

**APPENDIX A  
TO SENATORS'  
BRADLEY AND  
FELTES  
TESTIMONY**



**JOHN H. LYNCH**  
Governor

**State of New Hampshire**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
107 North Main Street, State House - Rm 208  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
Telephone (603) 271-2121  
[www.nh.gov/governor](http://www.nh.gov/governor)  
[governorlynch@nh.gov](mailto:governorlynch@nh.gov)

DE 11-184

August 22, 2011



Mr. Thomas Getz, Chairman  
and Commissioners  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Chairman Getz and Members of the Commission:

I write in support of the Power Purchase Agreements submitted by Public Service Company of New Hampshire and five wood-fired, biomass power plants (Independent Power Producers). The power contracts and the accompanying settlement agreement will facilitate the construction of the Berlin BioPower project and provide important benefits to our state and its economy, and I urge you to approve them.

Our state has a long history of supporting renewable energy. Biomass plants and other renewable energy sources have been operating in New Hampshire for decades. In 2007, we enacted the Renewable Portfolio Standard to further encourage the development of renewable energy resources here in our state. In addition to the environmental benefits, biomass power plants provide good jobs to New Hampshire citizens in rural areas of the state and help to support a healthy forest products industry. In addition to people directly employed by the plants, the operation of the wood-fired power plants helps to indirectly support hundreds of jobs and numerous small businesses through purchases of fuel and other materials.

Given the state of the energy market today, it has become difficult for small wood-fired plants to continue to operate without the stability of contracts to sell their power to a utility company. The Power Purchase Agreements address a short-term problem in a measured and responsible way. The petition and settlement agreement will also allow the Berlin BioPower project to go forward, which is an important step forward for economic development in Coos County. I believe it is in the public interest for the Commission to approve the power contracts and the settlement agreement so that the Independent Power Producers can bring stability to their businesses as they weather these difficult economic times, and Berlin BioPower, LLC may become a reality. New Hampshire will be best served by the Commission's expeditious approval of these agreements.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
  
John H. Lynch  
Governor



JOHN H. LYNCH  
Governor

# State of New Hampshire

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

107 North Main Street, State House - Rm 208

Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Telephone (603) 271-2121

[www.nh.gov/governor](http://www.nh.gov/governor)

[governorlynch@nh.gov](mailto:governorlynch@nh.gov)

January 11, 2011

The Honorable Paul Grenier  
Mayor, City of Berlin  
168 Main Street  
Berlin, NH 03570

Dear Mayor Grenier:

The proposed Laidlaw biomass power plant could result in significant benefits to the economy of Berlin and New Hampshire's North Country. This investment will create construction jobs, operating jobs, support New Hampshire's timber industry, expand our state's renewable energy supply, and contribute significantly to the tax base of the City of Berlin. I recognize and support the important benefits this project represents.

As you know, the Public Utilities Commission, an independent regulatory authority, is currently holding hearings on whether the proposed Power Purchase Agreement is in the best interest of New Hampshire ratepayers. Should the Public Utilities Commission approve the agreement, I look forward to working with you to move this project forward.

Thank you for your work on this important issue, and thank you for all that you do for Berlin and for New Hampshire.

Sincerely,



John H. Lynch  
Governor

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Executive Council

STATE HOUSE ROOM 207

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

(603) 271-3632 FAX: 271-3633



JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE COUNCILORS:  
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNURAYMOND S. BURTON  
RAYMOND J. WIECZOREKDANIEL I. ST. HILAIRE  
DAVID K. WHEELER

August 24, 2011

Mr. Thomas Getz, Chairman  
and Commissioners  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301



Dear Chairman Getz and Members of the Commission:

We write in support of the Power Purchase Agreements submitted by Public Service Company of New Hampshire and several wood-fired, biomass power plants (Wood IPPs). These power contracts will provide important benefits to our state and its economy, and we urge you to approve them.

Public Service Company of New Hampshire and the Wood IPPs negotiated the Purchase Power Agreements over the past several weeks with the support of the Governor, Resource and Economic Development Commissioner George Bald, certain staff of the Public Utilities Commission, several members of the State Senate, and many of us.

The Purchase Power Agreements will maintain the operation of the Wood IPPs at a time of uncertainty in the national energy market. They will keep employed not only those persons who work at the six plants, but also those in New Hampshire's forest products industry and in the many small businesses that serve the men and women employed in that industry.

The power contacts submitted to the Commission are also part of a larger agreement that will allow the Berlin BioPower Project to go forward, which will bring needed jobs, renewable power, and economic development for Coos County.

We believe that these agreements are in the interest of the State of New Hampshire and we urge you to approve them without delay.

Sincerely,

Raymond S. Burton  
Executive Councilor

Daniel St. Hilaire  
Executive Councilor

Christopher T. Sununu  
Executive Councilor

Raymond J. Wieczorek  
Executive Councilor

David K. Wheeler  
Executive Councilor

DISTRICT ONE	DISTRICT TWO	DISTRICT THREE	DISTRICT FOUR	DISTRICT FIVE
RAYMOND S. BURTON 338 RIVER ROAD BATH, NH 03740 TELEPHONE 747-3662	DANIEL I. ST. HILAIRE 43 HAMPTON STREET CONCORD, NH 03301 TELEPHONE 226-3378	CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU 71 HEMLOCK COURT NEWFIELDS, NH 03104 TELEPHONE 658-1187	RAYMOND J. WIECZOREK 1060 RAY STREET MANCHESTER, NH 03104 TELEPHONE 624-1655	DAVID K. WHEELER 523 MASON ROAD MILFORD, NH 03055 TELEPHONE 672-6062



## The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

107 North Main Street, Room 302, Concord, N.H. 03301-4951

JEB BRADLEY  
District 3

Office 271-3073

TTY/TDD  
1-800-735-2964

August 10, 2010

WHPUC AUG11 10 4:10 PM

Ms. Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director and Secretary  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429

**RE: Docket DE 10-195**

Dear Ms. Howland:

Please accept this letter in support of the proposed purchase power agreement between Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) and Laidlaw Berlin BioPower LLC (Laidlaw).

As the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission is aware, the New Hampshire Legislature has passed several laws to mandate the purchase of renewable energy by New Hampshire utilities. The foundation of this public policy is New Hampshire's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) law, which mandates that New Hampshire electric utilities purchase renewable energy certificates (RECs) from eligible renewable energy facilities. It is my understanding that the agreement between PSNH and Laidlaw includes the purchase of RECs, and largely satisfies PSNH's Class I requirements under the RPS law. Because of this, I believe approval of this purchase power agreement is consistent with the Legislature's intent under the RPS law.

