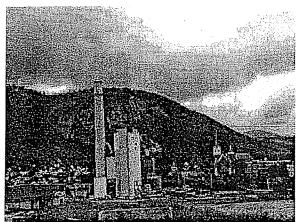
EXHIBIT 1

Plans to build Berlin Station Biomass Plant remain alive



The facilities at the former pulp mill in Berlin, which supplied pulp to the Gorham paper mill until 2006, sit waiting to be retrofitted as a biomass plant. SARA YOUNG-KNOX

It appears that effort to build the 75-megawatt Berlin Station Biomass Plant is not dead in the water. A spokesman for Cate Street Capital of Portsmouth, developers of the project on the former pulp mill site in Berlin, released a statement Thursday indicating there is still a chance the project could proceed. By SARA YOUNG-KNOX

Union Leader Correspondent

BERLIN - It appears the effort to build the 75-megawatt Berlin Station Biomass Plant is not dead in the water. A spokesman for Cate Street Capital of Portsmouth, developers of the project on the former pulp mill site in Berlin, released a statement Thursday indicating there is still a chance the project could proceed.

"We can confirm that Cate Street Capital has engaged in additional discussions, at the request of Governor John Lynch and his dedicated team of staffers, department heads and professionals at the Public Utilities Commission. Cate Street Capital remains committed to

exploring all potential solutions that would allow the \$274 million Berlin Station Biomass Plant to proceed, which would save existing North Country jobs, create more than 400 new ones, and inject \$25 million annually into the New Hampshire forest products industry," said Scott Tranchemontagne of Montagne Communications, which is handling the media for Cate Street.

Tranchemontagne would give no further information.

Three weeks ago Cate Street broke off talks with the state's six independent wood-burning power producers (IPP), saying that the company had a June 30 deadline to come to an agreement that would include the IPP dropping the state Supreme Court case. At the time, Tranchemontagne charged that the IPP were making demands over and above the 20-month power purchase agreements (PPA) they had wanted with Public Service of New Hampshire.

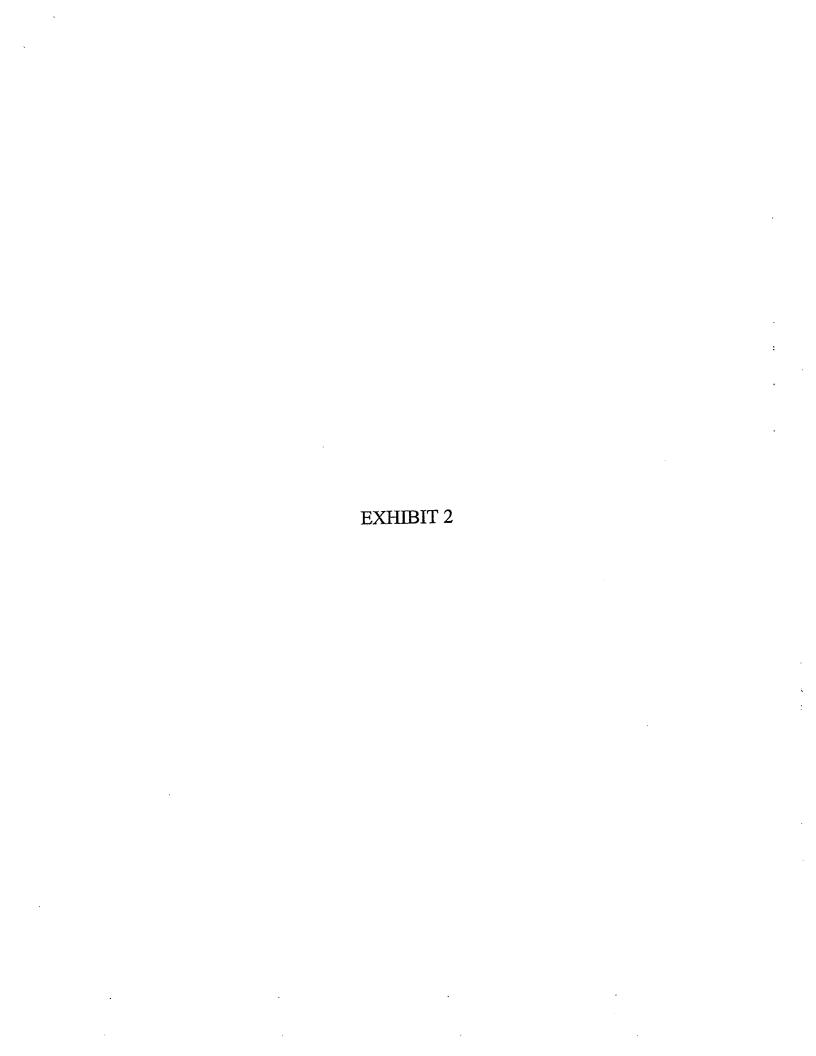
Representatives from several of the IPP members denied those charges.

