ATLANTIC POWER CORP Form S-1/A June 26, 2012

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 25, 2012

Registration No. 333-181224

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO FORM S-1

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

ATLANTIC POWER CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

British Columbia, Canada (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

4900

(Primary Standard Industrial Classification Code Number)
One Federal Street, Floor 30

Boston, Massachusetts 02110 (617) 977-2400

(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Barry E. Welch
President and Chief Executive Officer
Atlantic Power Corporation
One Federal Street, Floor 30
Boston, Massachusetts 02110
(617) 977-2400

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent For Service)

55-0886410

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

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Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box: o

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering, o

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering, o

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definition of "larger accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer ý Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o Smaller reporting company o (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

The registrant hereby amends this registration statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this registration statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until this registration statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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The information in this preliminary prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is declared effective. This preliminary prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale of such securities is not permitted.

Subject to Completion
Preliminary Prospectus dated June 25, 2012

PROSPECTUS

5,500,000 Shares

Common Shares

We are offering 5,500,000 common shares, no par value per share.

Our common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "AT" and on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol "ATP." On June 22, 2012, the last reported sale price of our common shares on the New York Stock Exchange and the Toronto Stock Exchange was \$13.47 and C\$13.79, respectively, per share.

Investing in our common shares involves a high degree of risk. Before buying any shares you should carefully read the discussion of material risks of investing in our common shares under the heading "Risk factors" beginning on page 11 of this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discounts and commissions(1)	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	\$

(1) For a description of the compensation to be received by the underwriters, see the "Underwriting" section of this prospectus.

The public offering price for common shares offered in the United States and elsewhere outside of Canada is payable in U.S. dollars, and the public offering price for common shares offered in each of the provinces of Canada other than Prince Edward Island and Québec is payable in Canadian dollars, except as may otherwise be agreed by the underwriters. The public offering price, underwriting discounts and commissions and proceeds, before expenses, to the Company are payable in the currency in which the common shares are sold.

The underwriters expect to deliver the common shares on or about		, 2012. —
	Book-Running Manager	
	Morgan Stanley	<u> </u>
The date	of this prospectus is	, 2012.

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You should rely only on information contained in this document or to which we have referred you. We have not, and our underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this prospectus or in any free writing prospectuses we have prepared or, for purchasers in Canada, the Canadian prospectus relating to this offering. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell the securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. This document may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities.

As used in this prospectus, the terms "Atlantic Power," the "Company," "we," "our" and "us" refer to Atlantic Power Corporation, together with those entities owned or controlled by Atlantic Power Corporation, unless the context indicates otherwise. Unless otherwise noted, all references to "C\$," "Cdn\$" and "Canadian dollars" are to the lawful currency of Canada and all references to "\$," "US\$" and "U.S. dollars" are to the lawful currency of the United States. This prospectus includes our trademarks and other trade names identified herein. All other trademarks and trade names appearing in this prospectus are the property of their respective holders.

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following summary may not contain all the information that may be important to you or that you should consider before deciding to purchase any common shares and is qualified in its entirety by the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this prospectus. You should read the entire prospectus, especially the risks set forth under the heading "Risk factors" in this prospectus, as well as the financial and other information included or incorporated by reference herein, before making an investment decision.

Atlantic Power Corporation

Atlantic Power Corporation owns and operates a diverse fleet of power generation and infrastructure assets in the United States and Canada. Our power generation projects sell electricity to utilities and other large commercial customers largely under long-term power purchase agreements ("PPAs"), which seek to minimize exposure to changes in commodity prices. Our power generation projects in operation have an aggregate gross electric generation capacity of approximately 3,397 megawatts (or "MW") in which our aggregate ownership interest is approximately 2,141 MW. Our current portfolio consists of interests in 31 operational power generation projects across 11 states in the United States and two provinces in Canada and a 500-kilovolt 84-mile electric transmission line located in California. In addition, we have one 53 MW biomass project under construction in Georgia and one approximately 300 MW wind project under construction in Oklahoma. We also own a majority interest in Rollcast Energy Inc. ("Rollcast"), a biomass power plant developer in North Carolina. Twenty-three of our projects are wholly-owned subsidiaries.

