DE 08-103



## State of New Hampshire office of the Governor

107 North Main Street, State House - Rm 208 Concord, New Hampshire 03301 Telephone (603) 271-2121 www.nh.gov/governor governorlynch@nh.gov

September 11, 2008

Chairman Thomas Getz New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

Graham J. Morrison, Commissioner New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

Clifton Below, Commissioner New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429



Dear Chairman Getz and Commissioners:

With the cost for installation of mercury reducing scrubber technology at Merrimack Station in Bow having increased from the original estimate of \$250 million to \$475 million today, serious questions must be addressed regarding the basis for such an increase and the impact on ratepayers. I hope the PUC is able to complete this review as expeditiously as possible. Lengthy delay raises additional concerns, as construction costs may rise even higher, contractors wait to begin work and citizens worry about mercury pollution and the long-term stability of electric prices in our state.

Thank you for your attention to these issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

John H. Lynck
Governor