In addition, one of the guiding purposes of the RPS law is that "the use of renewable energy technologies and fuels can also help to keep energy and investment dollars in the state to benefit our own economy". To that end, PSNH's purchase power agreement will provide the economic foundation for the development of a key in-state renewable energy generating facility and will ensure that the economic benefits are maximized by directing renewable energy funds to an in-state project.

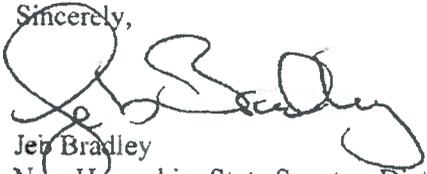
A critical economic benefit of renewable energy development is job creation, and approval of this agreement and development of the Laidlaw project will create hundreds of jobs in northern New Hampshire. According to the economic data developed by Dr. Shapiro, approximately 470 jobs will be created in the construction phase of this project, and approximately 240 jobs will be created to support the operation of the facility and the harvesting of wood fuel. Given that Coos County's unemployment rate far exceeds the

Ms. Debra A. Howland  
Page 2  
August 10, 2010

unemployment rates in other counties and the state's unemployment rate, these jobs are critical to the economic stability and future growth of the region.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter, and I encourage the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission's support of this contract.

Sincerely,



Jeb Bradley  
New Hampshire State Senate - District 3

JB/dac

C:/Z/Bradley/Debra Howland - New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 8-10-10.doc



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-~~190~~<sup>195</sup>



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

DE11-184



## The Senate of the State of New Hampshire

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

August 16, 2011

State of New Hampshire  
Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, New Hampshire 03253



Dear Commissioners,

As the NH State Senator for District 2, representing 27 towns in Grafton County and 4 in Belknap County, I strongly support the five proposed Power Purchase Agreements submitted to the PUC for approval.

The energy markets have created significant operating challenges for some time to New Hampshire's current biomass plants, especially Bridgewater, Pinetree -Bethlehem, Tamworth and Indeck-Alexandria. Today, these plants are in grave jeopardy of closing and consequently the loss of jobs, not only at these facilities, but also the network of jobs that support the biomass industry in New Hampshire will be a devastating blow to the northern towns.

I urge the Commission to approve these Power Purchase Agreements as filed as soon as possible. The contracts are short-term, but will provide much needed assistance to these plants and the affected regional economy. In addition, it will allow the State time to develop a thoughtful, long-term sustainable policy that will ensure continued success of these facilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanie Forrester".

Jeanie Forrester  
NH State Senator, District 2  
State House, Room 105-A  
603.271.2141

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  
Senate District 20



DE 11-184



## 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

TTY/TDD  
1-800-735-2964

August 24, 2011

State of New Hampshire  
Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, New Hampshire 03253

Dear Commissioners:

As the NH State Senator for District 1, representing 57 communities in Coos, Grafton and Carroll Counties, I strongly support the five proposed Power Purchase Agreements submitted to the PUC for approval.

The energy markets have created considerable operating challenges for some time to New Hampshire's current biomass plants, especially the Bridgewater, Pinetree-Bethlehem, Tamworth and Indeck-Alexandria. Currently, these plants are in grave danger of being shutdown. As a result, there will be the loss of many jobs, not only at these biomass plants, but also the forest industry and the many other related jobs that would have drastic consequences on an already struggling area of New Hampshire.

I strongly urge the Commission to approve these Power Purchase Agreements as filed as soon as possible. The contracts are short-term, but will provide much needed assistance to these plants and the affected regional economy. In addition, it will allow the State adequate time to extend a vetted, long-term sustainable policy that will ensure continued success of these facilities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John T. Gallus".

Senator John T. Gallus  
Senate District 1

NHPUC AUG25 '11 AM 9:50

*Rep. Robert L. Théberge*

Coös District 4

P.O. Box 271, Berlin, NH 03570-0271

Email: [rolath@msn.com](mailto:rolath@msn.com)  
[robert.theberge@leg.state.nh.gov](mailto:robert.theberge@leg.state.nh.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*

August 12,

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



Re: Docket DE 10-195

Dear Ms. Howland:

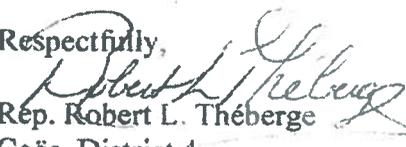
I am writing to express my support for Public Service of New Hampshire's (PSNH's) proposed agreement to purchase power from Laidlaw Berlin BioPower LLC (Laidlaw).

As a member of the New Hampshire General Court, I have long supported the legislature's policy of encouraging the expansion of renewable energy within the state of New Hampshire. Furthermore, as a State Representative of the city of Berlin, I am well aware of the need for the economic benefits associated with biomass as a source of energy in the city and within the region. Given the economic challenges facing the State, and especially Coös County, this contract is an attempt to move the state closer to achieving its renewable energy goals, while maximizing the creation of jobs, both directly and indirectly.

I firmly believe that this contract will provide a jump start for other economic renewable energy projects in New Hampshire. As a proponent of the state's law to mandate the purchase of renewable energy by the state's utilities, I encourage the NH Public Utilities Commission (NHPUC) to fairly review the Laidlaw proposal while considering the benefits not only to PSNH's customers, but to the economics of the region.

I thank you in advance for your time and consideration regarding the above proposal.

Respectfully,

  
Rep. Robert L. Théberge  
Coös, District 4



961 Main Street  
Berlin, NH 03570  
(603) 752-2733

August 12, 2010

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



**RE: Docket Number DE10-195 (Laidlaw Berlin BioPower Project)**

Dear Ms. Howland,

This letter is being provided to express full support for the Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, LLC biomass project in Berlin and request the PUC's approval of all necessary regulatory requirements. The Androscoggin Valley Economic Recovery Corporation (AVER) is extremely supportive of the effort to bring the Laidlaw project to completion for the substantial economic benefits that it would create for the region. AVER along with its partners have worked for years to help create economic development and jobs in the region. The retention and creation of jobs in our region and Coos County has been a priority for AVER. One of the primary messages we have heard from our community was the desire to create good paying jobs with benefits and jobs that would not be lost to China or other overseas foreign competition. Biomass energy facilities, including Laidlaw's and Clean Power's, satisfy these requirements. Biomass energy facilities in essence "manufacture" electrons which currently cannot be imported from overseas. This project would displace foreign imported oil and help reduce the region's high level of unemployment especially in the forest products industry. It is estimated that the Laidlaw project would create over 240 jobs without considering multiplier effects. Laidlaw would be purchasing over \$20,000,000 annually of wood product from local and regional wood products suppliers. The Androscoggin Valley and all of Coos County have enormous potential for the development of the renewable alternative energy industry. The Laidlaw biomass project contributes significantly to the orderly development of the alternative energy industry in the region. In order to achieve this economic development, approval by the PUC is required and AVER is advocating for and supporting such approval.

