



November 10, 2009

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## **BY HAND DELIVERY**

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director & Secretary New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit St., Ste. 10 Concord, NH 03301

Re: DT 09-136 Union Telephone Company Transfer to of Assets to TDS Telecom

Dear Ms. Howland:

Enclosed for filing in the above-docketed proceeding are an original and seven (7) copies of a Settlement Stipulation between the Commission's Staff, the Office of Consumer Advocate ("OCA"), Union Telephone Company and TDS Telecommunications Corporation (the "Stipulation").

In connection with the hearing scheduled for this Friday, November 13, 2009, and on behalf of Union Telephone Company and TDS Telecommunications Corporation (collectively, the "Petitioners"), we respectfully request that the Commission waive the filing time frame set forth within Puc. 203.20(e) and in the procedural schedule in this Docket. Pursuant to Puc. 203.20(f), the Commission may waive such requirements and permit the filing of a settlement stipulation when (i) the filing of a stipulation such as the enclosed promotes the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceedings and (ii) the filing will not impair the rights of any parties to the proceeding. The Petitioners submit that the filing of the enclosed Stipulation in the present case meets the requirements of Puc. 203.20(f). As a first matter, other than the Petitioners, the only parties to this Docket are the Staff and the OCA. Both the Staff and OCA assent to the relief requested herein. Thus, the filing of the Stipulation will not impair any of the parties' rights in this Docket. In addition, the Petitioners submit that the Stipulation promotes and orderly and efficient resolution of the Docket in that the Petitioners have reached a full settlement with the Staff and OCA.

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A compact disk containing the executed Settlement Stipulation also is enclosed. Thank you for the consideration of the above referenced request.

Very truly yours,

Freni / Coolborth

Frederick J. Coolbroth

FJC:kaa Enclosures cc: Electronic Service List (w/enclosure) Meredith A. Hatfield, Esq. (w/enclosure)