09:59
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Drax

Find attached our announcement re the Drax deal. Drax will also send out a separate market announcement. Announcement of the deal is scheduled for 7am Thursday morning.

Can you let me have any reactive/supportive statements you would propose to make following announcement.

Many thanks

UK Green Investment Bank plc | Waverley Court G1 | 4 East Market Street | Edinburgh | EH8 8BG | [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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Project Phoenix

Q&A

Q: What are you announcing?

A: GIB is making a senior secured loan of up to £100m to Drax Group plc for the conversion of 3 of 6 coal units to biomass.

Q: Who are your co-investors?

A: M&G UK Companies Financing Fund

Q: Are you working on any other deals with the same co-investors?

A: No

Q: Were you able to attract additional investors because of your involvement?

A: GIB's participation in the senior secured debt portion is key to the revised capital structure of the Company given the significant change in its business model and operations. In addition to the Company's successful £190m equity raise in October 2012 and £100m senior secured loan from M&G in the summer 2012, GIB's participation in the debt structure was instrumental in assisting the Company to secure the following investors:

- £400m revolving credit facility provided by a syndicate of >10 international commercial banks
- £200m secured trading line

Comment [AR1]: Exact number will only be available next week.

Q: What were the timescales between your initial discussions and signing the deal?

A: Discussions began in 2012

Q: How much are you investing and what percentage of the overall investment are you providing?

A: GIB will lend up to £100m towards the Company capital expenditure programme of £650-700m towards the conversion of 3 of 6 coal units to biomass.

Q: What are you expecting by way of returns?

A: A market-based, risk-adjusted return that meets our return hurdle. The exact terms remain commercially confidential.

Q: What actions will you take if the project fails to deliver expected returns?

A: GIB will work with the Company and partners to implement remedial action.

Q: How long have you invested for?

A: The facility is an amortising term loan facility – 6 to 8 years maturity.

Q: [If investing in a fund] – what control do you have over the type of investments being made by the fund?

A: Not applicable.

Q: Why have you chosen to invest in this project?

A:

- Meets risk-return objectives
- Supports government policy
- Reduces GHG emissions
- GIB's presence is additional by crowding in RCF lenders
- Indirect impact on the demonstration effects of biomass conversions as well as development of the biomass supply chain and national expertise

Q: Which of your priority sectors does this investment fit?

A: Although biomass power is a non-priority sector, it is an approved sector for state aid purposes and in our 'other' category.

Q: How will you measure the green impact of this investment?

A: GIB will measure GHG reduction, biomass consumption, and renewable energy produced, among other green and social measures.

Q: Will this investment limit any further funding for this sector?

A: GIB would adopt a portfolio approach towards its future investments in the sector. However, all investments would need to meet our criteria of sound finances, additionality and green impact

Q: Would you do new build biomass? Large scale?

A: GIB are committed to providing support to projects that meet our financial, additionality and green criteria. GIB would consider investment opportunities in new build biomass projects including large scale projects.

Q: Will you be repaid from coal burning?

A: Although our debt facility will fund the Drax's full conversion of 3 coal units to biomass, our investment is serviced from the Drax's operations, which includes their biomass and coal operations, as well as their electricity retail operations. Our investment is accelerating the conversion of the coal units to biomass.

Q: Why importing pellets? why not UK? How is this cutting carbon emissions?

A: The amount of wood and energy crop pellets in the UK is not sufficient to meet the demand of Drax's converted units. Drax currently sources some pellets from the UK and has a straw pellet plant in the UK.

The UK energy regulator, OFGEM, requires biomass conversions to account for the supply chain carbon emissions, which are much lower than the equivalent emissions from coal generation. The current maximum allowable under the regulations is [67 g/MJe] and Drax's operations currently are and are expected to be well within these requirements.]

Q: Will you be doing other conversions projects? Eggborough?

A: GIB are committed to providing support to projects that meet our financial, additionality and green criteria. GIB would consider investment opportunities in other biomass conversion projects in the UK. We cannot comment on specific projects.

Q: How much are you allocating to the biomass sector?

