

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