



DE09-001

# CITY OF BERLIN

Office of the Mayor

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

March 18, 2009

Mr. Gary Long  
Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
P.O. Box 330  
Manchester, New Hampshire 03105-0330



Re: Biomass Energy Facilities in Berlin, NH

Dear Mr. Long:

As I am sure you are well aware, currently, there are two (2) potential biomass energy facilities proposed to be located in the City of Berlin. One of these, a 22-29 megawatt facility proposed by Clean Power Development of Concord, NH has formerly filed with the City of Berlin for Site Plan Review, etc. and is hopeful to begin construction in the second quarter of 2009. The other proposal is a 60-66 megawatt facility proposed by Laidlaw Energy Group, a New York Corporation. Laidlaw is proposing to retrofit the existing chemical recovery boiler on the former Fraser Papers Mill property in Berlin. The property has been purchased by a holding company, which is one of Laidlaw's affiliates. Laidlaw indicates that they are in the process of preparing their application to the New Hampshire Energy Facility Site Evaluation Committee (EFSEC). Both of these facilities have the potential to help New Hampshire attain its goal of 25x'25 as set forth by Governor Lynch.

I am contacting you about this subject for the following reasons. Laidlaw, through one of its press releases, indicates that PSNH and Laidlaw have reached an agreement in principle for a twenty-year power purchase agreement. Clean Power however, indicates that despite their good faith attempts, they have been unable to get PSNH to entertain the possibility of a power purchase agreement between both parties. My question to you is why is PSNH treating these two possible renewable energy facilities differently? Why is PSNH so quick to embrace a potential twenty-year accord with a New York company that has yet to prove itself in the renewable energy generation market, yet seems truly averse to good faith negotiations with a New Hampshire company?

As Berlin strives for economic development, (a topic emphasized greatly by PSNH as evidenced by its website it and numerous economic development partnerships) we do not understand the preferential treatment being given to Laidlaw by PSNH in comparison to Clean Power Development. With the exclusionary treatment of Clean Power, how can PSNH guarantee that they are providing power to its customers at the lowest cost available?

On behalf of the citizens of Berlin, NH, I respectfully request that PSNH respond to these questions as we try our best to make assessments of the various pros and cons of both proposed projects. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Bertrand".

David Bertrand  
Mayor, City of Berlin

Cc: Berlin City Council  
Governor John Lynch  
Thomas Getz, Public Utilities Commission Chairman  
Coos County Commissioners