



# Haven Power: A smokescreen for forest destruction

Drax Power Station, Yorkshire. Photo by Greenpeace

- Drax Power Station is the UK's biggest carbon polluter and the biggest burner of trees for electricity in the world. Its operations are felling forests, polluting communities and making the climate crisis worse.
- Drax is selling its electricity under a subsidiary - Haven Power - to organisations believing they are buying from the country's biggest renewable generator. The opposite is the case.

## Drax Power Station: Burning all the things

Drax Power Station has long been a climate criminal, as the biggest fossil fuel burner in the country for decades. Since 2003, Drax has been ramping up its business in burning trees for electricity, which it now does more than any other power station in the world.

Burning trees for energy, in the short term, is worse for the climate than burning coal. In North Carolina, widely known as ground zero for industrial pellet production, an acre of forest is lost every day, decimating the wildlife bit by bit. If current European biomass expansion plans go ahead, an area of forest almost the size of Wales will be cut down every year.

In North Carolina, sourcing regions and pellet mills for processing are almost always located in communities of colour, already subject to polluting industries and economic depression. Residents here face the impacts of wood dust, noise and heavy traffic as well as seeing their local forests turned into pellets and shipped overseas to be burned.

Though Drax's coal plants may be closing, it now has permission to build the UK's biggest gas power station on site, breathing new life into its destructive operations.

### Haven Power

Drax has only been able to continue burning because of a single loophole in European accounting that treats biomass as 'carbon neutral'. Under this the industry has exploded, with Drax alone receiving over £2 million in subsidies every day from the UK government. This provides a great example to coal companies across the continent on how they can continue to turn a profit over the coal phaseout.

Drax has launched a gigantic greenwash operation to maintain its image, painting itself as the biggest decarbonisation project in Europe. Under its supplier, Haven Power, it sells electricity to companies believing they are buying from the UK's biggest renewable generator, when in fact they are buying from the country's largest polluter.

We don't have to get our energy from burning. Plenty of clean energy suppliers are beginning to offer only genuine low-carbon renewables, and we need companies and organisations to follow down this path. Only then can we lift the smokescreen that is covering up an industry causing devastation to forests, communities and the climate.

### What can I do?

- [Sign our petition](#) asking Yeo Valley to drop drax and switch to clean energy
- [Sign up](#) to receive updates on our latest campaigns
- Contact us to organise a public meeting or biomass film screening in your area.

Yeo Valley Yoghurt - A Customer of Haven Power. Photo by Sally Clark.

