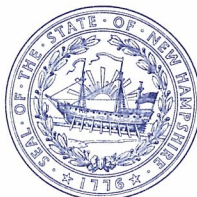


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Debra A. Howland

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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December 15, 2011

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

Re: DT 11-248, FairPoint Petition to Institute a Municipal Tax Surcharge  
Staff Report of Technical Session

Dear Director Howland:

Following the December 14, 2011 hearing on temporary rates in the above-captioned docket, representatives of FairPoint, Staff and the intervening parties met in a technical session. During that technical session it was agreed that as a threshold issue the scope must be determined. Specifically, it must be determined whether the changes proposed by FairPoint in this docket could be addressed through something other than a "full" rate case. Staff and the parties agreed that resolution of this question was necessary before further progress in the docket could be made.

Accordingly, Staff and the parties agreed that briefs would be submitted to the Commission by February 3, 2012 on this issue. To ensure that all parties would brief the same issue, Staff and the parties pledged to work collaboratively in the next few weeks to develop a question or set of questions that would be the subject of the briefs. Staff and the parties further agreed that once this threshold issue was determined a further procedural schedule in the docket could be developed and presented to the Commission for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew J. Fossum".

Matthew J. Fossum  
Staff Attorney

Cc: Service List  
Docket Book