

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

NEW HAMPSHIRE OPTICAL SYSTEMS, LLC
DT 12-107

NORTHERN COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CORPORATION'S PETITION TO
INTERVENE

Northern Community Investment Corporation ("NCIC") hereby petitions the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding, and in support thereof states as follows:

1. The mission of NCIC is, among other things, to support and expand employment opportunities in the North Country of New Hampshire through support for businesses located in the region. In furtherance of its mission, NCIC has been an active supporter of and participant in the Network NH Now project ("Project") being led by the University System of New Hampshire ("USNH").
2. The core of the Project is the Middle Mile Network, which consists of an open-access, high-speed, middle-mile, fiber optic network designed to support public educational, economic, public safety and governmental needs primarily in certain unserved and underserved areas in the State of New Hampshire. Construction of the Middle Mile Network is funded by a public/private partnership that is supported by a grant of up to \$44.5 million ("the Broadband Build-out Grant") by the U.S. Department of Commerce under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.
3. The Project is the direct result of the efforts of a number of public and private entities that were brought together by DRED and guided by the Governor's Telecommunications

Advisory Board. The Project provides the backbone on which, among other things, NCIC intends to deliver broadband service to end users in Northern New Hampshire through NCIC's last mile project, Wireless LINC.

4. NCIC understands that the contractor selected to construct the Middle Mile Network, New Hampshire Optical Systems, Inc., has encountered delays in constructing the Middle Mile Network that relate to the rights and obligations of parties under their pole attachment agreements with various utility pole owners. In order to comply with the terms of the Broadband Build-out Grant, the Middle Mile Network must be completed by June 30, 2013.

5. It is critical to the success of the Middle Mile Network that it be completed in a timely fashion. Failure to do so, may cause USNH to be unable to comply with the terms of the Broadband Build-out Grant and complete the Project. Failure to complete the Project will result in direct harm to USNH, the other last mile participants in the Project, including the end users that NCIC's Wireless LINC project intends to serve, and to the general public interests of the State of New Hampshire. In particular, failure to complete the Project will significantly undermine NCIC's economic development goals for New Hampshire's North Country.

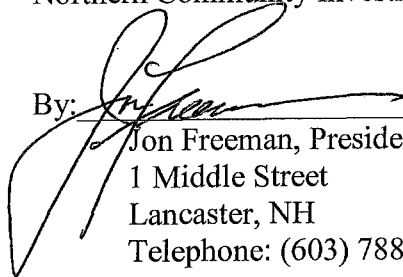
6. For the foregoing reasons, NCIC's rights, duties, privileges, immunities and other substantial interests are likely to be affected by this proceeding. NCIC's participation in this proceeding will be consistent with the interests of justice and will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding. NCIC recognizes that the original date for intervention in this proceeding was June 5, 2012. Granting NCIC's intervention at this time will not unduly impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceeding because NHOS has only recently amended its initial petition in response to Commission Order No. 25,386 issued on July 3, 2012 and a procedural schedule has not yet been established for this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, NCIC respectfully requests that it be granted full intervenor status in the above-captioned proceeding.

Northern Community Investment Corporation

Date: August , 2012

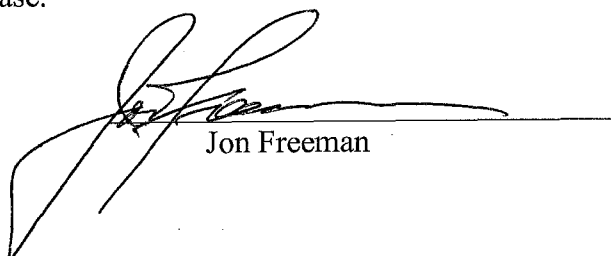
By:



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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of this Petition to Intervene has been served on the parties identified on the service list in this case.



Jon Freeman