

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

DE 10-195

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

ORDER OF NOTICE

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 purchase of energy, capacity and renewable energy certificates (RECs) pursuant to RSA 362-F:9. According to the petition, the proposed Laidlaw facility is a biomass-fueled renewable energy source and purchases by PSNH will help it meet obligations to purchase renewable power as required by RSA 362-F provided that the Laidlaw facility qualifies to produce Class I (new renewable facility) RECs. With its petition, PSNH filed supporting testimony and exhibits

According to the filing, Laidlaw is developing a 70 MW name-plate electric power generating station in Berlin designed to use whole tree wood chips as its fuel. The station will be located on the site of the former Fraser Paper Pulp mill which closed in 2006. A boiler remaining on the site since the mill's closing will be converted for use in the generation station and will supply steam to a newly installed turbine generator to produce electric power. The facility will be interconnected to PSNH's east side substation in Berlin through a new interconnection line.

The petition states that Laidlaw has made application for its project permits to the N. H. Site Evaluation Committee (SEC). (SEC Docket No. 2009-02) Upon approval of the SEC and the award of necessary permits, Laidlaw expects to begin construction in the fourth quarter of 2010 and begin operation during the second quarter of 2013.

PSNH proposes to recover the costs associated with the PPA through its default energy service rate. PSNH said that this approach is consistent with the method approved by the Commission for the Lempster Wind PPA in Docket No. DE 08-077. Order No. 24,965 (May 1, 2009).

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to the terms and conditions of the PPA, how the costs of the PPA will be recovered, and whether the PPA meets the requirements of RSA 362-F:9 and is in the public interest. Each party has the right to have an attorney represent them at their own expense.

Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby

ORDERED, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.15, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on September 29, 2010 at 10:00 a.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.15 shall be considered; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, PSNH, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the petition and allow PSNH to provide any amendments or updates to its filing; and it is

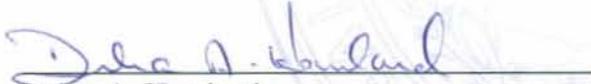
FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.12, PSNH shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of

Notice no later than September 8, 2010, in a newspaper with general circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before September 29, 2010; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.17, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission seven copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to PSNH and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before September 24, 2010, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.17 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before September 29, 2010.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this first day of September, 2010.


Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.

ROBERT BERSAK
PUBLIC SVC OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
780 N COMMERCIAL ST
PO BOX 330
MANCHESTER NH 03105-0330

ANDREW W SERELL
RATH YOUNG & PIGNATELLI PC
ONE CAPITOL PLAZA
PO BOX 1500
CONCORD NH 03302-1500

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**FILING INSTRUCTIONS: PURSUANT TO N.H. ADMIN RULE PUC 203.02(a),
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF DISCOVERY, FILE 7 COPIES (INCLUDING COVER LETTER) TO:**
DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXEC DIRECTOR & SECRETARY
NHPUC
21 SOUTH FRUIT STREET, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429

JEB BRADLEY
107 NORTH MAIN ST RM 302
CONCORD NH 03301-4951

TIMOTHY J CAYER
571 CHESHIRE ST
BERLINE NH 03570

JOHN T GALLUS
107 NORTH MAIN ST RM 302
CONCORD NH 03301-4951

MAX MAKAITIS
961 MAIN ST
BERLIN NH 03570

ROBERT L THEBERGE
PO BOX 271
BERLIN NH 03570-0271

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INTERESTED PARTIES

RECEIVE ORDERS, NOTICES OF HEARINGS ONLY