The following map shows the location of our currently-owned projects, including joint venture interests, across the United States and Canada:

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	Project Name	Location	Fuel Type	Total MW	Ownership Interest	Net MW
1	Auburndale	Auburndale FL	Natural Gas	155	100%	155
2	Badger Creek	Bakersfield CA	Natural Gas	46	50%	23
3	Cadillac	Cadillac MI	Biomass	40	100%	40
4	Calstock	Hearst ON	Biomass	35	100%	35
5	Canadian Hills	El Reno OK	Wind	298	99%	295
6	Chambers	Carney's Point NJ	Coal	263	40%	105
7	Curtis Palmer	Corinth NY	Hydro	60	100%	60
8	Delta Person	Albuquerque NM	Natural Gas	132	40%	53
9	Frederickson	Tacoma WA	Natural Gas	250	50%	125
10	Greeley	Greeley CO	Natural Gas	72	100%	72
11	Gregory	Corpus Cristi TX	Natural Gas	400	17%	68
12	Idaho Wind	Twin Falls ID	Wind	183	28%	50
13	Kapuskasing	Kapuskasing ON	Natural Gas	40	100%	40
14	Kenilworth	Kenilworth NJ	Natural Gas	30	100%	30
15	Koma Kulshan	Concrete WA	Hydro	13	50%	6
16	Lake	Umatilla FL	Natural Gas	121	100%	121
17	Mamquam	Squamish BC	Hydro	50	100%	50
18	Manchief	Brush CO	Natural Gas	300	100%	300
19	Moresby Lake	Moresby Island				
		BC	Hydro	6	100%	6
20	Morris	Morris IL	Natural Gas	177	100%	177
21	Naval Station	San Diego CA	Natural Gas	47	100%	47
22	Naval Training Ctr	San Diego CA	Natural Gas	25	100%	25
23	Nipigon	Nipigon ON	Natural Gas	40	100%	40
24	North Bay	North Bay ON	Natural Gas	40	100%	40
25	North Island	San Diego CA	Natural Gas	40	100%	40
26	Orlando	Orlando FL	Natural Gas	129	50%	65
27	Oxnard	Oxnard CA	Natural Gas	49	100%	49
28	Pasco	Tampa FL	Natural Gas	121	100%	121
29	Path 15	California	Transmission	NA	100%	NA
30	Piedmont	Barnsville GA	Biomass	53	98%	53
31	Rockland	American Falls ID	Wind	80	30%	24
32	Rollcast	Charlottesville NC	NA	NA	60%	NA
33	Selkirk	Bethlehem NY	Natural Gas	345	18%	64
34	Tunis	Tunis ON	Natural Gas	43	100%	43
35	Williams Lake	Williams Lake BC	Biomass	66	100%	66

The following charts show, based on MW, the diversification of our portfolio by geography, reporting segment and fuel type:

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We sell the capacity and energy from our power generation projects under PPAs with a number of utilities and other parties. Under the PPAs, which have expiration dates ranging from 2012 to 2037, we receive payments for electric energy delivered to our customers (known as energy payments), in addition to payments for electric generating capacity (known as capacity payments). We also sell steam from a number of our projects to industrial purchasers under steam sales agreements. The transmission system rights associated with our power transmission project entitle us to payments indirectly from the utilities that make use of the transmission line.

Our power generation projects generally have long-term fuel supply agreements, typically accompanied by fuel transportation arrangements. In most cases, the term of the fuel supply and transportation arrangements corresponds to the term of the relevant PPAs. Many of the PPAs and steam sales agreements provide for the indexing or pass-through of fuel costs to our customers. In cases where there is no pass-through of fuel costs, we often attempt to mitigate the market price risk of changing commodity costs through the use of hedging strategies.

We directly operate and maintain more than half of our power generation fleet. We also partner with recognized leaders in the independent power industry to operate and maintain our other projects, including Caithness Energy, LLC ("Caithness"), Colorado Energy Management ("CEM"), Power Plant Management Services ("PPMS") and the Western Area Power Administration ("Western"). Under these operation, maintenance and management agreements, the operator is typically responsible for operations, maintenance and repair services.

Our common shares trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") under the symbol "ATP" and on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol "AT."

Our registered office is located at 355 Burrard Street, Suite 1900, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6C 2G8 and our headquarters is located at One Federal Street, Floor 30, Boston, Massachusetts, 02110 USA. Our telephone number in Boston is (617) 977-2400 and the address of our website is www.atlanticpower.com. We make available, free of charge, on our website our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file such material with, or furnish it to, the SEC. Additionally, we make available on our website, our Canadian securities filings.

