DE 11-184



The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

107 North Main Street, Room 302, Concord, N.H. 03301-4951

JOHN T. GALLUS District 1 Office 271-3077

TTY/TDD 1-800-735-2964

August 24, 2011

State of New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, New Hampshire 03253

Dear Commissioners:

As the NH State Senator for District 1, representing 57 communities in Coos, Grafton and Carroll Counties, I strongly support the five proposed Power Purchase Agreements submitted to the PUC for approval.

The energy markets have created considerable operating challenges for some time to New Hampshire's current biomass plants, especially the Bridgewater, Pinetree-Bethlehem, Tamworth and Indeck-Alexandria. Currently, these plants are in grave danger of being shutdown. As a result, there will be the loss of many jobs, not only at these biomass plants, but also the forest industry and the many other related jobs that would have drastic consequences on an already struggling area of New Hampshire.

I strongly urge the Commission to approve these Power Purchase Agreements as filed as soon as possible. The contracts are short-term, but will provide much needed assistance to these plants and the affected regional economy. In addition, it will allow the State adequate time to extend a vetted, long-term sustainable policy that will ensure continued success of these facilities.

Sincerely yours,

Senator John T. Gallus Senate District T

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