



PEOPLE WHO SAY WE'RE GOING TO BURN C&D ARE BLOWING SMOKE

Let's start with the bottom line: Russell Biomass cannot and *will not* burn construction and demolition wood as fuel. *Ever*. We couldn't even if we wanted to. We know that's not what you might have read last week, but that's because what you read about was the latest Chicken Little routine being staged by our opponents, the so-called Concerned Citizens for Russell (CCR).

This time, CCR's claim started with the fact that the state Department of Energy Resources (DOER) is considering eliminating its statewide restriction on burning C&D wood. CCR went on to allege that if the state does lift the ban on burning C&D wood, our plant will end up burning it instead of the clean wood fuel it's designed to use. And because of that CCR concluded it's a foregone conclusion that Russell Biomass will pollute Russell.

As it turns out, the sky really isn't falling this time either. Consider, alongside CCR's wild conjecture, a few facts:

- Russell Biomass' permits are tied to a fuel definition that will not change regardless of what happens with DOER rules. We've agreed never to burn C&D wood. Our plant is not designed to burn C&D wood and we cannot legally burn it, no matter what DOER decides to allow elsewhere.

- You can see the proof of that for yourself. Copies of our permit applications, including the conditions regarding fuel, are on file with the Russell Planning Committee and Zoning Board of Appeals. They're open records, available for your inspection on request. All you have to do is go to Town Hall.
- DOER's proposed changes are just that: Proposed. The public comment period ends July 18, and you have a chance to make your concerns about C&D wood heard by getting involved in DOER's review process. Through that kind of activism, you can address the burning of C&D wood anywhere in Massachusetts, not just in Russell.

Misstating the facts is nothing new for CCR, of course. Making attention-getting but patently inaccurate claims about air and water impacts is the group's stock in trade.

So do you just take our word or CCR's? Neither. Check the accuracy of what we've said and what CCR has said on this and other issues. Find out for yourself. Then all you'll need to do is remember what you've learned the next time you hear the folks at CCR make one of their attention-getting charges.

Russell(Bio)Mass

Bringing new energy to the Valley.