

Questions about McNeil Generating Station:

1. What are the annual GHG emission related to the operation of McNeil and how are they calculated?
2. What scientific methods exist for estimating the climate impacts of burning biomass, considering the global warming effects of the greenhouse gases released at burning and the time needed for forests to reabsorb those gases (grow and store or sequester)? What considerations related to forestry practices are relevant to this discussion? Based on the above, can the emissions from burning wood be reabsorbed in a timeframe that ameliorates the climate impacts? How does this compare to a forest that is not harvested and burned (some or all the harvest)?
3. Can the emissions from wood burning at McNeil be charted over a life cycle so that the processes of storage and sequestration can be accounted for so that actual emissions are accurately counted in each year or group of years?
 - a. If Yes, then what is the period of years to look at and has there been such an accounting? What is it?
 - b. If No, then what would it look like, how long would it take, and who would be best to do this?
4. The community will be considering a district energy project to use the waste heat from McNeil:
 - a. What is the remaining useful life of McNeil and how will implementing the plan change that remaining useful life?
 - b. Will the project require more wood to be burned to service the district energy customers?
 - c. How will the proposal offset current energy use by customers served by the district energy project?
 - d. What is the net GHG emissions offset created by this project?
5. Does the debate over the renewability of biomass present risks to the economics of McNeil generally and more specifically regarding the sale of renewable energy credits as part of McNeil's revenue model?