A: Our maximum allocation to our non-priority sectors in the medium to long term would be 20% of our portfolio. Our non-priority sectors include bioenergy and, at this stage, we do not have a specific allocation to the biomass sector within the 20% cap.

Q: How are you ensuring that they are only sustainable supplies?

A: Drax will comply with the Renewables Obligation Order, which sets out the sustainability parameters under the UK regulations.

From: Rob Cormie [Rob.Cormie@greeninvestmentbank.com]
 Sent: 25 February 2013 12:33
 To: [redacted]; Oliver Griffiths; [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted]; Shaun Kingsbury; [redacted]; [redacted], Callard Richard (ShEx)
 Subject: RE: Biofuel watch
 Attachments: FW: Green Investment Bank - funding of biomass power



FW: Green Investment Bank - fu. [redacted]

The group has accepted my offer of a meeting. I have attached their email which touches on policy so though you should be aware

Rob

Rob Cormie
 Group Operations Director
 UK Green Investment Bank plc | Exchange Place 2 | 5 Sempie Street |
 Edinburgh | EH3 8BL | Tel: +44 330 123 3024 | Mob: +44 7775 891966 | Email:
 rob.cormie@greeninvestmentbank.com

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-----Original Message-----

From: [redacted]
 Sent: 25 February 2013 10:08
 To: Rob Cormie; [redacted] Oliver Griffiths;
 [redacted]
 Cc: [redacted]; Shaun Kingsbury; [redacted]; [redacted]
 Callard Richard (ShEx)
 Subject: RE: Biofuel watch

Rob

That sounds a very helpful proposal. Grateful if you could let me know how it goes.

There have been some follow up emails direct to BIS and we are discussing with DECC how best to handle these given they raise DECC policy issues. But it may be that all HMG need do initially is say we understand Biofuel Watch is meeting UKGIB to discuss its concerns.

Copying in Richard to be aware.

[redacted]

-----Original Message-----

From: Rob Cormie [mailto:Rob.Cormie@greeninvestmentbank.com]

Sent: 22 February 2013 18:01

To: [REDACTED] (Communications); [REDACTED] (ShEx); Oliver Griffiths; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]; Shaun Kingsbury; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: Biofuel watch

All

I have reached out to biofuel watch and offered them a meeting in London for us both to put our case forward. Monday 4 th march seems possible for them but will revert.

I suggest Oliver, Bruce and I to face up to them

Hear their case, make our case and move on

[REDACTED] - they say hey grave sent a long email to the enquiries box? Can you forward please

Thanks

Rob

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of UK Green Investments Enquiries
[Enquiries@greeninvestmentbank.com]

Sent: 25 February 2013 10:11

To: Rob Cornie

Subject: FW: Green Investment Bank - funding of biomass power

Hi Rob,

I think it must be this one.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UK Green Investment Bank plc | 13th Floor | 21-24 Millbank Tower | Millbank | London SW1P 4QP | [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

The GIB's mission is to accelerate investment in the UK's transition to a green economy. In line with this mission, please consider the environment and only print this email if absolutely necessary.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 21 February 2013 13:14

To: [REDACTED] UK Green Investments Enquiries

Cc: robert.smith@weir.co.uk; mpst.cable@bis.gsi.gov.uk; enquiries@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Subject: Green Investment Bank - funding of biomass power

Dear [REDACTED]

thank you for taking the time to respond to my email concerning GIB's investment in Drax power station.

However you fail to address any of the points I made beyond a giving a simple repetition of government policy, which as I will show below is based on an inadequate and outdated view of bioenergy carbon accounting. The investment you are making at Drax will increase UK carbon emissions at a time when emissions cuts are required. I believe this investment is therefore in conflict with the aim of the GIB - to aid the transition to a low carbon economy.

1. WHY DOES DRAX NEED FINANCIAL SUPPORT?

I note from press reports that the GIB is lending to Drax alongside the Prudential and the M&G UK Companies Financing Fund. These two lenders' £100m commitment was announced in July. From <http://www.efinancialnews.com/story/2012-12-21/uk-green-investment-bank-first-deals>

These non-GIB funders apparently had confidence as far back as July 2012 that putting money into Drax was a sound investment. Biomass power, both dedicated and co-firing, is to be heavily subsidised from a levy on consumer electricity bills through the Renewable Obligation. I estimate that Drax will be receiving as much as £600m in subsidies per year from biomass burning. Why does it need more public money to get started?

