

Carbon Tax threat to chipmill power station

Sunday's announcement on the carbon tax could have big implications for the far south coast.

The controversial wood fired power station proposed for the Eden chipmill may be threatened by the Government decision to remove native forest wood from its renewable energy scheme.

Chipmill managers have made it clear that the power station would not be viable without Renewable Energy Certificates and this will no longer be possible.

Conservationists have welcomed the decision, saying that it provides a vital recognition that native forest logging is bad for the climate.

"While we would like to have seen an end to all native forest logging in this announcement, we are very happy that at least the move to burning native forest wood for electricity has been stopped," says Chipstop convenor, Ms Harriett Swift.

"The Government has finally recognised the carbon storage value of native and should take the next inevitable, logical step and ban native forest logging altogether," she says.

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