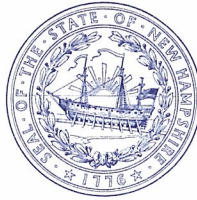


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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January 20, 2012

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

Re: DT 11-248 – Northern New England Telephone Operations
Petition to Implement Municipal Tax Surcharge
Report on Procedural Schedule




Dear Ms. Howland:

On December 14, 2011, following a hearing on temporary rates and other items, Staff and the parties to the above-captioned docket met in a technical session. On December 15, 2011, Staff filed a report stating that the parties had agreed that questions on the scope of the docket – in particular whether a full rate case was necessary – required rulings from the Commission prior to further proceedings in the case. On December 28, 2011, the Commission issued Order No. 25,308, and concluded that a full rate case was not necessary. The Commission, therefore, directed the parties to reconvene to discuss and propose a new procedural schedule for the balance of the proceeding and to report back to the Commission no later than January 20, 2012.

Through e-mail and telephone correspondence, Staff and the parties have agreed upon the below proposal for a procedural schedule for the Commission's consideration:

| | |
|--|---|
| Data Requests to FairPoint | 2/3/12 |
| Responses from FairPoint | 2/17/12 |
| Testimony of Parties other than FairPoint | 3/2/12 |
| Data Requests on Testimony of Parties other than FairPoint | 3/16/12 |
| Responses to Data Requests | 3/30/12 |
| Technical Session | 4/11/12 |
| Hearing on the Merits | Week of May 7 – preferably after Monday, May 7. |

Sincerely,


Matthew J. Fossum
Staff Attorney