Our Competitive Strengths

We believe we distinguish ourselves from other independent power producers through the following competitive strengths:

Diversified projects. Our power generation projects have an aggregate gross electric generation capacity of approximately 3,397 MW, and our net ownership interest in these projects is approximately 2,141 MW. These projects are diversified by fuel type, electricity and steam customers, and geography. The majority are located in the deregulated and more liquid electricity markets of California, the U.S. Mid-Atlantic and New York. We also have a power transmission project, known as the Path 15 project, that is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). Additionally, we have a 53 MW biomass project under construction in Georgia and an approximately 300 MW wind project under construction in Oklahoma.

Experienced management team. Our management team has a depth of experience in commercial power operations and maintenance, project development, asset management, mergers and acquisitions, capital raising and financial controls. Our network of industry contacts and our reputation allow us to access acquisition opportunities on a regular basis.

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Stability of project cash flow. Many of our power generation projects currently in operation have been in operation for over ten years. Cash flows from each project are generally supported by PPAs with investment-grade utilities and other creditworthy counterparties. We believe that each project's combination of PPAs, fuel supply agreements and/or commodity hedges help stabilize operating margins.

Access to capital. Our shares are publicly traded on the NYSE and the TSX. We have a history of successfully raising capital through public offerings of equity and debt securities in Canada and the U.S., issuing public convertible debentures in Canada and bonds in the United States. We have also issued securities by way of private placement in the U.S. and Canada. In addition, we have used non-recourse project-level financing as a source of capital. Project-level financing can be attractive as it typically has a lower cost than equity, is non-recourse to Atlantic Power and amortizes over the term of the project's PPA. Having significant experience in accessing all of these markets provides flexibility such that we can pursue transactions in the most cost-effective market at the time capital is needed.

Strong in-house operations team complemented by leading third-party operators. We operate and maintain 17 of our power generation projects, which represent 44% of our portfolio's generating capacity, and the remaining 14 generation projects are operated by third-parties, who are recognized leaders in the independent power business. Affiliates of Caithness, CEM and PPMS operate projects representing approximately 19%, 14% and 8%, respectively, of the net electric generation capacity of our power generation projects. No other operator is responsible for the operation of projects representing more than 3% of the net electric generation capacity of our power generation projects.

Strong customer base. Our customers are generally large utilities and other parties with investment-grade credit ratings. The largest customers of our power generation projects, including projects recorded under the equity method of accounting, are Public Service Company of Colorado ("PSCo"), Progress Energy Florida, Inc. ("PEF") and Ontario Electricity Financial Corp. ("OEFC"), which purchase approximately 17%, 15% and 9%, respectively, of the net electric generation capacity of our projects. No other electric customer purchases more than 9% of the net electric generation capacity of our power generation projects.

Our Objectives and Business Strategies

Our corporate strategy is to increase the value of the Company through accretive acquisitions in North American markets while generating stable, contracted cash flows from our existing assets to sustain our dividend payout to shareholders. In order to achieve these objectives, we intend to focus on enhancing the operating and financial performance of our current projects and pursuing additional accretive acquisitions primarily in the electric power industry in the United States and Canada.

Organic growth

Since the time of our initial public offering on the TSX in late 2004, we have twice acquired the interest of another partner in one of our existing projects and will continue to look for additional such opportunities. We intend to enhance the operation and financial performance of our projects through:

achievement of improved operating efficiencies, output, reliability and reduced operation and maintenance costs through the upgrade or enhancement of existing equipment or plant configurations;

optimization of commercial arrangements such as PPAs, fuel supply and transportation contracts, steam sales agreements, operations and maintenance agreements and hedge agreements; and

expansion of existing projects.

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Extending PPAs following their expiration

PPAs in our portfolio have expiration dates ranging from 2012 to 2037. In each case, we plan for expirations by evaluating various options in the market. New arrangements may involve responses to utility solicitations for capacity and energy, direct negotiations with the original purchasing utility for PPA extensions, "reverse" requests for proposals by the projects to likely bilateral counterparties, arrangements with creditworthy energy trading firms for tolling agreements, full service PPAs or the use of derivatives to lock in value. We do not assume that revenues or operating margins under existing PPAs will necessarily be sustained after PPA expirations, since most original PPAs included capacity payments related to return of and return on original capital invested, and counterparties or evolving regional electricity markets may or may not provide similar payments under new or extended PPAs. Also PPA extensions are subject to current pricing and market conditions. Based on these factors, we believe that the pricing for PPA extensions for certain of our projects, such as the Auburndale and Lake projects whose PPAs expire in 2013, will be substantially lower than the current PPAs.

