



DE 11-184

- SELECTIVE CUTTING
- FOREST MANAGEMENT
- COMPLETE SITE WORK
- FIELD & PASTURE DEVELOPMENT
- PURCHASING OF STANDING TIMBER
- CHIPPING & STUMPING

9/20/11

Ms. Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director and Secretary  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429



RE: PUC Docket DE 11-184 Joint Petition for Approval of Power Purchase Agreements

Dear Mr. Getz:

My husband Dave and I are the business owners of Hopkinton Forestry and Land Clearing, Inc. Our business has operated in NH for 21 years. We employ over 30 full time employees with benefits. The viability of our business is severely threatened without your approval of the power purchase agreements with the five NH biomass power plants.

The filed contracts will keep these plants operating and continue their demand for the wood waste fuel which our company supplies. This market for our products supports numerous jobs and other financial benefits in the central and northern parts of the state. For example our company alone contributes over 2.5 million dollars per year to the local businesses in NH. We are only one of many of the companies in this state that would be affected in these difficult economic times if this power purchase is not approved.

The Independent Power Producers (IPP's), and their utilization of low-grade wood, are critical to the health of our forests and forest products industry. Landowners, foresters and loggers must have markets for low grade material in order to improve the health, vigor and quality of NH Forests. Without the adequate low grade market supplied by the IPP's, loggers would be unable to economically harvest most woodlots, resulting in a shortage of saw logs for local sawmills, restricting logging, sawmill activity leading to jobs and revenue loss in NH.

In the near future the Berlin Biomass generator project should also help support the wood fuel market our business depends on, but for now this market relies on existing wood plants and their continued operation. Our business and the communities we live in and work in will benefit greatly from the PUC's timely approval of these five contracts, I ask for your approval to the proposed agreements.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Marlo Herrick, Sec