



## BLUE NG'S AGROFUEL POWER PLANT MAKES THEM AN ENTREPRENEUR *WITHOUT* CONSCIENCE

biofuelwatch

Blue NG is a joint venture between start up company 20C and the National Grid. Blue NG, a subsidiary of 20C and the National Grid, along with several of their members have played a central role in helping to organise the conference. We strongly object to their presence here.

Blue NG have gained planning permission to build a 19.5 MW power plant to run on vegetable oil in Beckton, East London. **This will be the UK's first agrofuel power plant, opening a damaging new market to vegetable oils** like rapeseed oil (contributing up to 70% more greenhouse gas than diesel oil) and palm oil (which leaves a carbon debt of many centuries). Blue NG are now applying for permission to build a second plant in Ealing, West London, part of a scheme for 43 plants nationwide.

**Blue NG has won support by promoting geo-pressure, which acted as a cover for biofuels and the lucrative biofuel subsidies which make the project so profitable.** Geo-pressure was never even part of the planning application for the first biofuel plant at Beckton!

Blue NG, promote rapeseed oil as a sustainable fuel even though the UN FAO has conclusively linked its use in transport fuels to increased imports of palm oil in the EU. **Blue NG have also refused a request from Biofuelwatch to confirm they would not burn palm oil.** To date Blue NG has offered no binding commitments on sourcing or sustainability...only frequently varying claims!

Each power plant burns 56,000 litres of vegetable oil a day; if the 43 intended plants are of similar size this would amount to **nearly half of the UK's entire rapeseed oil crop!**



Land Eviction by arson and pesticide spraying (Paraguay)

Tropical deforestation for agrofuels

## PRESSURE FROM 100 NGOS

100 NGOs from the international community have **signed a statement calling for vegetable oil to be kept out of the heat & power sector** ([http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/files/Blue\\_NG\\_Open\\_Letter.pdf](http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/files/Blue_NG_Open_Letter.pdf))

## "Biofuels are a crime against humanity"

(Jean Ziegler, former special UN Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Oct 07)

## WORLD HUNGER

**Over 70% of food price inflation is attributable to agrofuels** (World Bank, July 08)

World Food Program officials **say 33 countries face political instability** as the urban poor struggle to feed their families" (Gurardian, 5/04/2008).

## HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES

Up to **60 million indigenous peoples** are at risk of becoming 'biofuel refugees' (Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues)

## ECOSYSTEM DESTRUCTION, FOOD POVERTY and CLIMATE CHANGE

Peer reviewed science shows that **every hectare of land converted to agrofuels destroys nearly a hectare of natural habitat.** Any shortfall is land lost entirely from food production, now pushing the **number facing hunger to 990million.**

Forests are the 'lungs of the world' yet **deforestation is causing 20% of green house gas emissions** (IPCC AR4) whilst removing future capacity to absorb atmospheric CO2

## LOCAL AIR POLLUTION

German courts have ruled against a biofuel power plant due to air quality concerns.

**Burning vegetable oil** results in high emissions of nitrogen-oxide gases and tiny particulates - PM 2.5s and PM10s - which are **linked to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and possibly to a higher incidence of cot deaths.**

Blue-NG have ignored a **1000-strong petition** from the Newham community calling for planning permission to be refused. One of 7 reasons was that **Newham has the highest mortality rate for asthma in people under 30 in England and this plant is to be built just 190m from Gallions Primary School**

[www.foodnotfuel.org.uk](http://www.foodnotfuel.org.uk) [food\\_not\\_fuel@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:food_not_fuel@yahoo.co.uk)  
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