

Good morning and thank you for affording me the opportunity to speak with you. My name is Michael O'Leary I am the General Manager of Bridgewater Power Company a 15 MW wood fired generating plant located in Bridgewater.

We have been in operation for 23 years generating 130,000 mwh's on an annual basis, enough output to supply 15-20,000 homes.

We burn approximately 230,000 green tons of wood chips annually. These chips have a value and direct benefit to NH's economy of approximately \$7 million dollars.

We directly employ 20 people at the facility and approximately 100 logging jobs depend on our continued operation.

We came off of a three year power contract on August 31st and we are currently selling into the ISO-NE real-time power market. We are selling into this market because we have been unable to secure a longer term power purchase agreement that keeps our plant viable. Real-time energy prices and the value of renewable energy credits are significantly depressed from previous levels and our continued operation is severely threatened.

*over
\$10 million*

We are very concerned that the construction of the Laidlaw facility will further undermine our ability to operate. A 70 MW plant will have a reach for fuel of well over 100 miles and greatly impact our market. Further, the contract being proposed for the facility in section 6.1.2 outlines a fuel adjustment that limits fuel risk for the owners and ties the price of fuel to the price of fuel from Schiller station. Schiller station is a rate based plant and fuel risk is borne by rate payers. Therefore the index that the Laidlaw plant is benchmarked against is a facility that has no fuel price risk.

Our facility has no such backstop and never has. Higher fuel prices and pressure on supply will likely force us out of business.

Existing Plant Viability
It seems that the certainty of existing jobs and existing facilities should be the #1 priority so that the existing jobs and benefits of these facilities are not lost or traded for a speculative job.

Thank-you and I would be happy to answer any questions.