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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

TDD Access: Relay NH
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX No. 271-3878

Website:
www.puc.nh.gov

July 21, 2017

Re: DT 11-061, Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a
FairPoint Communications-NNE Petition for Approval of Simplified
Metrics Plan and Wholesale Performance Plan
Scheduling Public Comment Hearing on Replacement Bill Credit Payee Following
Repeal of the Telecommunications Planning and Development Fund

To the Parties:

In Order No. 25,623 (February 19, 2014), the Commission directed that any Wholesale Performance Plan (WPP) bill credits waived by a competitive local exchange carrier through a commercial contract or otherwise be paid by FairPoint to the Telecommunications Planning and Development Fund established under RSA 12-A:45-a, to be used for the purposes of and subject to the procedures specified in the Telecommunications Planning and Development Initiative, RSA 12-A:45-49. That requirement was expressly reaffirmed in the Commission's Order No. 25,662 (May 6, 2014).

Effective July 1, 2017, the statutory authorization for the Telecommunications Planning and Development Fund was repealed by House Bill 517, 2017 N.H. Laws Chapter 156. In view of that repeal, the Commission has determined that an appropriate alternative payee to receive FairPoint WPP bill credits should be identified and approved and that one alternative to be considered should be the Telecommunications Relay Service Trust Fund.

The Commission has scheduled a public comment hearing to address appropriate alternative payees for the FairPoint WPP bill credits, to be held on August 4, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. In addition, parties and other interested stakeholders may submit written comments regarding such appropriate alternative payees until August 11, 2017.

Subsequent to the receipt of public comments, the Commission will determine the appropriate alternative payee for the FairPoint WPP bill credits and designate that payee by order modifying its previous orders in this docket under RSA 365:28.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debra A. Howland".

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

cc: Docket File/Service List (Electronically)

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES- DOCKET RELATED

Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.

Executive.Director@puc.nh.gov	megan.cobleigh@ottcommunications.com
aklein@kleinlawpllc.com	michael.ladam@puc.nh.gov
amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov	patrick@crockerlawfirm.com
amorrison@fairpoint.com	pmchugh@fairpoint.com
ashoer@apslaw.com	robert.meehan@fairpoint.com
bkarpski@apslaw.com	rtaylor@fairpoint.com
bthayer@bayring.com	sgeiger@orr-reno.com
david.goyette@puc.nh.gov	Stacey_Parker@cable.comcast.com
david.shulock@puc.nh.gov	swennerstrand@fairpoint.com
david.wiesner@puc.nh.gov	trina.bragdon@ottcommunications.com
dwinslow@bayring.com	trosenberger@devinemillimet.com
esamp@gwi.net	
escarponi@fairpoint.com	
f.anne.ross@puc.nh.gov	
f.oneill-cunha@one.verizon.com	
gent@cav.net	
gmkg@fhllplaw.com	
jbtechentin@apslaw.com	
jcanny@fairpoint.com	
jeremy@segstel.com	
kath@segstel.com	
katherine.mudge@megapath.com	
leszek.stachow@puc.nh.gov	
llackey@firstlight.net	

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FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:
- DEBRA A HOWLAND
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21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
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Executive.Director@puc.nh.gov	dzahka@spectrotel.com
aisar@millerisar.com	gina.wybel@netwolves.com
allison.ellis@ftr.com	heather.albert@ottcommunications.com
amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov	jbrown@vcomsolutions.com
angie.mccall@ftr.com	jeffrey.britell@ipc.com
avalencia@impacttelecom.com	jennifer.heise@tdstelecom.com
awalsh@tillotsoncorp.com	jeremy.smuckler@acninc.com
bperna@customteleconnect.com	jgiannantonio@firstcomm.com
brian.kenney@logmein.com	jharper@broadviewnet.com
Carl.Billek@corp.idt.net	jkolezynski@eastontelecom.com
cat@airespring.com	jmackenzie@viiz.com
charlie@securesyscom.com	jmcgowan@paytel.com
chopfinger@securustechologies.com	joe.topel@orange.com
ckonrad@ldxx.com	jrenneker@nos.com
compliance@velocity.org	JRossi22@mettel.net
compliance@wafs.com	kdawson@icsolutions.com
contact@nationwideregulatorycompliance.com	kelly.faul@xo.com
cs@ustelecomld.com	khavins@broadbanddynamics.com
cturner@ecgl.com	kperkins@rtcteam.net
david.wiesner@puc.nh.gov	kteal@itllc.net
dbailey@bullseyetelecom.com	kwante@bwtc.net
dcondit@causebasedcommerce.com	legal@amphone.com
diane.peters@level3.com	legal@mygtc.com
dprather@indigital.net	

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leslieb@kall8.com
lisa.m.cleveland@puc.nh.gov
lisa.m.thorne@verizon.com
llackey@firstlight.net
lmatosian@prescientworldwide.com
mark@csilongwood.com
markcpa@cit-tele.com
mcowan@telepacific.com
melissa.driskell@telrite.com
mgelfond@mettel.net
mgilbert@wcs.com
michael.ladam@puc.nh.gov
michelle.painter@sprint.com
mlevine@transbeam.com
mrizzo@btigroup.com
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov
os5414@att.com
pamela.hollick@level3.com
pat@widevoice.com
rachel.ladwig@tdstelecom.com
rbrazill@att.com
regcompliance@telecompliance.net
regdbg@dominionbusinessgroup.com
regreporting@birch.com
regulatory@comtech21.com
regulatory@granitenet.com
regulatory@opexld.com
regulatory@peerlessnetwork.com
regulatory@touchtone.net
regulatory@touchtone.net
rmadley@incomm.com
robert.meehan@fairpoint.com

rquinto@legacyinmate.com
sandra.anderson@verizon.com
sbogdan@broadviewnet.com
scnelson@gsinet.net
scockerham@fastekteam.com
scott.brooks@tdstelecom.com
sdesgrouilliers@intermedia.net
showsare@firstchoicetele.com
siao.gallion@intelliverse.com
sperrotte@800response.com
srand@gsn.net
srand@gstnetworks.com
stomas@tminc.com
tamara.volmer@dish.com
tax@powernetco.com
ted.hankins@centurylink.com
ted.heckmann@cinbell.com
tim.p.loken@windstream.com
tina@x2comm.com
trina.bragdon@ottcommunications.com
usaregulatory@telmex.com
verizonlongdistance@verizon.com
wci.newhampshire.govaffairs@windstream.com