

Dear everyone,

We are gathered here today in front of the Marriott hotel because inside these doors the creme de la creme of the biomass industry is gathered.

The Argus Biomass Nordics & Baltics Conference takes place these days in order to plot further destruction on the world's forests.

We thought this would be the perfect opportunity to present the winner of the BURNING WOOD AWARD 2022!

The award is dedicated to companies or individuals who do an outstanding job at facilitating the burning of forests for energy, while claiming that this is a perfect solution to the climate crisis and does no harm to nature or biodiversity at all.

Of course, as you all know, this is bullshit.

Woody biomass can emit more CO<sub>2</sub> from the smokestacks than coal, oil and gas.

Burning biomass drives the destruction of some of the last old forests in Europe and undermines the Earth's capability to capture carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and store the carbon in forests.

Inside this hotel, you will find representatives from companies such as last year's winner Ørsted, the world's largest producer of wood pellets Enviva and Drax who has been exposed by the BBC in cutting down virgin forests in Canada.

To pick a winner from these fine companies has therefore been difficult - but we have to choose.

So without further ado:

The BURNING WOOD AWARD 2022 goes to...: CM biomass!

CM biomass is a company that often flies under the radar, which is quite an accomplishment since they are one of the largest independent wood pellet trading companies in the world.

They are amongst the biggest importers of wood pellets to Denmark, contributing to the massive Danish overconsumption of imported wood.

They refused to stop buying wood pellets from Russia after the war started.

And now they are expanding their operation in North America to increase their sourcing and production capacity.

What the Earth needs is the absolute opposite.

What the Earth needs, is that we stop burning forest wood - and start protecting more forests.

More forests that capture and store atmospheric CO2.

Where squirrels jump from tree to tree.

Where birds sing in the treetops - and can build their nests without risking their tree being cut down, while they are still flying with food for the nestlings.

Where the beetles can be allowed to decompose the dead wood into delicious humus.

It could be beautiful.

Thank you and see you next year.