DE 11-184



## The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

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

LOU D'ALLESANDRO Senate District 20

State House, Room 117 (603) 271-2117

August 24, 2011

State of New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Dear Commissioners:

In an effort to support economic recovery and job growth in an area that desires both, I'm writing to voice my strong support for the five proposed Power Purchase Agreements submitted to the PUC for approval. It would appear that this action will help stimulate the North Country economy and provide job opportunities in construction as well as for the long term.

These agreements are essential in order to keep these small plants in operation and our citizens at work. I would urge the Commission to act quickly to approve these agreements that will support the wood product industry and move the Berlin Biomass Plant project forward. The North Country is in desperate need of the jobs that would be created by this project.

It's important that the State develop a thoughtful, long-term, sustainable policy that will ensure continued success of these facilities. These short-term contracts will allow ample time to do so while providing much needed assistance to these plants and the affected regional economy.

Sincerely,

Senator Lou D'Allesandro

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Senate District 20