As the Chair of the Community EFSEC Advisory Committee, a community advisory committee formed to address the residents' concerns about the Laidlaw project, we reviewed all of the issues raised. All of the issues had manageable solutions and in addition Laidlaw would provide substantial community benefits.

We believe the long-term success of this project will impact the regional economy favorably and will help to sustain and create jobs and move New Hampshire forward in the renewable energy arena. Thank you for your favorable consideration of this very positive and worthwhile project.

Sincerely yours,

Max Makaitis  
Androscoggin Valley Economic Development Director

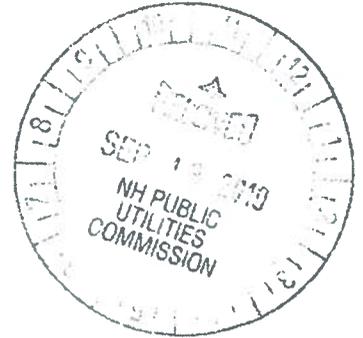


# Raymond S. Burton

338 River Road  
Bath, NH 03740  
Tel (603) 747-3662  
Car Phone (603) 481-0863  
E-mail: ray.burton@myfairpoint.net

Executive Councilor  
District One

September 9, 2010



Ms. Deborah Howland  
Executive Director & Secretary  
NH Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301 2429

**RE: Docket DE 10-195**

Dear Ms. Howland:

I am writing in support of the proposed purchase power agreement between Public Service of New Hampshire and Laidlaw Berlin BioPower LLC. I believe this contract provides benefits to Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, the citizens of northern New Hampshire and customers of PSNH, and I urge the NH Public Utilities Commission to give this matter timely consideration and approval.

Laidlaw's Berlin biomass project will bring considerable economic benefits to northern New Hampshire in terms of construction jobs, jobs operating the facility and forest jobs providing biomass fuel for the plant. Economic estimates suggest that investments in the project will create approximately 470 direct and indirect jobs during construction of the plant, and it can be anticipated that many of these jobs will be in the Berlin region. In addition, it is estimated that approximately 240 jobs will be supported either directly or indirectly during the operation of this facility. However, approval of the PSNH/Laidlaw purchase power agreement is critical to the successful development of this project and realizing the jobs and economic development opportunities associated with the project.

This agreement will also provide benefits to PSNH's customers by providing a cost effective source of renewable power. The State of New Hampshire has placed a number of requirements on PSNH and other NH utilities mandating the purchase of renewable energy, and this contract is consistent with those mandates. Further, PSNH should be acknowledged for their efforts to support an in-state renewable energy project through this purchase power agreement, and helping facilitate the many economic benefits, specifically NH jobs, associated with this project.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter. Considerable work has been put into this purchase power agreement to ensure value to both parties, and I encourage your support of this contract.

Sincerely  
*Ray Burton*  
Raymond S. Burton  
Executive Councilor



### Towns in Council District #1

#### CARROLL COUNTY:

Albany, Bartlett,  
Chatham, Conway, Eaton,  
Ellingham, Freedom, Hasi's Loc.,  
Jackson, Madison, Moultonborough,  
Osipee, Sandwich, Tamworth,  
Tuftonboro, Wakefield, Wolfeboro.

#### GRAFTON COUNTY:

Alexandria, Ashland, Bath,  
Benion, Bethlehem, Bridgewater,  
Bristol, Campton, Canaan,  
Dorchester, Easton, Ellsworth,  
Enfield, Franconia, Grafton,  
Groton, Hanover, Haverhill,  
Hebron, Holderness, Londuff,  
Lebanon, Lincoln, Lisbon,  
Livermore, Littleton, Lyman,  
Lyme, Monroe, Orange, Orford,  
Piermont, Plymouth, Rumney,  
Sugar Hill, Thornton, Warren,  
Waterville, Valley, Wentworth,  
Woodstock

#### BELKNAP COUNTY:

Alton, Belmont, Center Harbor,  
Giford, Laconia, Meredith,  
New Hampton, Sanbornton, Tilton

#### COOS COUNTY:

Berlin, Carroll, Clarksville,  
Colebrook, Columbia, Dalton,  
Deville, Dummer, Errol,  
Gorham, Jefferson, Lancaster,  
Milan, Millsfield, Northumberland,  
Pittsburg, Randolph, Shelburne,  
Stewartstown, Stark, Strafford,  
Whitfield

#### SULLIVAN COUNTY:

Charlestown, Claremont, Cornish,  
Croydon, Grantham, Newport,  
Plainfield, Springfield, Sunapee

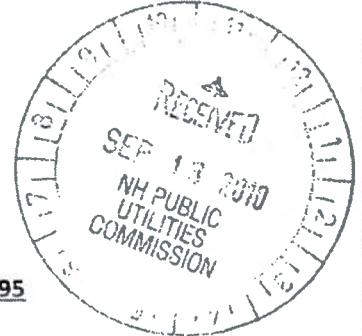


## Coös County Commissioners' Office

P.O. Box 10  
West Stewartstown, N.H. 03597  
603-246-3321  
Fax: 603-246-8117

September 9, 2010

Ms. Debra A. Howland, Executive Director  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429



RE: Docket# DE 10-195

Dear Ms. Howland:

The Coös County Commissioners formally voted on September 8, 2010 to urge the Public Utilities Commission to review and approve the PSNH – Laidlaw Berlin Biopower purchase agreement as promptly as possible.

Laidlaw's project financing must close by the end of the year to take advantage of New Market Tax Credits (NMTC) totaling \$43.5 million. As part of the NMTC agreement, Laidlaw has made a commitment to establish a \$500,000 fund that will be directed by the NH CDFR for use in the Berlin area.

Coös County is still reeling from the loss of timber industry jobs due to mill closings in Berlin and Northumberland as well as the closing of Ethan Allen, Inc. which employed over 50% of its workforce from northern Coös County. The jobs that will be created by the Laidlaw Berlin Biopower project are estimated to peak at 300 jobs during the 2 year construction period, with a permanent increase of 40 direct and 200 indirect jobs when complete. Both the short and long term economic impacts of this project will once again infuse this County with much needed life blood from our renewable forests.

Additionally, Laidlaw has agreed to supply hot water to the Fraser Paper Mill in Gorham and it is our goal to keep this "last of the Mohicans" mill open, productive and profitable. Papermaking is an industry that has defined Coös County for over a century and your approval of the power agreement is an essential piece of the Coös County economic structure.

The Laidlaw assets will add to the tax base of Berlin which seriously declined when the Burgess Paper mill was dismantled. Berlin is Coös County's only city and a stronger Berlin means a stronger Coös County.

