Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Room 301 Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

RE: BC Hydro Electricity Purchase Agreement between Atlantic Power and BC Hydro

Honourable Minsiter Michelle Mungall:

We are writing in regards to the energy purchase agreement between Atlantic Power and BC Hydro.

The Cariboo Regional District, the City of Williams Lake, & School District 27 are encouraged and support an agreement being made. This agreement will ensure that the biomass power plant can remain open to help create a fireguard around the region in a safe and environmentally friendly manner. This will ensure the overall health and safety of the community, as well as minimizing smoke pollution from controlled burns or fires near the town.

However, the agreement cannot include a provision that would allow for rail ties to be burned at the plant. Such an agreement would go against the intent behind the Clean Energy Act and the very point of keeping the biomass plant open: to protect the community from forest fires and ensure better air quality.

It is for this reason that we are writing to provide our strong support around an energy purchase agreement that does not allow rail ties to be burned for clean energy.

Yours truly,

CC: <u>donna.barnett.mla@leg.bc.ca</u> <u>coralee.oakes.mla@leg.bc.ca</u> <u>john.horgan.mla@leg.bc.ca</u>