



WARNING: The Oroville City Council is Planning New Biomass Energy Projects in S. Oroville

In the July 21, 2026 official staff summary, Oroville City staff revealed they are actively evaluating alternative local energy systems with unnamed private developers for new development in South Oroville.

Total Lack of Transparency

City Councilors have refused to answer direct questions from residents about what energy technologies or companies are being considered. Because the City is withholding whether these proposals involve biomass combustion, gasification, or thermal processing, the Dioxin Education Committee (DEC) has filed formal **Public Records Requests** to force full disclosure of what is being planned behind closed doors.

Key Community & Health Concerns

- **Severe Health Risks:** Butte County ranks #1 in California for pancreatic cancer, #7 for lung cancer and is #14 overall in total cancer cases. It's also home to the POPI Superfund site. Adding new thermal processing or biomass combustion systems risks increasing toxic particulate matter and hazardous air pollution in an already vulnerable community.
 - **Dioxins & Furans:** Biomass combustion and thermochemical energy processes release dioxins and furans—highly persistent, bio-accumulative toxins recognized as dangerous carcinogens.
 - **Respiratory Hazards:** Increased smoke, ash, and ultra-fine particulate emissions threaten local residents living with asthma, COPD, and cardiovascular disease.
 - **Heavy Diesel Traffic:** Transporting fuel or feedstock to energy facilities brings heavy truck traffic through local streets, driving up noise pollution and diesel exhaust, as well as damaging roads.
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Take Action: Demand Answers & Openness

1. **Demand Public Disclosure:** Contact your Oroville City Council members and demand they publicly answer DEC's Public Records Requests regarding energy providers and technologies before any developer deals move forward.
2. **Speak Out:** Attend upcoming City Council meetings to demand full environmental review and open public hearings for any proposed biomass energy pathways.
3. **Stay Informed:** Visit dioxineducation.org for updates and to support clean air in Butte County.

