AUG 25 2011

NH PUBLIC

UTILITIES COMMISSION

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August 24, 2011

Mr. Thomas Getz, Chairman and Commissioners New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301

Dear Chairman Getz and Members of the Commission:

We write in support of the Power Purchase Agreements submitted by Public Service Company of New Hampshire and several wood-fired, biomass power plants (Wood IPPs). These power contracts will provide important benefits to our state and its economy, and we urge you to approve them.

Public Service Company of New Hampshire and the Wood IPPs negotiated the Purchase Power Agreements over the past several weeks with the support of the Governor, Resource and Economic Development Commissioner George Bald, certain staff of the Public Utilities Commission, several members of the State Senate, and many of us.

The Purchase Power Agreements will maintain the operation of the Wood IPPs at a time of uncertainty in the national energy market. They will keep employed not only those persons who work at the six plants, but also those in New Hampshire's forest products industry and in the many small businesses that serve the men and women employed in that industry.

The power contacts submitted to the Commission are also part of a larger agreement that will allow the Berlin BioPower Project to go forward, which will bring needed jobs, renewable power, and economic development for Coos County.

We believe that these agreements are in the interest of the State of New Hampshire and we urge you to approve them without delay.

Sincerely,

Raymond S. Burton

Executive Councilor

Daniel St. Hilaire

Executive Councilor

Christopher T. Sununu **Executive Councilor**

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