

No Biomass in Russell Mass

SAVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE PIONEER VALLEY!

The proposed Russell Biomass power plant will threaten public health and quality of life throughout the Springfield area. This is not the right place for this biomass power plant!



- ❖ **Russell Biomass is a proposed wood-burning power plant that would emit over a ton of air pollutants every minute.** These toxic pollutants include carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, sulphur dioxide, particulate matter, and nitrogen oxide. Air inversions can trap these emissions near the ground, causing the valley to fill up like a bowl with hazardous air pollution.

(Source: Russell Biomass EENF to MEPA p. 12)

- ❖ **This power plant is proposed in an area with some of the worst air quality in the state.**

Hampden and Hampshire counties both received a grade of "F" by the American Lung Association on ozone pollution, and Hampden County has the worst small particle pollution in the state. The health effects of ozone and particle pollution include wheezing, shortness of breath, increased risk of asthma attacks, pulmonary inflammation, and premature mortality. (Source: ALA 2006 State of the Air Report)

- ❖ **Russell Biomass needs 840 one-way diesel tractor-trailer trips each week.**

Diesel fumes are responsible for more than 450 premature deaths each year in Massachusetts.

(Sources: Number of fuel trucks is from Russell Biomass Comments to Planning Board, Nov 2005 p.3 (plus four ash trucks). For diesel pollution health effects in MA see http://www.env-ne.org/Diesel_Emissions.htm and scroll down to "Diesel and Health in America: The Lingering Threat," table on p.7)

- ❖ **Russell Biomass would withdraw up to 886,000 gallons of water daily from the Westfield River which is being restored for fish and wildlife.**

That could be over 10% of actual river volume at low flow times. Also, it would release up to 133,000 heated gallons back into the river daily. These impacts could threaten the world-class trout fishery, the Atlantic salmon restoration project, and many other species. (Sources: Withdrawal and discharge amounts, Russell Biomass EENF. Percentage, Westfield River Watershed Association letter to MEPA, October 2005, p.1)

What can you do?

**Come to a CCR meeting in Russell,
Every Monday at 7:00 pm at the VFW on Route 20.
Contact your elected officials.**

www.concernedcitizensofrussell.org

email: info@concernedcitizensofrussell.org

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