To make the project financially feasible, it was necessary for Berlin Station to have a long-term power purchase agreement with Public Service of New Hampshire. The Public Utility Commission agreed to an amended 20-year agreement, which the IPP challenged. The PUC rejected their appeal. The IPP then took the appeal to the state Supreme Court. Cate Street, the IPP, Public Service of New Hampshire, and state officials had met several times in May and June to try to iron out a deal.

The smaller biomass companies are Bridgewater Power Company L.P., Pinetree Power Inc., Pinetree Power-Tamworth, Inc., Springfield Power LLC, Whitefield Power & Light Company, and Indeck Energy Alexandra. Bridgewater is owned by Public Service Enterprise Group of New Jersey; the Pinetree plants are owned by GDF Suez of Paris, France; Whitefield and Springfield Power are owned by Korea East-West Power Company of Korea; and Indeck Alexandria is owned by Indeck Energy, Inc., of Illinois.

Shortly after the June deadline had passed, Tranchemontagne said the Cate Street Capital professionals were "extremely creative," but without a deal with the IPPs by the date set, it "made this project impossible to finance." The project has contracts in place, and needs to get started this construction season.

Last week Terry Williams, president and CEO of EWP Renewable Corp, questioned how solid that deadline was.



Mary E. Gould

From:

bersara@nu.com

Sent:

Monday, August 01, 2011 8:27 AM

To:

David K. Wiesner; Robert A. Olson

Cc:

George Bald; aritchie@CateCapital.com; Needleman, Barry; F.Anne.Ross@puc.nh.gov; Meyers, Jeffrey;

macdojm@nu.com; Samuels, Richard; Tom.Frantz@puc.nh.gov; John Halle

Subject:

Wood Plants, PSNH, Cate Street

Importance: High

Although we are all striving to reach agreement on the myriad issues involved in this matter, the N.H. Supreme Court case is still pending, and PSNH must treat that proceeding as active litigation (as did the Wood IPPs by their July 22 renewed appeal).

Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 25, PSNH will be filing a Motion for Summary Disposition with the Court today.

