



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

State of New Hampshire, Department of Cultural Resources
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January 13, 2010

Michael J. Iacopino
Brennan Caron Lenehan & Iacopino
85 Brook Street
Manchester, NH 03104

Re: Application of Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, LLC
Site Evaluation Committee No. 2009-02
Progress Report

Dear Mr. Iacopino:

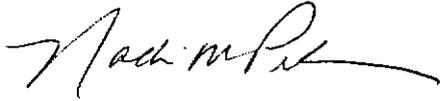
Thank you for the opportunity to report on the Laidlaw Berlin BioPower application for the construction and operation of a 70 MW biomass fuel energy generating facility in Berlin, NH. The New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources has a responsibility to review the project under RSA 227 C:9 as well as under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires consideration of historic preservation in the multitude of Federal actions that take place nationwide. Section 106 requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties and provide the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) an opportunity to comment on Federal projects prior to implementation. It is our understanding that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been designated the Lead Federal Agency for this undertaking.

Previous studies have shown that there are historic neighborhoods in the City of Berlin. The Division has requested the preparation of a Project Area Form to identify historic resources within areas that have the potential for both direct and visual effects associated with the project. We have also asked the applicant to seek public comment from any groups or individuals who may have a concern with the project's potential impact on historic resources. Section 106 requires the Lead Federal Agency to seek information, as appropriate, from consulting parties, and other individuals and organizations likely to have knowledge of, or concerns with, historic properties in the area, and to identify issues relating to the undertaking's potential effects on historic properties. The Division understands that Laidlaw Berlin BioPower, Inc. has contracted with a professional Architectural Historian to complete these tasks and we look forward to reviewing the information. Due to prior earth disturbing activities at the site, the DHR has no archaeological concerns regarding the project.



At this point in time, the SEC Application does not contain sufficient information for the DHR to concur with the Application's findings under state or federal laws. As additional information is received, the Division looks forward to continuing consultation with the Applicant as part of the ongoing historic review process to identify ways to reduce impacts to historic resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nadine Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Nadine Peterson
Preservation Planner

cc: Jane Murray, Secretary NHSEC
Barry Needleman, Esq.