THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

DANIEL I. ST. HILAIRE
EXECUTIVE COUNCILOR
DISTRICT TWO

Deborah Howland

ALL HAMPS

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January 14, 2010

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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,

Daniel St. Hilaire Executive Councilor