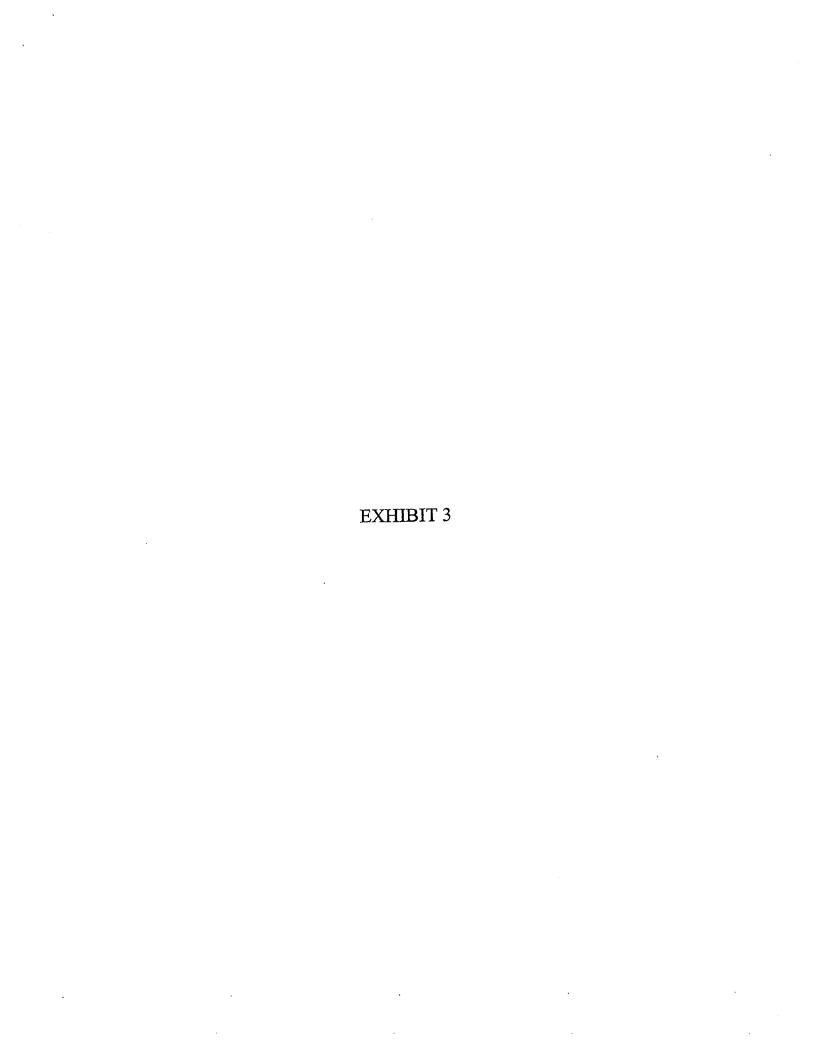
Copies of that pleading will be provided per the Court's rules.

In the event that the Court decides not to proceed with the pending appeal and we have not reached the necessary agreements amongst all the parties prior to that decision, PSNH's offers regarding all agreements in this matter must be deemed withdrawn.

In the meantime, PSNH will continue to participate in the on-going negotiations expeditiously and in good faith.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 10-195

PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Petition for Approval of Power Purchase Agreement with Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, LLC

Prehearing Conference Order

ORDER NO. 25,158

October 15, 2010

APPEARANCES: Robert A. Bersak, Esq. on behalf of Public Service Company of New Hampshire; Rath, Young and Pignatelli by Andrew W. Serell, Esq. and M. Curtis Whittaker, Esq. on behalf of Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, LLC; McLane, Graf, Raulerson and Middleton by Barry Needleman, Esq. on behalf of Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, LLC; Mark Saltsman on behalf of Concord Steam; James T. Rodier, Esq. on behalf of Clean Power Development, LLC; Brown, Olson & Gould by Robert A. Olson, Esq. and David J. Shulock, Esq. on behalf of Bridgewater Power Company, L.P., Pinetree Power, Inc., Pinetree Power-Tamworth, Inc., Springfield Power LLC, Whitefield Power & Light Company, and Indeck Energy -- Alexandria, LLC; Jonathan Edwards on behalf of Edrest Properties LLC; Chris Boldt on behalf of the City of Berlin; Sandi Hennequin, Esq. on behalf of New England Power Generators Association; Meredith A. Hatfield, Esq. Office of Consumer Advocate on behalf of residential ratepayers; and Suzanne G. Amidon, Esq. for the Staff of the Public Utilities Commission.

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On July 26, 2010, Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) filed a petition for approval of a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, LLC (Laidlaw) for the acquisition of energy, capacity and renewable energy certificates (RECs). With its petition, PSNH filed the supporting testimony of Gary A. Long, President of PSNH; Terrance J. Large, Director of Business Planning and Customer Support Services for PSNH; Richard C. Labrecque, Manager of Supplemental Energy Sources for the Company; and Dr. Lisa K. Shapiro, an economist consulting with PSNH. PSNH also filed a motion for confidential

schedule so long as the schedule allows for due process and reasonable discovery. CPD did note that PSNH and Laidlaw had a letter agreement in September 2008 and are only now seeking approval and on an expedited basis.

Finally, regarding PSNH's motion for confidential treatment, CPD stated that it had no objection to the motion, but claimed that CPD and the Wood IPPS should have access to the confidential information so that they are fully informed about the terms of the PPA and able to meaningfully address all issues in this proceeding.