The GIB's mission was described as *"...to provide financial solutions to accelerate private sector investment in the green economy....the GIB will play a vital role in addressing market failures affecting green infrastructure projects in order to stimulate a step up in private investment."*

There was no 'market failure' affecting the Drax biomass project: it was already mostly funded by private lenders (Prudential and M&G), and it's probable that the investment community was waiting on confirmation from DECC about the level of subsidies for biomass

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power before committing more funds. Drax repeatedly pressed Government through 2011 and 2012 to set high levels of RO subsidies in order to gain investor confidence. Why did the GIB agree to lend to Drax before the subsidies were confirmed? Should you not have waited until the effect of subsidy guarantees on investor confidence was established? Is it not very likely that others like M&G and Prudential would have come in now that the subsidies are confirmed and simply await a parliamentary approval this month?

2. STATE AID

I note that the State aid approval for the GIB by the European Commission sets out the structure and operating principles of the UK GIB and that it can make investments on commercial terms in the following sectors:

Priority sectors:

- Offshore wind
- Waste (treatment and recycling and energy from waste)
- Non domestic energy efficiency

Other sectors:

- Biofuels for transport
- Biomass power
- Carbon capture and storage
- Marine energy
- Renewable heat

(<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20121017180846/http://news.bis.gov.uk/Press-Releases/UK-Green-Investment-Bank-gets-green-light-from-Europe-681c7.aspx>)

Biomass power is described as a non-priority sector, yet the Drax investment is one of your first.

3. CARBON ACCOUNTING

The need for a transition to a low carbon economy rests on the evidence-based assessment by scientists that manmade carbon emissions are causing global warming and climate change. Government policy accepts this science. But it seems blind to the increasingly strong scientific opinion that large scale bioenergy is going to increase carbon emissions in the short to medium term and will therefore do nothing to mitigate global warming. In fact it may accelerate climate change. **The figures for carbon accounting used by the European Renewable Energy Directive (RED) and other treaties have a serious accounting error.**

3.1. DECC have admitted that because of the carbon debt produced by burning biomass, using whole trees to fuel production of heat or electricity is a higher carbon option than leaving the trees to grow in the forest, and producing the energy by burning fossil fuels. This is true for at least 100 years after the energy is produced, and DECC concludes: *"The use of harvested wood from UK managed forests exclusively for bioenergy (replacing fossil fuels) has higher relative GHG emissions than leaving the trees unharvested in the forest. This means that on the basis of GHG emissions, there is not a strong case to produce bioenergy in this way."*

<http://www.decc.gov.uk/assets/decc/11/meeting-energy-demand/bio-energy/7014-bioenergy-strategy-supplementary-note-carbon-impac.pdf>

3.2. The European Environment Agency gave a scientific opinion in Sept 2011 saying:

"Producing energy from biomass is meant to reduce GHG emissions. But burning biomass increases the amount of carbon in the air (just like burning coal, oil and gas) if harvesting the biomass decreases the amount of carbon stored in plants and soils, or reduces ongoing carbon sequestration. Two important factors that determine whether bioenergy reduces carbon in the

atmosphere compared to fossil fuels are (i) where and (ii) how the biomass is produced and harvested. Hence, legislation that encourages substitution of fossil fuels by bioenergy, irrespective of the biomass source, **may even result in increased carbon emissions – thereby accelerating global warming.**

*It is widely assumed that biomass combustion would be inherently „carbon neutral“ because it only releases carbon taken from the atmosphere during plant growth. **However, this assumption is not correct and results in a form of double-counting**, as it ignores the fact that using land to produce plants for energy typically means that this land is not producing plants for other purposes, including carbon otherwise sequestered. If bioenergy production replaces forests, reduces forest stocks or reduces forest growth, which would otherwise sequester more carbon, it can increase the atmospheric carbon concentration. If bioenergy crops displace food crops, this may lead to more hunger if crops are not replaced and lead to emissions from land-use change if they are. To reduce carbon in the air without sacrificing other human needs, bioenergy production must increase the total amount of plant growth, making more plants available for energy use while preserving other benefits, or it must be derived from biomass wastes that would decompose and neither be used by people nor contribute to carbon sequestration.*