Acquisition and investment strategy

We believe that new electricity generation will continue to be required in the United States and Canada as a result of growth in electricity demand, transmission constraints and the retirement of older generation projects due to obsolescence or environmental concerns. In addition, Renewable Portfolio Standards in over 31 states as well as renewables initiatives in several provinces have greatly facilitated attractive PPAs and financial returns for significant renewable project opportunities. While we are not greenfield developers ourselves, we work with experienced development companies to acquire pipelines of late stage development investment opportunities. There is also a very active secondary market for the purchase and sale of existing projects.

We intend to expand our operations by making accretive acquisitions with a focus on power generation, transmission and related facilities in the United States and Canada. We may also invest in other forms of energy-related projects, utility projects and infrastructure projects, as well as make additional investments in development stage projects or companies where the prospects for creating long-term predictable cash flows are attractive. In 2010, we purchased a 60% interest in Rollcast, a biomass developer out of North Carolina with a pipeline of development projects, in which we have the option but not the obligation to invest capital. We continue to assess development companies with strong late-stage development projects, and believe that there are opportunities in the market to enter into joint ventures with strong development teams.

Our management has significant experience in the independent power industry and we believe that our experience, reputation and industry relationships will continue to provide us with enhanced access to future acquisition opportunities.

Asset Management

Our asset management strategy is to ensure that our projects receive appropriate preventative and corrective maintenance and incur capital expenditures, if required, to provide for their safety, efficiency, availability and longevity. We also proactively look for opportunities to optimize power, fuel supply and other agreements to deliver strong and predictable financial performance. In conjunction with our indirect acquisition of 18 power generation assets of Capital Power Income L.P. (subsequently renamed Atlantic Power Limited Partnership on February 1, 2012) (the "Partnership") through our direct and indirect acquisition of all of the issued and outstanding limited partnership units of the Partnership, the personnel that operated and maintained the assets of the Partnership became employees of Atlantic Power. The staff at each of the facilities has extensive experience in managing, operating and maintaining the assets. Personnel at Capital Power Corporation regional offices that provided support in operations management, environmental health and safety, and human resources also joined Atlantic

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Power. In combination with the existing staff of Atlantic Power, we have a dedicated and experienced operations and commercial management organization that is well regarded in the energy industry.

For operations and maintenance services at the 14 projects in our portfolio which we do not operate, we partner with recognized leaders in the independent power business. Most of our third-party operated projects are managed by Caithness, CEM, PPMS and, in the case of Path 15, Western, a U.S. Federal power agency. On a case-by-case basis, these third-party operators may provide: (i) day-to-day project-level management, such as operations and maintenance and asset management; (ii) partnership level management, such as insurance renewals and annual budgets; and (iii) partnership level management, such as acting as limited partner. In some cases these project managers or the project partnerships may subcontract with other firms experienced in project operations, such as General Electric, to provide for day-to-day plant operations. In addition, employees of Atlantic Power with significant experience managing similar assets are involved in all significant decisions with the objective of proactively identifying value-creating opportunities such as contract renewals or restructurings, asset-level refinancings, add-on acquisitions, divestitures and participation at partnership meetings.

Caithness is one of the largest privately-held independent power producers in the United States. For over 25 years, Caithness has been actively engaged in the development, acquisition and management of independent power facilities for its own account as well as in venture arrangements with other entities. Caithness operates our Auburndale, Lake and Pasco projects and provides asset management services for our Orlando, Selkirk and Badger Creek projects.

CEM is an energy infrastructure management company specializing in operations and maintenance, asset management and construction management for independent power producers and investors. With over 25 years of experience in operations and maintenance management, CEM focuses on revenue growth through continuous operational improvement and advanced maintenance concepts. Clients of CEM include independent power producers, municipalities and plant developers. CEM operates our Manchief facility.