Once again, we urge you to act favorably on the Laidlaw BioPower, LLC petition for approval of its Power Purchase Agreement with Public Service of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

Burnham A. Judd  
Chairman

COMMISSIONERS

BURNHAM A. JUDD, PITTSBURG • PAUL R. GRENIER, Berlin • THOMAS M. BRADY, JEFFERSON

DE10-195

**Getz, Tom**

---

**From:** Raymond S. Burton [ray.burton@myfairpoint.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 29, 2010 5:22 AM  
**To:** Getz, Tom

Chair Getz---

The Laidlaw project for the City of Berlin which has received unanimous o.k. from the SEC has nearly unanimous support through Northern NH.

I hereby urge you and the NH PUC give your approval to proposed rates and allow this project to move forward.

Given the news this morning at 5 AM re: the proposed closing of the Fraser Paper Mill on Gorham I am sure your o.k. would be very welcome in Northern NH.

Regards--

Ray Burton



DE 10-195



# CITY of BERLIN

Office of the Mayor

City Hall, Main Street, Berlin, New Hampshire 03570  
Telephone (603) 752-2340 TDD 752-1510



NH Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429  
Docket #DE 10-195

October 6, 2010

Dear PUC Commissioners,

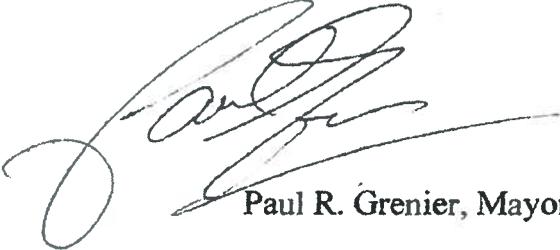
I am writing this letter to you in my official capacity as Mayor of the City of Berlin. First of all, I want to thank you for your service to the citizens of New Hampshire. Issues that you face on a daily basis are difficult and complicated, and interpreting law is never a simple task. I also commend you for conducting the September 29<sup>th</sup> hearing in a manner that allowed all parties to have their say.

When I presented myself to the voters of Berlin last fall, I made my positions on economic development very clear and concise. I fully supported the proposed Laidlaw Berlin Biopower project in the belief that it is in the very best interest of our citizens. The direct employment opportunities, the enormity of the economic benefits to our local economy in terms wood fuel purchases and procurement would have an immediate longterm favorable impact to all of Coos County. It was an election that saw Berlin's voters agree with my positions on the Laidlaw project by a 60-40% margin. The vast majority of the community can see the obvious benefits, as does most of the elected local and state officials.

The proposed power purchase agreement (PPA) between NH's largest utility, PSNH, and Laidlaw Berlin Biopower, is before you for consideration. It is also the last remaining item for regulatory review. You are tasked with determining if the terms of the agreement are in the best interests of New Hampshire's ratepayers, not competing power producers who will still do very well in NH's unregulated business environment. This review process needs to be diligent and thorough, but in light of the recent announcement that 240 residents and taxpayers jobs are in real jeopardy of being lost, I plead that an expedited decision process takes place.

As you have heard many times before, Coos County has the lowest per capita income in New Hampshire, has the highest county tax burden, has the highest median age of any county in New Hampshire, and traditionally has the highest unemployment rates in the state. This situation was not always the case when a healthy forest industry was dominant in Coos County. Approval of the PSNH PPA is not a cure all. It will take hard work and time to rebuild and reposition Coos County's economy away from total dependance of the forest. But trees will always play an important role. Given the utilities requirements of RSA 362-F and the dire economic realities families in Coos County face every day, I urge you again to approve PSNH's request to purchase power from Laidlaw.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul R. Grenier', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul R. Grenier, Mayor

DE 10 - 195

**From:** Raymond S. Burton [<mailto:ray.burton@myfairpoint.net>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 09, 2011 5:33 PM  
**To:** Getz, Tom; John Gallus  
**Subject:**

Chair Getz---

I write in support of the Berlin Laidlaw Project.

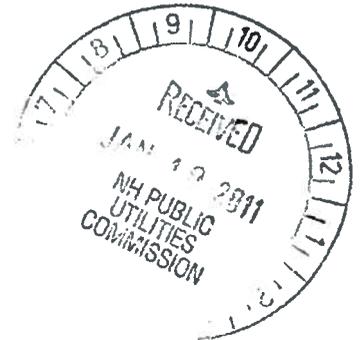
This project has been in play for at least 3-4 years of hearings meetings etc.

It is time to put people to work on this project both at the plant and in the timber industry generating green power by 2025.

Northern New Hampshire is in need of positive action.

I urge your positive response to Laidlaw's Project

Ray Burton



DE 10-195



**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

TTY/TDD  
1-800-735-2964

January 11, 2011

Chairman Thomas Getz  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit St, Suite 10  
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

Re: Laidlaw/PSNH Power Purchase Agreement

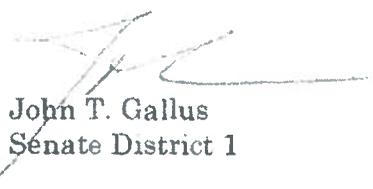
Dear Chairman Getz,

I am urging you to approve the purchase power agreement currently before you at the request of the Coos County Commissioners, the City of Berlin, landowners and loggers of the North Country. The project would certainly help rejuvenate the forest industry. I know the Commissioners at the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission realize the importance of a revitalized economy in an area of the state that has been devastated with the loss of jobs.

This project not only would create numerous jobs but would breathe life back into the forest industry, put our natural resources to work, and bring us closer to Governor Lynch's goal of 25% of our energy being generated by green power.

Again, I cannot stress how important this project is to the City of Berlin, the forest industry, and the State of New Hampshire. I ask for your consideration and support of the agreement.

Sincerely yours,

  
John T. Gallus  
Senate District 1



cc: Commissioner Clifton Below  
Commissioner Amy Ignatius

DE 10-195



State of New Hampshire

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCORD

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director & Secretary  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
Concord, New Hampshire  
RE: Docket DE 10-195

January 18, 2011

Dear Director Howland;

I am writing in support of the Purchase Power Agreement between Laidlaw Energy and Public Service Company of New Hampshire.

The agreement has been negotiated and well scrutinized by all parties involved. While it may not be perfect in every way, it does meet the needs of all of the entities and solves several long-standing problems. For citizens here in the North Country the PUC approval of this PPA appears to be the last hurdle for construction and operation of a biomass electric generation facility.

After years of false starts and dashed hopes over projects that never materialized, this plant also represents the end of the line for projects that can create meaningful local employment and bring some stability to the forest products industry throughout the region.

Director Howland, the present status quo is that the paper mills are gone and nothing has taken their place, many loggers are on very low quotas at the existing biomass plants, providers of goods and services have poor business prospects, families are moving out, and our youth seeks employment down state or out of state.