D. Wood IPPs

The Wood IPPs said that the Commission should fully explore the 20-year contract before approving it. The Wood IPPs asserted that the Commission should not expedite the review process because it will foreclose due process opportunities for intervenors. The Wood IPPs stated that they have a direct economic interest because a 20-year contract for the Laidlaw facility will affect the price and availability of wood for competitors of Laidlaw. The Wood IPPs pointed out that PSNH intends to purchase the RECs associated with the power supplied by Laidlaw to meet the Company's Class I RPS requirements. According to the Wood IPPs, the proposed PPA will affect the price of wood products, the market for IPP energy and customer rates and will interfere with local small biomass facilities and wood suppliers. The Wood IPPs cautioned that these small biomass facilities could go out of business as a result of approval of the Laidlaw PPA.

Regarding the request for confidential treatment of financial information, the Wood IPPs agreed that information should be withheld from public disclosure, but that all participants in this matter should have access to the information. The Wood IPPs suggested that any intervenors

wanting access to the confidential information could enter into confidentiality agreements with PSNH and Laidlaw, if necessary.

E. New England Power Generators Association, Inc.

NEPGA stated that its interest in this matter is based on policy issues, specifically the process that PSNH employed to enter into the PPA. NEPGA said that its member companies have an interest in ensuring that PSNH's solicitation process in this proceeding was fair and open to all willing participants in order to procure the most reliable and cost-effective electricity available. NEPGA opined that it would be beneficial to combine the docket examining procurement, Docket No. DE 10-160, with the instant proceeding. Regarding an expedited process, NEPGA cautioned that the Commission should not move too quickly because the resolution of Docket No. DE 10-160 may impact this proceeding.

F. Concord Steam

Concord Steam stated that the Commission has a responsibility to all ratepayers in New Hampshire and opined that the PPA is not in the public's best interest. According to Concord Steam, the PPA will adversely affect Concord Steam because its above-market pass-through provision for wood purchases will have a substantial upward impact on wood prices. Higher wood prices will require that Concord Steam pay more for its existing wood heating plant and for its proposed wood fired combined heat and power plant. Concord Steam also argued that the PPA will allow PSNH to create a monopoly for Class I RECs and undermine the competitive market promoted by RSA 374-F.

With respect to PSNH's motion for confidential treatment, Concord Steam stated that it is in the interests of the intervenors to have access to the information and that lack of access to the information would render the intervenors unable to participate fully in this matter. Regarding the request for expedited consideration of this proceeding, Concord Steam opposed an expedited schedule and said that the issues should be carefully considered.

G. City of Berlin

The City of Berlin stated its cautious support for the PPA and for the expedited schedule. According to the City, the Laidlaw project is vitally important to the city and surrounding area in terms of jobs and economic benefits that will result from its construction and operation. As the host community for the Laidlaw plant, the City of Berlin said it should be granted intervenor status and noted that PSNH and Laidlaw have no objection to its request for intervention. Regarding the issue of confidentiality, the City stated that it wants access to the unredacted material and is willing to enter into a confidentiality agreement.

H. Edrest Properties

Mr. Edwards said that he is concerned about rising electric rates that can be attributed to the absence of competitive bidding for a PPA. Edrest owns and/or leases properties with electric heat and services that can be substantially impacted by rate increases triggered by the absence of competitive bidding. According to Mr. Edwards, approval of this PPA may threaten the continued operation of numerous North Country biomass companies that support the backbone of North Country. Such an effect can, in turn, lead to the downward spiral of significant tax revenue through closure of these facilities that provide a significant portion of North Country revenue through taxes and jobs. Regarding the motion for confidential treatment, Mr. Edwards said that rate payers should be able to know the costs associated with the PPA.

I. Office of Consumer Advocate

The OCA took no position at the prehearing conference and stated that it will be working with Staff and the parties through the discovery process. The OCA said it will carefully review

the procurement policy, the wood price adjustment and purchase power agreement among other factors and anticipates utilizing a consultant for further review of the information.

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The OCA took no position on the motion for confidential treatment. Regarding the request for an expedited proceeding, the OCA stated its concern that the deadline proposed by Laidlaw will be challenging.