The potential consequences of this bioenergy accounting error are immense. Based on the assumption that all burning of biomass would not add carbon to the air, several reports have suggested that bioenergy could or should provide 20% to 50% of the world's energy needs in coming decades. Doing so would require doubling or tripling the total amount of plant material currently harvested from the planet's land. Such an increase in harvested material would compete with other needs, such as providing food for a growing population, and would place enormous pressures on the Earth's land-based ecosystems. Indeed, current harvests, while immensely valuable for human well-being, have already caused enormous loss of habitat by affecting perhaps 75% of the world's ice- and desert-free land, depleting water supplies, and releasing large quantities of carbon into the air. "

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/about-us/governance/scientific-committee/sc-opinions/opinions-on-scientific-issues/sc-opinion-on-greenhouse-gas>

3.3. Here are just a few of the recent scientific papers on the subject, emphasis added:

a. LETTER Response: complexities of sustainable forest use

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gcbb.12004/full>

1. Helmut Haberl^{1,*},
2. Ernst-Detlef Schulze²,
3. Christian Körner³,
4. Beverly E. Law⁴,
5. Bjart Holtsmark⁵,
6. Sebastiaan Luyssaert⁶

Article first published online: 29 OCT 2012

Global Change Biology Bioenergy Volume 5, Issue 1, pages 1–2, January 2013

(part):

"To avoid unnecessary confusion associated with the GHG balance issues addressed by Bright et al. (2012), it is essential to clarify that the global warming effect of CO₂ in the atmosphere does not depend on its source. Biogenic CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere has exactly the same global warming potential as CO₂ from fossil-fuel combustion. Per unit of energy, the amount of CO₂ released from biomass combustion is about as high as that of coal and substantially larger than that of oil and natural gas (Haberl et al., 2012). The decisive question is whether or not bioenergy production is causally linked with additional carbon sequestration compared to the situation without bioenergy use (Searchinger, 2010)."

b. Large-scale bioenergy from additional harvest of forest biomass is neither sustainable nor greenhouse gas neutral

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1757-1707.2012.01169.x/abstract;jsessionid=2B8BD7D35C77E4A9D2BC4B37083AE138.d04t04?>

1. Ernst-Detlef Schulze^{1,*},
2. Christian Körner²,
3. Beverly E. Law³,
4. Helmut Haberl⁴,
5. Sebastiaan Luyssaert⁵

Article first published online: 2 APR 2012

Global Change Biology Bioenergy Volume 4, Issue 6, pages 611–616, November 2012

Abstract

*"Owing to the peculiarities of forest net primary production humans would appropriate ca. 60% of the global increment of woody biomass if forest biomass were to produce 20% of current global primary energy supply. We argue that such an increase in biomass harvest would result in younger forests, lower biomass pools, depleted soil nutrient stocks and a loss of other ecosystem functions. The proposed strategy is likely to miss its main objective, i.e. to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, because it would result in a reduction of biomass pools that may take decades to centuries to be paid back by fossil fuel substitution, if paid back at all. Eventually, depleted soil fertility will make the production unsustainable and require fertilization, which in turn increases GHG emissions due to N₂O emissions. **Hence, large-scale production of bioenergy from forest biomass is neither sustainable nor GHG neutral.**"*

c. Global and local impacts of UK renewable energy policy

D. J. Ward and O. R. Inderwildi
Energy Environ. Sci., 2013, **6**, 18-24

Received 25 May 2012, Accepted 19 Nov 2012

<http://pubs.rsc.org/en/Content/ArticleLanding/2013/EE/c2ee22342b>

*In order to achieve the UK [renewable energy] target it is essential that the existing strategies for delivering wind power and coupling it to the grid are successful but there is an additional, greater, challenge. A large part of the UK renewables target will need to be met by the use of biomass and we show here that the amounts of biomass needed far exceed the supply capacity of the UK; imports will dominate the supply. **The imports required are far greater than present day UK imports of coal with substantial potential implications; globally for biomass markets with potential impact on food supply and deforestation, and locally for UK infrastructure in shipping, ports, rail, road freight, electricity transmission networks and the coal industry.** The way that a single country's response to a regional energy strategy can have global implications are investigated using one reference scenario for future UK fuel needs as an example. A strong outcome is that to implement this level of rapid change in the energy supply chain whilst avoiding negative impacts in a rapidly expanding global market there is a need for synchronisation of policies across economies as a whole, including anticipated effects beyond national borders, rather than policy measures in separate, isolated areas such as energy.*