This status quo is simply not tolerable for the well being of the North Country and the State of New Hampshire.

With approval of the Purchase Power Agreement this Laidlaw Energy biomass plant will be a valuable contributor towards the economic revitalization of the entire area while also adding to the New Hampshire based generation mix of reasonably priced electricity, which benefits everyone.

Very truly yours,

Representative Lyle E. Bulis  
Grafton One, Littleton - Lyman

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

DANIEL I. ST. HILAIRE  
EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR  
DISTRICT TWO



STATE HOUSE ROOM 207  
107 NORTH MAIN STREET  
CONCORD, N.H. 03301  
(603) 271-3632

January 14, 2010

Deborah Howland  
Executive Director & Secretary  
NH Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301 2429



RE: Docket DE 10-195

Dear Ms. Howland:

I am writing in support of the proposed power purchase agreement ("PPA") between Public Service of New Hampshire ("PSNH") and Laidlaw Berlin Biopower, and urge the Commission to grant its approval in a timely fashion.

This agreement represents a significant benefit to my constituents, and will have a positive impact on our state's energy market for years to come. The State of New Hampshire has mandated that 25% of our energy come from clean, renewable sources by the year 2025. This PPA is consistent with that mandate, and the Laidlaw Berlin project will have a major impact on the State's ability to meet its goal. Furthermore, I believe it is to the long-term benefit of our state that we encourage diverse energy supplies that take advantage of our native natural resources.

Energy production should be an important part of New Hampshire's employment mix because jobs in this sector are fixed; they cannot be outsourced overseas. Meeting our renewable mandates by drawing on energy sources within the state will help contribute to economic growth well into the future. This project will create 470 direct and indirect jobs during construction, and 240 direct and indirect jobs during operation.

The PPA pending before the Commission must be approved for construction to commence. As the project will bring great benefit to workers, ratepayers, and the environment, I urge the Commission to do so without undue delay.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. St. Hilaire".

Daniel St. Hilaire  
Executive Councilor



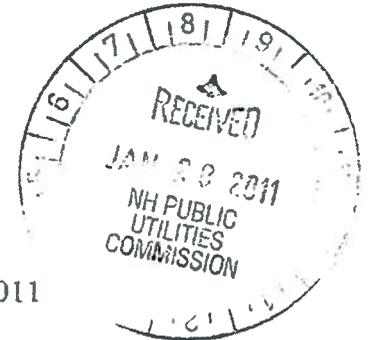
## CITY OF BERLIN

Office of the Mayor

City Hall, Main Street, Berlin, New Hampshire 03570  
 Telephone (603) 752-2340 TDD 752-1610

Deborah Howland  
 Executive Director  
 NH Public Utilities Commission  
 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
 Concord, NH 03301-2429

January 28, 2011



RE: DOCKET NUMBER DE-10-195 PSNH PPA

Dear Ms Howland,

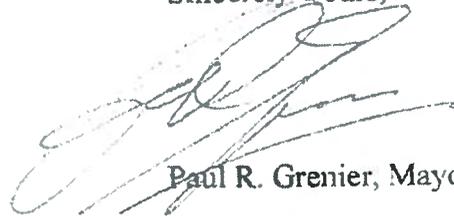
I am sending this request to you in my official capacity as Mayor of Berlin. I understand that the PSNH/Laidlaw Berlin Biopower (DE-10-195) proceedings will move past Tuesday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. If subsequent hearing time is needed to complete testimony on the above matter as it looks likely, I ask the PUC Commission members consider changing the venue to schedule any remaining dates within the City of Berlin.

The Laidlaw Berlin Biopower project has overwhelming support within the community. As you may know the NH EFSEC committee held hearings in Berlin and they received firsthand how the community feels about this important aspect of our city's future. This power plant, once operational, will be the cornerstone of all future job creation within Coos County. The employment statistics in our county are dismal. Furthermore, there are little options for families to find employment. Southern tiered NH community residents can look to Massachusetts to find jobs if their skill sets preclude them from finding jobs locally. In Berlin, that option simply doesn't exist. This project to Berlin means jobs, jobs, jobs. If this project is summarily rejected by serious alterations to the PPA, how much money will ratepayers save if PSNH pays the default charge to comply with RSA 362:F-10. Who wins there? Higher prices with no investment in our future. And Coos County bleeds more...

The families who are directly affected by any PUC decision would certainly like to have an opportunity to witness their futures unfold in front of them. I would be indebted if the PUC Commissioners would give this request serious

consideration. We have multiple venues from within the City to host such hearings.

Sincerely Yours,



Paul R. Grenier, Mayor

cc Councillor Raymond S. Burton  
Berlin Daily Sun

RECEIVED

DOCKET

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Executive Council

STATE HOUSE ROOM 207

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

(603) 271-3632 FAX: 271-3633



JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE COUNCILORS:  
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU

RAYMOND S. BURTON  
RAYMOND J. WIECZOREK

DANIEL I. ST. HILAIRE  
DAVID K. WHEELER

January 27, 2011

Ms. 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)**  
**REQUEST VENUE CHANGE FROM CONCORD TO BERLIN**

Dear Ms. Howland,

This letter is being provided to the Public Utilities Commission in order to respectfully request that, in the event the Laidlaw Berlin BioPower hearings carry over to February 8<sup>th</sup> or beyond, such hearings be held and concluded in the City of Berlin rather than in Concord, NH.

Even though the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee held their public hearing in Berlin and the community showed overwhelming support for the Laidlaw project, we feel that the PUC would benefit immensely from experiencing that same show of support and input from local citizens.

This project is vital to the economic well being of our region. The Laidlaw biomass plant will purchase an additional 750,000 tons of wood chips annually which will inject \$25,000,000 more into the New Hampshire economy and create sustainable long term jobs with good benefits. This project will also immediately create up to 470 construction jobs! With the closure of the Fraser mill and the layoff of over 220 workers, the construction jobs are critically needed because they most fit the manual labor skill sets of the mill workers. In the long term the Laidlaw project will create 240 permanent direct and indirect jobs. Unemployment in the Berlin NH MicroNECTA area jumped from 5.4% to 9.0% in November of 2010 following the mill closure. These unemployed workers currently require substantial social assistance from the state and others. We need these jobs.

Thank you for your consideration of our request to transfer the PUC hearings to the City of Berlin, "The city that trees built".

