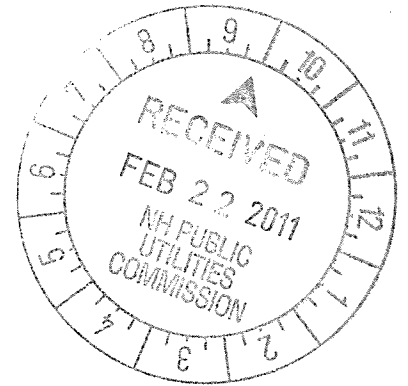


February 17, 2011

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



RE: Docket Number DE-10-195 (Laidlaw Berlin BioPower Project)

Dear Ms. Howland,

We, the business and civic leaders of our community, fervently appeal to the PUC to approve the Laidlaw Berlin BioPower PPA without delay. Without question the Laidlaw project addresses the broad economic, business and employment needs of the North Country along with the overall economic development and well being of the entire State of New Hampshire. This project is critical to the development of renewable energy and would act as a catalyst and springboard to the development of many businesses on the available 120 acre industrial former mill site as well as other locations throughout the community. The future of the community and the state will be impacted by your decision.

The current economic climate has created many significant challenges. Over the last four years we have closely followed the development of this project and are convinced that this is a great opportunity for the region. This project will create employment opportunities, assist with the tax base and, equally important, provide renewed hope in our efforts to re-build the economic base in Coos County that was lost with the recent closing of the paper mills. We also see many unique and applicable synergies that could lead to additional benefits, such as the recently announced green technology company that plans to co-locate on the site once construction of the Biomass Plant begins. This one company alone will create an additional 65 new green jobs.

Please approve this PPA for the economic health of our community, Coos County, and New Hampshire. Your approval will allow the workers and their families in the North Country to once again put meaning behind the slogan: "Berlin - The City That Trees Built".

Respectfully yours,

Signature *John T. Gallus*
Print Name John Gallus
Title NH State Senator

Signature *Josh Storz*
Print Name Josh Storz
Title Student, UAH

Signature *Dennis H. Fildes*
Print Name Dennis H. Fildes
Title NH State Rep.

Signature _____
Print Name _____
Title _____