COMBATING GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE USING BIOMASS HEATING SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT

During last decades, in Romania, increased very much quantities of wastes resulted from wood processing (biomass waste) and from domestic and urban activities. 'Energy crops', plants grown specifically as energy sources, have attracted increasing attention in recent years.

Wood is a renewable source of energy because the carbon dioxide (CO2) emitted when wood fuels are converted to energy has been taken out of the atmosphere by a growing plant; wood as a fuel is 'Carbon Neutral'. Even allowing for emissions of CO2 in planting, harvesting, processing and transporting the fuel, replacing fossil fuel with woodfuel will typically reduce net CO2 emissions by over 90%.

The reduction in net CO2 emissions may be sufficient reason for substituting biomass for fossil fuels, but in many countries the more immediate motives for change have been the problem of surplus agricultural land and the search for indigenous alternatives to imported oil.

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