4. CONCLUSION

Would you please give full consideration to these comments and let me know if the Green Investment Bank will revise its policy regarding investment in biomass power generation?

Can you please confirm whether the Green Investment Bank is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act?

I look forward to hearing from you.

thanks

[REDACTED]
 From: "UK Green Investments Enquiries" <Enquiries@greeninvestmentbank.com>
 Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 7:07 PM
 To: "[REDACTED]"
 Subject: RE: Green Bank: Stop funding big biomass

> Further to your email I would like to address some of the points you have made regarding the UK Green Investment Bank's investment in biomass projects, and the objectives we have set as a commercial bank with dual green and financial purposes.

>

> The UK Green Investment Bank's mission is to accelerate the UK's transition to a green economy. As set out in the Government's Biomass Strategy of 2012, sustainably sourced biomass is a recognised source of renewable energy in accordance with the EU Renewable Energy Directive and has an important role to play in helping the UK to meet its renewable energy objectives, with bioenergy expected to account for 5-11% of UK electricity generation by 2020, the majority of which is anticipated to be imported.

>

> As reported by the UK's National Centre for Renewable Materials and Technologies, published last year, bioenergy could support as many as 50,000 jobs in the UK by 2020.

>

> Given that Drax Group plc uses sustainable sources of biomass that meet the necessary

18/03/2013

sustainability standards and that the investment is supported by UK Government policy, the UK Green Investment Bank has concluded that this investment supports the achievement of its green objectives. The conversion project has the potential to deliver more than 10 TWh of renewable electricity per year, equivalent to the needs of more than 2 million British homes and to deliver average reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions of around 2.5 million tonnes CO2e per annum. This investment not only supports Drax in reducing future greenhouse gas emissions but also accelerates the UK's transition to a green economy.

>

> [REDACTED]

> UK Green Investment Bank plc | 13th Floor | 21-24 Millbank Tower | Millbank | London SW1P 4QP | Tel: [REDACTED] | Mob: [REDACTED] | Email:

> [REDACTED]

>

> The GIB's mission is to accelerate investment in the UK's transition to a green economy. In line with this mission, please consider the environment and only print this email if absolutely necessary.

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: [REDACTED]

> Sent: 14 February 2013 13:08

> To: UK Green Investments Enquiries; cablev@parliament.uk; enquiries@bis.gsi.gov.uk; robert.smith@weir.co.uk

> Subject: Green Bank: Stop funding big biomass!

>

> Dear Lord Smith,

>

> Please don't let the Green Investment Bank finance or fund any more big biomass projects. Loans such as the £100 million one you gave Drax Plc in December 2012 to finance its conversion to biomass only make matters worse for the environment, the climate and communities.

>

> Big biomass isn't green or renewable energy – in fact it's hugely destructive and responsible for unsustainable logging and landgrabbing in the Global South. Biomass power stations also emit up to 50% more CO2 per unit of energy than coal power stations and a growing number of studies show that their overall climate impact is likely to be even worse than that of coal for at least one or two generations.

>

> Drax are converting to biomass to get around EU air quality regulations and to take advantage of big government subsidies for big biomass, not because they want to reduce their carbon emissions. Please don't make matters worse by financing the current rush for biomass conversions and dedicated biomass power stations.

>

> By funding coal-to-biomass conversions you are keeping old, polluting power stations going for even longer – this is not green investment. We'd like you to make a commitment not to fund any more big biomass or biofuel projects through Green Bank investment.

>

> Yours sincerely,

>

> [REDACTED]

> [REDACTED]

>

>

> [REDACTED]

>