

Construction Plans Ready for Bio-Energy Plant

By [250 News](#)

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Prince George, B.C. - Work on one of two independent power projects in Prince George will start May 4th.

The \$50 million dollar project calls for PG Interior Waste to Energy Ltd to burn wood waste from the Mark and Grant Dakus sawmill (on the site of the former Netherlands Overseas mill) the forest floor and pine beetle-killed timber in order to generate electricity. It will use about 100 thousand cubic meters of wood waste in the Prince George area, which would normally have been burned as slash.

The implications for the Prince George area are three fold;

1. The project will create jobs,
2. will reduce the burning of slash which will have a positive effect on the air shed, and
3. The emissions will be 70% lower than what had been coming from that site.

The old kiln will be removed, five cyclones used to operate on site, and while the sawmill will remain open (its working 2 shifts) all the lumber produced is going to China.

"This is an example of the new forestry sector," says Liberal candidate for Prince George-Mackenzie Pat Bell, "The plant will also produce an activated charcoal that can be used in water filters and in the automotive paint industry. It also produces light and heavy oils. The light oil can be used as bio-diesel and the heavy oil has other applications."

The permits are all in place and construction of the plant to produce energy will start May 4th but the plant is not expected to be on line until 2011. This project will create enough energy to power 7,000 homes.

The project is expected to create 60 construction jobs and 70 long term jobs once the facility is up and running at the Willow Cale Road site.

This is one of four projects selected by BC Hydro in the phase one of independent power projects. There is one other in Prince George; it involves Canfor Pulp's limited partnership.

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