

Sustainability Policy for Biomass

Introduction

Drax aspires to be a leader in the responsible and economic evolution of sustainability in biomass power generation.

We aim to be at the forefront of sustainable biomass practices and have a policy of driving our fuel procurement activities through a set of sustainability principles that are applied across our biomass business.

Sustainability Principles

Our policy is designed to ensure that we can verify that the biomass consumed in our generation facilities has been legally produced and is environmentally sustainable. We will comply, as a minimum, with the sustainability requirements being introduced by the UK Government.

In addition, our procurement process is aimed at ensuring that the production and delivery of our biomass will:-

- Significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions compared to coal-fired generation and give preference to biomass sources that maximise this benefit.
- Not result in a net release of carbon from the vegetation and soil of either forests or agricultural lands.
- Not endanger food supply or communities where the use of biomass is essential for subsistence (for example heat, medicines, building materials).
- Not adversely affect protected or vulnerable biodiversity and where possible we will give preference to biomass production that strengthens biodiversity.
- Deploy good practices to protect and/or improve soil, water (both ground and surface) and air quality.
- Contribute to local prosperity in the area of supply chain management and biomass production.
- Contribute to the social wellbeing of employees and the local population in the area of the biomass production.

Implementation

These biomass sourcing principles are based on the developing regulatory and policy initiatives of the UK, European Union and other markets. Over time we will seek to amend or improve them by working with accredited bodies to develop the use of internationally recognised standards and principles which will apply to all of our biomass procurement activities. In so doing we hope to foster environmental leadership today and in the future.

Accordingly we will:-

- Use our purchase contracts to ensure our suppliers address these principles and provide Drax with the required information to demonstrate that these sustainability principles are being met.
- Participate with applicable regulatory and policy initiatives to share experience, learn and help shape policy that will ensure sustainable biomass fuels throughout the UK and abroad.
- Systematically review these principles and their application to anticipate, meet and lead sustainability policy in the UK and all the countries in which we operate.
- Engage a qualified third party to implement a rigorous programme of audit and verification of biomass supply chains to ensure compliance against these principles and our policy.

Signed on behalf of Drax Power Limited



Dorothy Thompson
Chief Executive