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## Adding value to waste - The Case for Bioenergy in British Columbia

## **Full Document:**

https://theforestlink.com/2022/05/adding-value-to-waste/

## The Case and Controversy for Bioenergy

There has been an upswing in bioenergy use in recent years as a decarbonization strategy for the highly emitting fossil energy sector. The issue however is not so clean cut and is causing a lot of debate. The IPCC in their latest report explains that bioenergy has an important role to play in decarbonizing the energy sector. This was recognized back in 2012, when an IPCC special report on renewable energy sources and climate change mitigation stated that the use of biomass residues and wastes and advanced conversion systems are able to deliver 80-90% emission reductions compared to the fossil energy baseline (IPCC, 2012). Though certainly the science has become more sophisticated in the past 10 years, likewise the risks are becoming much better understood. The IPCC 2022 report draws attention to the risks of poor land management that doesn't balance the need for various resources (IPCC, 2022). The report notes that bioenergy may increase or decrease emissions depending on the scale at which it is implemented, the technology used, the fuel displaced, and how and where the biomass is produced.

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