J. Staff

Staff stated that it had not commenced discovery, but upon conclusion of its review of the docket, it will be making a recommendation to the Commission regarding the filing. Staff also noted that in the matter of PSNH's PPA with Lempster Wind, Docket No. DE 08-077, the proceeding took 12 months. Staff expressed concern about the requested expedited schedule. Staff said that the tentative procedural schedule it had developed did not contemplate a hearing before February 2011. Staff did not take a position on the motion for confidential treatment at the time of the prehearing conference. Staff stated its support for the motions to intervene filed by the Wood IPPs, but did not take a position on the other pending motions for intervention.

Following the prehearing conference, Staff met in technical session with the parties and submitted a proposed procedural schedule to the Commission. In addition, Staff requested that the Commission promptly consider the merits of PSNH's motion for confidential treatment as several intervenors stated that access to that information is necessary for their analysis of the PPA between PSNH and Laidlaw. The proposed procedural schedule is as follows:

Rolling Data Requests
Last Day for Responses to Data Requests
Staff/Intervenor Testimony
Data Requests on Staff/Intervenor Testimony
Responses to December 2nd Data Requests
Rebuttal Testimony

October 8 through October 25, 2010 November 2, 2010 November 23, 2010 December 2, 2010 December 15, 2010 December 22, 2010 In its letter, Staff also mentioned that the parties had agreed to an expedited discovery schedule, which provided that responses would be made as soon as possible, but no later than ten calendar days from the issuance of discovery requests. Further, the Parties and Staff agreed that recipients of data requests would have five calendar days within which to object to data requests, and requesting parties would have five calendar days to file motions to compel.

III. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

A. Motions for Intervention

In reviewing petitions for intervention the Commission considers the facts alleged in the petition and determines whether the petition has demonstrated "rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interests [that] may be affected by the proceeding " RSA 541-A:32, I (b). If it finds that the petition meets this test, and that the intervention would not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding, the intervention is granted.

Alternatively, the Commission may grant intervention in the interest of justice so long as the intervention "would not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings." RSA 541-A:32, II.

Laidlaw, as a party to the proposed PPA has interests directly affected by this proceeding and its intervention is therefore granted. The Wood IPPs, Concord Steam and CPD are all existing or potential competitors of the proposed Laidlaw facility and thus have interests affected by this proceeding. As a result, their interventions are all granted. Mr. Edwards and the City of Berlin are ratepayers who may be affected by the purchased power costs incurred by PSNH resulting from the approval of this PPA and their eventual recovery in PSNH energy service rates, and are therefore granted intervention. The NEPGA has expressed an interest on behalf of its members in the process used to negotiate this PPA and we grant its intervention as

a matter of discretion. We reiterate here that the Wood IPPs, CPD, Concord Steam and NEPGA have expressed common or similar interests and that, as a result, they should endeavor to consolidate or coordinate their discovery, testimony, cross examination, argument and other written submissions.

B. Motion for Protective Order

With the petition, PSNH filed a Motion for Confidential Treatment pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.08 (a) and RSA 91-A:5 for the detailed pricing information contained in the PPA and the unredacted testimony of Richard C. Labrecque. According to PSNH, the pricing terms and the information contained in the unredacted testimony represent confidential, commercial, or financial information exempt from the Right-to-Know Law pursuant to RSA 91-A:5, IV. PSNH said that the PPA was the result of protracted and detailed confidential negotiations. The Company pointed out that the PPA includes a term requiring both PSNH and Laidlaw to use "reasonable efforts to minimize the scope of any disclosure and have the recipients maintain the confidentiality of any documents or confidential information covered by this provision, including, if appropriate, seeking a protective order or similar mechanism in connection with any disclosure." Article 26.1 of the PPA, cited at PSNH Motion at 2. PSNH claimed that if the PPA's pricing provisions are not protected disclosure would be detrimental to PSNH's ability to attract negotiating partners in the future as well as Laidlaw's competitive position in the marketplace. PSNH cited several proceedings where the Commission had granted confidential treatment for similar confidential, commercial, or financial information including Docket No. DE 08-077 concerning a PPA and Renewable Energy Certificate Option Agreement between PSNH and Lempster Wind. Order No. 24,965 (May 1, 2009).