



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

August 10, 2010

TTY/TDD
1-800-735-2964

Deborah Howland
Executive Director & Secretary
NHPUC
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: Docket DE 10-¹⁹⁵~~139~~



Dear Ms. Howland:

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of the purchase power agreement between Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) and Laidlaw Berlin BioPower LLC. I believe this agreement will provide the foundation for the successful development of a key biomass facility in the City of Berlin, and deserves support from the NH Public Utilities Commission.

As a member of the NH State Senate, I have been pleased to support many of the renewable energy laws that have been enacted by the state in recent years. Among these was the creation of a Renewable Portfolio Standard law (RSA 362-F), and the establishment of incentives for utilities to increase their use and investment in renewable power. Consistent with this law, the PSNH/Laidlaw agreement will provide benefits to New Hampshire by supporting in-state renewable energy development and to New Hampshire electric customers by ensuring cost effective access to renewable power.

This purchase power agreement will also provide the foundation for the successful development of this project by securing a market for its energy output and ensuring its long-term financial stability. Because of this, NH PUC approval of the agreement is critical to realizing the tremendous economic benefits associated with the project. Economic estimates by both PSNH and Laidlaw suggest that as many as 470 jobs will be created during the construction phase of this project and approximately 240 jobs will be created or supported through the plants operation and the harvesting of wood to fuel the facility. It can be expected that a majority of these jobs will be created in northern New Hampshire, a region of the state that has seen significant economic hardship and unemployment in recent years.

NH PUC approval of this purchase power agreement is a critical step in realizing the tremendous environmental and economic benefits associated with this project. The citizens of Berlin and northern New Hampshire have worked hard to support the development of the Laidlaw project, and I encourage the NH PUC to support their work by approving this purchase power agreement.

Sincerely,

John Gallus
State Senate District 1