Sincerely yours,

Raymond S. Burton  
Executive Councilor

DISTRICT ONE	DISTRICT TWO	DISTRICT THREE	DISTRICT FOUR	DISTRICT FIVE
RAYMOND S. BURTON 338 RIVER ROAD BATH, NH 03740 TELEPHONE 747-3662	DANIEL I. ST. HILAIRE 43 HAMPTON STREET CONCORD, NH 03301 TELEPHONE 226-3378	CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU 71 HEMLOCK COURT NEWFIELDS, NH 03104 TELEPHONE 658-1187	RAYMOND J. WIECZOREK 1060 RAY STREET MANCHESTER, NH 03104 TELEPHONE 624-1655	DAVID K. WHEELER 523 MASON ROAD MILFORD, NH 03055 TELEPHONE 672-6062

TDD Access: Relay NH: 1-800-735-2964

[www.nh.gov/council](http://www.nh.gov/council)

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Executive Council

STATE HOUSE ROOM 207

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

(603) 271-3632 FAX: 271-3633



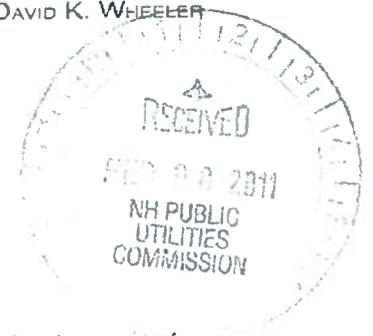
JOHN H. LYNCH, GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE COUNCILORS:  
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU

RAYMOND S. BURTON  
RAYMOND J. WIECZOREK

DANIEL I. ST. HILAIRE  
DAVID K. WHEELER

February 8, 2011



Public Utility Commissioners:

As you know I have been a strong supporter for the Laidlaw Berlin Biomass project because of the tremendous economic opportunity it offers. For too many years now the hard working families in the North Country have suffered due to the decline in the pulp and paper industry and this project offers real hope. Folks are ready to get back to work and this project is ready to hire them. This project will also lead the way as New Hampshire moves towards its renewable energy goal of 25% by 2025 and thereafter. I urge you to approve this Power Purchase Agreement without hesitation so the "City that Trees Built" can start to rebuild itself.

Raymond S. Burton  
Executive Councilor

*Susan Connolly  
on behalf of  
Exec. Councilor  
Raymond Burton  
2/8/11 SSC ✓*

DISTRICT ONE	DISTRICT TWO	DISTRICT THREE	DISTRICT FOUR	DISTRICT FIVE
RAYMOND S. BURTON 338 RIVER ROAD BATH, NH 03740 TELEPHONE 747-3662	DANIEL I. ST. HILAIRE 43 HAMPTON STREET CONCORD, NH 03301 TELEPHONE 226-3378	CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU 71 HEMLOCK COURT NEWFIELD, NH 03104 TELEPHONE 658-1187	RAYMOND J. WIECZOREK 1060 RAY STREET MANCHESTER, NH 03104 TELEPHONE 624-1655	DAVID K. WHEELER 523 MASON ROAD MILFORD, NH 03055 TELEPHONE 672-6062



State of New Hampshire

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCORD



New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
Concord, New Hampshire  
RE: Docket DE 10-195

March 1, 2011

Dear Director Howland;

I am again writing concerning the petition of Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) for approval of a Power Purchase Agreement with the Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, LLC power plant in Berlin, New Hampshire.

During your deliberations, I urge the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to consider the public when making its decision. The PUC needs to be fair to all parties, but expedient as well, since any further delays in moving forward with the power plant will only continue to harm an already difficult economy for the people trying to make a living in New Hampshire's North Country. It is for this reason that I have an interest in the outcome of this proceeding.

I am fully aware that those who have intervened in this proceeding have had varied interests, including one on behalf of New Hampshire's state wide rate payers, and another as a former project competitor, Clean Power Development. CPD, in its closing statement, now supports the Power Purchase Agreement between Laidlaw and Public Service, quoting: "CPD feels that the commission can find that this project should be granted a PPA, as it is in the public interest."

I am writing with concerns for the livelihoods of those most closely connected to whatever project moves forward in the Berlin area. The economy of New Hampshire is delicate, but in the North Country it is near the breaking point. The Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, LLC plant is the seed necessary to provide an economic ripple effect that helps not only ratepayers in the north, but all aspects of the regional economy.

**Should the PUC impose conditions on either party in its final decision, those conditions should not be deal breakers.**

Very truly yours,

Representative Lyle E. Bulis  
Grafton One, Littleton - Lyman

DE 10-195

**From:** Raymond S. Burton [<mailto:ray.burton@myfairpoint.net>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 26, 2011 8:59 AM  
**To:** [lori.normand@puc.nh.gov](mailto:lori.normand@puc.nh.gov); Smith, Kim; [pgrenier30@hotmail.com](mailto:pgrenier30@hotmail.com); John Gallus;  
[JohnLynch77@aol.com](mailto:JohnLynch77@aol.com); [gbald@dred.state.nh.us](mailto:gbald@dred.state.nh.us)  
**Subject:**

Memo to the NH Public Utilities Commissioners:

The Laidlaw Project for the City of Berlin-Gorham Area has been in play for several months before the NH PUC. I write again in support of this project. If any area of NH is in need of jobs it is Coos County. Potential finance resources may be losing their interest and not stay with this project.

I beg and plead with you to approved this project,

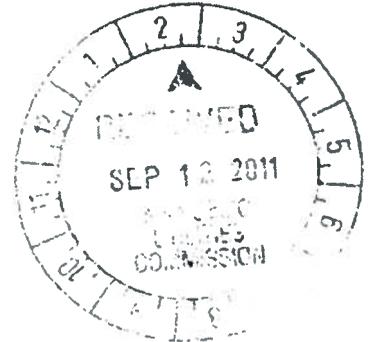
Ray Burton,  
Councilor Distinct one  
State of New Hampshire.



DE 11-184

TOWN OF TAMWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECTMEN'S OFFICE  
84 MAIN STREET  
TAMWORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03886  
TELEPHONE (603) 323-7525 FAX (603) 323-2349  
[TAMWORTHNH.ORG](http://TAMWORTHNH.ORG)



September 8, 2011

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

**RE: Docket Number DE-11-184; Joint Petition for Approval of Power Purchase and Sale Agreements and Settlement Agreement**

Dear Commissioners:

We write this letter as the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Tamworth, in support of expedited approval by the Commission of the Joint Petition for Approval of Power Purchase and Sale Agreements and Settlement Agreement filed in the above-referenced docket.

The five existing wood-fired power plants, in particular including PineTree Power, support manufacturing and forestry jobs and provide property tax revenues and other local economic benefits which are of great importance to our community and our region of the state. These many local benefits will be continued under the proposed contracts; without these contracts the continued viability of the biomass generation plants and the local benefits they provide are highly uncertain.