PPMS is a management services company focused on providing senior level energy industry expertise to the independent power market. Founded in 2006, PPMS provides management services to a large portfolio of solid fuel and gas-fired generating stations including our Selkirk and Chambers facilities. Previously, Cogentrix provided services to these facilities. Western owns and maintains the Path 15 transmission line. Western transmits and delivers hydroelectric power and related services within a 15-state region of the central and western United States. They are one of four power marketing administrations within the U.S. Department of Energy whose role is to market and transmit electricity from multi-use water projects. Western's transmission system carries electricity from 57 power plants. Together, these plants have an operating capacity of approximately 8,785 MW.

Recent Developments

Acquisition of Capital Power Income L.P.

On November 5, 2011, we directly and indirectly acquired all of the issued and outstanding limited partnership units of the Partnership, in exchange for approximately Cdn\$506.5 million in cash and 31.5 million of our common shares. The Partnership's portfolio consisted of 19 wholly-owned power generation assets located in both Canada and the United States, a 50.15% interest in a power generation asset in the state of Washington, and a 14.3% common ownership interest in Primary Energy Recycling Holdings LLC ("PERH"). At the acquisition date, the transaction increased the net generating capacity of our projects by 143% from 871 MW to approximately 2,116 MW. We did not purchase two of the Partnership's assets located in North Carolina. We remain headquartered in Boston, Massachusetts and added offices in Chicago, Illinois, Toronto, Ontario, Richmond and Vancouver, British Columbia. Additionally, the Capital Power Corporation employees that operated and

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maintained the Partnership's assets and most of those who provided management support of operations, accounting, finance, and human resources became employees of Atlantic Power.

Acquisition of Rockland Wind

On December 28, 2011, we purchased a 30% interest for \$12.5 million in the Rockland Wind Project ("Rockland"), an 80 MW wind farm near American Falls, Idaho, that began operations in early December 2011. The Rockland Wind Project sells power under a 25-year PPA with Idaho Power. Rockland is accounted for under the equity method of accounting.

Acquisition of Canadian Hills Wind Power Development Project

On January 31, 2012, Atlantic Oklahoma Wind, LLC ("Atlantic OW"), a Delaware limited liability company and a wholly owned subsidiary of Atlantic Power, entered into a purchase and sale agreement with Apex Wind Energy Holdings, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Apex"), pursuant to which Atlantic OW acquired a 51% interest in Canadian Hills Wind, LLC, an Oklahoma limited liability company ("Canadian Hills") for a nominal sum. Canadian Hills is the owner of a 298.45 MW wind energy project under construction in the State of Oklahoma. On March 30, 2012, we completed the purchase of an additional 48% interest in Canadian Hills for a nominal amount, bringing our total interest in the project to 99%. Apex retained a 1% interest in the project. At the time, we also closed a \$310 million non-recourse, project-level construction financing facility for the project. The facility includes a \$290 million construction loan and a \$20 million 5-year letter of credit facility. Proceeds from the construction loan were used, in part, to repay Atlantic Power \$29.3 million in member loans that were made to the project to fund construction prior to closing the construction financing facility. The construction loan is structured to be repaid with a tax equity investment, which we are actively pursuing, by institutional investors at the time Canadian Hills commences commercial operations. In the event that we are unable to secure such tax equity investment, we may be required to raise additional debt or equity capital in order to repay the loan.

In connection with the closing of the construction financing facility on March 30, 2012, we committed to invest approximately \$180 million in equity (net of financing costs) to cover the balance of the construction and development costs, expected to be drawn following the final disbursement of the construction loan. We have received an approximately \$360 million bridge facility commitment (the "Bridge Facility") from Morgan Stanley to provide flexibility in the timing of the tax equity investment and our own equity commitment in the project.

Canadian Hills executed PPAs for all of its output with Southwestern Electric Power Company (201.25 MW), Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority (49.2 MW), and Grand River Dam Authority (48 MW).

PERH Interest Sale

On February 16, 2012, we entered into an agreement with Primary Energy Recycling Corporation ("PERC"), whereby PERC will purchase our 14.3% common membership interests in PERH for approximately \$24 million, plus a management agreement termination fee of approximately \$6.1 million for a total price of \$30.1 million. The transaction closed on May 31, 2012 and we received proceeds of approximately \$30.2 million.

Path 15

In February 2011, we filed a rate application with the FERC to establish Path 15's revenue requirement at \$30.3 million for