

Responding to well known Goongerah timber industry hater Michelle Barnes, a.k.a. Shelly Nundra, whose letters to the editor have bordered on slanderous.

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### **Talk facts, not fibs!**

Serial anti-timber and anti-community activist Michelle Barnes / Shelly Nundra stops just short of calling Vince Phillips of SEFE a liar (There's dangers, SRM, 10/3/10). She does not seem to accept that SEFE is not behind a "proposal" to build a biomass power plant in the Orbost area – or "Trojan Horse" as she pessimistically calls it.

The fact is that NO PROPOSAL has been put forward by any company or individual, just three unrelated individuals putting forward food for thought for the community. Those three are Philip Davis MLC, Garry Squires and me.

Michelle (or Shelly) sees a conspiracy theory to three people identifying a sustainable business opportunity becoming available in a community that struggles to retain young people through lack of industry.

She has made some outrageous claims (she says they're facts) about the biomass power industry and demands that Vince Phillips prove her wrong. More to the point, she does not provide any scientific proof to validate her own wrongful claims. Don't shoot the messenger Ms Nundra, back up your own dirty untruths!

Biomass produces base load power, a fact always overlooked by alarmists such as Ms Barnes / Nundra. Biomass power plants represent the second largest amount of renewable energy in the USA – almost 15 times more energy than wind and solar power combined. It is widely used through Europe, Scandinavia and now Great Britain with plants springing up all around the world.

Facts are easily obtainable from the internet, not that Ms Barnes and her ilk would want the public to know. They would rather stifle debate and free thinking and continue to see young people leave Orbost in their prime through lack of career opportunities.

Keep an open mind, form your own opinion and then get the community doing something about the situation. Biomass power generation for commercial sale utilising waste wood from sawlog production became legal in Victoria on 1 January 2010. No doubt Philip Davis, doing his job as the elected representative for Eastern Victoria, honed in on this fact from the Victorian Timber Industry Strategy.

Don't let anti-community or anti-timber activists acting under the guise of conservationists pull the wool over your eyes. Don't expect to here facts from the likes of Shelly Nundra – people may change there names but leopards don't change their spots.

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