In the current difficult economic conditions, our community simply cannot afford to lose more jobs or tax revenue, or to do without the other important local benefits these plants have provided for many years and continue to provide today. We urge the Commission to approve the five power purchase agreements with these plants at the earliest possible time.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,  
TOWN OF TAMWORTH  
Board of Selectmen

  
William Farnum

  
Robert Abraham

  
John Roberts

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DE 11-184

In the Matter of :  
Joint Petition for Approval of Power Purchase and Sale Agreements  
and Settlement Agreement

Direct Testimony

of

George M. Bald  
Commissioner of The  
New Hampshire Department of Resources  
And Economic Development

August 22, 2011

1 **Q. Please state your name, occupation and business address.**

2 A. My name is George M. Bald. I am the Commissioner of the  
3 Department of Resources and Economic Development for the State  
4 of New Hampshire. My business address is 172 Pembroke Road,  
5 Concord, New Hampshire 03301.

6 **Q. Please summarize your education and professional experience.**

7 A. Please see Attachment GMB-1

8 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

9 A. The purpose of this testimony is to request approval by the  
10 Commission of the five Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) that are  
11 more fully explained in the testimony of Thomas C. Frantz,  
12 Director of the Electric Division of the New Hampshire Public  
13 Utilities Commission and the testimony of Richard C. Labrecque,  
14 Manager, Supplemental Energy Sources for Public Service  
15 Company of New Hampshire. I also provide context from the  
16 perspective of the State on the importance to the State's economy,  
17 especially employment in the North Country, of these PPAs and  
18 how approval of these PPAs will create construction jobs while  
19 retaining jobs in the biomass industry.

20 **Q. What is the state of the economy in the North Country**  
21 **compared to the rest of the State which necessitates the**  
22 **actions you are recommending?**

23 As a result of plant closings in the Berlin and the fact that the  
24 prison is not yet open, employment in the North Country has been  
25 severely reduced causing continued economic harm and delaying  
26 recovery in Coos County. As of the end of May 2011, based upon  
27 data collected by New Hampshire Department of Employment  
28 Security, the unemployment rate in Coos County was 7.8% and in  
29 the local Berlin area was 8.8%. These unemployment rates

1 compare with a statewide average at the end of May 2011 of 4.9%.  
2 These unemployment rates illustrate the severe need for jobs in the  
3 North Country and form the basis of my involvement in supporting  
4 the Berlin Project and in the negotiation of the PPA's.

5 **Q. Would you please address how you got involved in the process**  
6 **that led to the filing of these PPAs?**

7 A. The Department of Resources and Economic Development, along  
8 with the Governor's Office, has closely followed developments  
9 concerning the Berlin biomass project. It is a project we strongly  
10 support. At the same time, we have been aware for some time that  
11 today's energy markets have created significant operating  
12 challenges to New Hampshire's current biomass projects,  
13 especially Bridgewater, Pinetree -Bethlehem, Tamworth and  
14 Indeck-Alexandria. As a result of discussions over the last several  
15 months with Cate Street, the project developer of the Berlin  
16 biomass project, and the Wood IPPs, the State decided to take an  
17 active role in trying to resolve the challenges that were facing the  
18 biomass energy sector of the State's economy. The appeal of the  
19 Commission's decision in DE 10-195 to the New Hampshire  
20 Supreme Court by the Wood IPPs has been preventing the Berlin  
21 Biomass Project from moving forward and potentially eliminating  
22 the economic development benefits of the project that were  
23 reflected in the Commission's approval of the PSNH PPA with  
24 Berlin Biomass (f/k/a Laidlaw).

25 At the same time, we at the Department of Resources and  
26 Economic Development were aware that the four Wood IPPs I  
27 mentioned above were facing significant financial pressure to  
28 remain running in the near term and that their closure would  
29 result in the loss of hundreds of biomass-related jobs. Based on  
30 the serious economic impacts facing the state from the potential

1 withdrawal of the construction of the Berlin biomass project and  
2 the imminent closure of the Wood IPPs, the Governor convened a  
3 meeting in early June to discuss possible solutions to the problem.

4 **Q. Who attended that meeting?**

5 A. Besides Governor Lynch and members of his staff, the meeting was  
6 attended by senior representatives of the Wood IPPs, PSNH, Cate  
7 Street Capital, myself and Brad Simpkins from DRED, Anne Ross  
8 and Tom Frantz from the Commission, and some members of the  
9 Legislature and Executive Council.

10 **Q. Would you provide a general overview of the outcome of that**  
11 **meeting?**

12 A. Yes. It was clear from discussions at that meeting that each  
13 company had its own set of issues, both short-term and long-term,  
14 and that it would require a significant effort on everyone's part to  
15 reach, at the least, a short-term resolution that met the needs of  
16 Cate Street, the Wood IPPs and PSNH. The Governor decided at  
17 that meeting that such an effort was warranted and asked Tom  
18 Frantz and Anne Ross if they would lead negotiations with the  
19 Wood IPPs and PSNH to see if a solution could be reached that  
20 would end the legal challenge to the Berlin Biomass Project and  
21 allow construction to begin, meet the short-term needs of the Wood  
22 IPPs, and satisfy the rate concerns of PSNH. More detail of the  
23 goals of that meeting and the negotiation process and outcomes  
24 that led to today's petition is contained in the testimony of Mr.  
25 Frantz.

26 **Q. Does the Governor support these PPAs and the outcome of the**  
27 **negotiations?**

28 A. Yes, he does. I anticipate that the Governor will file a letter  
29 separately in this docket that demonstrates his support of the

1 negotiations and the resulting settlement. I believe other  
2 legislators and executive counselors will also file separate letters of  
3 support for the settlement.

4 **Q. Would you briefly provide an overview of the results of the**  
5 **negotiations?**

6 A. Yes. The negotiations resulted in the five PPAs that we are  
7 requesting the Commission approve expeditiously. Approval of  
8 these PPAs will retain the employment at the Wood IPP facilities as  
9 well as keep intact the network of jobs that support the biomass  
10 industry in New Hampshire. This will keep hundreds of good  
11 paying jobs from being lost during an extremely fragile period in  
12 our State's recovery from the worst economic downturn since the  
13 Great Depression. These negotiations also resulted in the ability of  
14 Cate Street to move to financial closing so that it can begin  
15 construction of the Berlin Biomass Project. The benefits of that  
16 project were well documented in DE 10-195 so they will not be  
17 repeated here though I will stress the importance of those jobs to  
18 the City of Berlin and the North Country. Importantly, as Messrs.  
19 Frantz and Labrecque discuss, these benefits are obtained without  
20 increasing PSNH's Energy Service rate.

