

Episode 56SL March 29, 2024. The Dogwood Alliance on Enviva 3/13/2024 bankruptcy.

Episode 56SL Table of Contents 1)Continued wood burning on Good Friday. 2)The Dogwood Alliance's statement about the Enviva wood pellet plant filing for bankruptcy on 3/13/2024.

1)Good Friday! Just after midnight today, when returning home, when we opened our back door wood smoke pollution came in and set off one indoor air purifier to a roar, shortly followed by another air purifier, and then the third air purifier. If we stay in our sealed home and do not venture into our yard, it seems we are as protected from the health effects of this unnecessary pollution as we can be. We are probably lucky to know the source of our problem and with the internet we can spread the word about the adverse health effects of indoor residential wood burning on near neighbors, and spread the word on some victories for clean air. My last few columns of text in the last week may have emboldened our neighbor 60 feet away who burns an indoor residential wood burner although he is hooked up to natural gas and has an average utility charge from Madison Gas and Electric for \$134 monthly average (32% higher than RAWSEP's editor), in the last 12 months is broken down to \$36 average for gas and \$98 for electric. The wood burner could use the natural gas he is hooked up to 100% of the time, but he chooses to burn highly polluting wood instead. He does not burn wood for his electricity which has a 63% higher average bill than RAWSEP's editor, who lives 60 feet away. The wood burner cannot be indigent since he bought his house for \$255,000 and it is now assessed at \$284,500. RAWSEP's editor bought her house for \$84,000 and it is now assessed at \$173,100, which is only 60% of the assessed value of the wood burner's house. The wood burner is affluent and uses his excess money to burn wood recreationally although he lives in an urban area with houses 20 feet away from each other. The wood burner was employed by the University of Wisconsin Forest Ecosystem Lab, and used the prestige of that position to try to convince others to burn wood to support the wood burning industry which paid his salary. RAWSEP's editor was surprised to learn that the wood burner is now employed at an advisory group on clean water. His continuing polluting of the air in the face of numerous complaints is not hard for him to reconcile with a job now concerned, on paper, with clean water. 2)The Dogwood Alliance website. **Excepts edited by RAWSEP for brevity and clarity and relationship to Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates, a 501c3 nonprofit organization.** Statement: World's Largest Wood Pellet Company Declares Bankruptcy. March 13th, 2024. Enviva Drains Forests and Communities and Then Its Bank Accounts. Three months ago, Enviva **announced doubts about the company's future.** Now Enviva has declared bankruptcy in Federal Courts. Enviva is the world's largest wood pellet manufacturer. This company has profited from excessive carbon emissions, destroying forests, and polluting communities. It's now on the verge of collapse. The Executive Director of Dogwood Alliance, said: "For years, Enviva has deceived customers, destroyed forests, and polluted communities. And it's finally caught up to them. They've wasted millions of taxpayer dollars. Our government must not give one more dime to this failing, dirty industry. Instead, we need to focus on recovery and transition. We need a shift to forest protection, not more destruction." Enviva built its business and reputation on layers of **false green claims.** Devastated forests and polluted communities are behind that smokescreen. This company could not have existed without massive subsidies. They've received subsidies at the international, federal, state, and local level. That money could have gone to clean energy, green jobs, and forest protection. The company's failure is an opportunity. Now governments, communities, and companies can work together to build a regenerative economy. We must hold Enviva accountable. We cannot allow them to cut and run. They must pay for the damage they have done to our communities' health. We know Enviva is looking for a taxpayer bailout. They've applied for IRA subsidies. That would be a huge waste of taxpayer money. The Biden Administration should direct public dollars to the communities and workers impacted by the company. Dogwood Alliance, partners, community leaders, and elected officials worldwide, have tirelessly raised concerns. We have raised these concerns about the impacts of the biomass industry for over a decade. We have held Enviva accountable for its forest destruction, pollution and environmental injustices. The company's greenwashing tactics and lack of transparency has finally caught up. "Dogwood Alliance will continue to support the communities that have been affected by Enviva's damaging operations. We remain steadfast in our commitment to work together with these communities. Together we will advance economic solutions that work for people and nature." The writer of this post has been with Dogwood Alliance since 2000 and is currently the communications director.