21 **Q. Would you summarize the benefits of these negotiated**  
22 **settlement agreements?**

23 A. Yes. The settlement allows the State to implement an economic  
24 development plan for the North Country. This plan depends on  
25 three factors. The first is critical to the Berlin Biomass Project  
26 because it allows the financing to proceed before August 30<sup>th</sup> and  
27 thereby retains the Community Benefit Fund which is being  
28 created by the New Market Tax Credit funding.

1 The total amount of funds for loans generated by the New Market  
2 Tax Credits is \$2,750,000 of which \$500,000 was originally  
3 expected to go to the City of Berlin. The second assists in  
4 addressing the financial problems faced by Isaacson Structural  
5 Steel, one of the major employers in the region. The City of Berlin  
6 has pledged its \$500,000 to Isaacson though \$500,000 will remain  
7 in the Community Fund. Isaacson also will receive \$1,750,000 of  
8 New Market Tax Credit financing to help it get through the difficult  
9 financial crisis it now faces. Those funds could be available to  
10 Isaacson soon after Cate Street reaches financial closing. The  
11 third aspect of the economic development plan requires approval of  
12 the PPAs. This will maintain the generation of the Wood IPPs and  
13 the many associated jobs in the biomass industry.

14 **Q. Do you believe it is in the public interest of the State of New**  
15 **Hampshire that these PPAs be approved as filed?**

16 **A.** Yes, I do. In fact, the results of these lengthy and difficult  
17 negotiations will further the policy objectives of Title XIX-A  
18 Forestry. RSA 227-G:1 states, under Declaration of Purpose, that

19 [I]t is hereby recognized and declared that the public welfare of  
20 this state requires the maintenance, protection, conservation,  
21 multiple use, and rehabilitation of forests for the social, economic,  
22 and environmental benefits that result from a diverse forest cover.  
23 Such benefits include forest products, a viable forest-based  
24 economy, recreation opportunities, scenic values, healthful  
25 surroundings, climate mitigation, clear water, and biologically  
26 diverse populations of plants and animals....

27 RSA 227-J:1 Timber Harvesting under Declaration of Purpose  
28 further recognizes and declares that

29 [t]he public welfare of this state requires the care and protection of  
30 forest cover adjacent to certain waters of the state and along  
31 public highways, and the proper disposal of slash and mill residue  
32 resulting from forest operations ... ensure future forest

1 productivity; improve conditions for wildlife; and provide other  
2 benefits to the public as the result of perpetuating a proper forest  
3 cover, while continuing to meet the timber needs of forest  
4 industries and providing income and employment for our citizens  
5 without undue infringement on the rights of private forest  
6 landowners.

7 **Q. Please provide your recommendation.**

8 A. For the reasons stated above, I believe it is good public policy for  
9 the Commission to approve these PPAs as filed as soon as possible.  
10 The contracts are short-term, but will provide much needed  
11 assistance to these plants and the affected regional economy.  
12 These PPAs will provide benefits and some level of certainty as the  
13 State works out a more long-term sustainable policy for the parties  
14 to these negotiations.



GEORGE M. BALD  
Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT of RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
OFFICE of the COMMISSIONER  
172 Pembroke Road P.O. Box 1856 Concord, New Hampshire 03302-1856

GMB-1

603-271-2411  
FAX: 603-271-2629  
george bald@red.state.nh.us

**Biography**  
**GEORGE M. BALD**

George Bald was elected Mayor of the City of Somersworth, NH in 1978. He served three two year terms, leaving office in 1984. At that time, Somersworth had a strong Mayor form of government, so he served as chief executive of the City. During this period, he was instrumental in the expansion of the Route 16 Industrial Park and the development of the Malley Farm Industrial Park.

After leaving Somersworth, he began the Economic Development department for the City of Rochester, NH. George directed efforts to retain existing companies and set up a program to attract new industries. He managed the development of the City's own Ten Rod Road Industrial Park and helped create a public/private development group to assist with the construction of a new industrial facility at the Granite State Industrial Park. From 1991-93 George served as City Manager. From 1984-95 Rochester gained over one million square feet of new manufacturing space and created 4,000 new manufacturing jobs.

George began his duties as Economic Development Director for the Pease Development Authority in August, 1994. He assisted in the redevelopment of the old Pease Air Force Base into a world class business park. His duties included recommending buildings to be redeveloped, demolished or upgraded, as well as recruitment of new businesses and the retention of existing companies. In 1998, Governor Jeanne Shaheen appointed George as Commissioner of the Department of Resources and Economic Development for the State of New Hampshire. As Commissioner, was responsible for the Division of Forests & Lands, the Division of Parks and Recreation, the Division of Travel & Tourism and the Division of Economic Development. In that capacity, George worked closely with other departments such as Environmental Services, Banking, Safety, Attorney General and others. Governor Jeanne Shaheen reappointed him in 2002. For his work in attracting Fraser Papers to purchase the bankrupt American Tissue mills in 2002, he was awarded Honorary Citizenship by the City of Berlin and the Town Gorham.

He was appointed Executive Director of the Pease Development Authority in May 2004, overseeing the continuing development of the 3,000 acre business park/airport. Governor John Lynch asked George to return as Commissioner of the Department of Resources & Economic Development. He was confirmed in April, 2006, and reappointed for another 4 year term in April 2010.

George is a U.S. Navy veteran. He lives in Somersworth with his wife Candace Small. They have one son Casey Bald.

TDD ACCESS: RELAY NH 1-800-735-2964  recycled paper

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER 603-271-2411

**City of Berlin, NH**  
Mayor's Office

August 16, 2011

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301-2429

RE: DE 10-195

Dear New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission:

I write this letter as Mayor of the City of Berlin in support of the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) efforts to obtain bridge PPA's which are satisfactory to both PSNH and the IPP's.

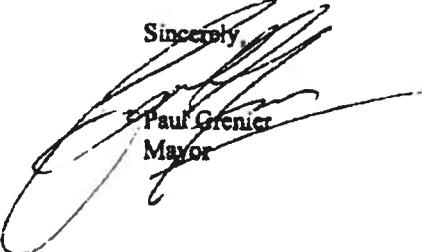
This approach toward a resolution to the ongoing opposition of the IPP's to the Berlin Station project seems to provide the most benefit for all the parties. It allows the IPP's to continue operating in a reasonable way which thereby continues the badly needed jobs and economic benefits they provide to the North Country areas they are located in.

It also allows for the Berlin Station project which has been held up by the IPP objections to move forward and provide the jobs, tax base and other direct and indirect monetary benefits desperately needed by the Androscoggin Valley area of the North Country.

As the Commission is aware, the Berlin Station Project has been through what is fast becoming a two year process of review. The project has been ready now for some time to begin construction. I urge the Commission to move expeditiously in approving the proposed bridge PPA's for the IPP's.

The PUC's judicious and timely review of this proposal is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Paul Grenier  
Mayor

cc: City Council  
George Bald

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