

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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May 24, 2017

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

**Re: DT 16-872, Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.
Joint Petition for Findings in Furtherance of the Acquisition of FairPoint
Communications, Inc. and its New Hampshire Operating Subsidiaries
Filing of Stipulation and Settlement Agreement**

Dear Ms. Howland:

Please find enclosed for filing with the Commission the original and six copies of a Stipulation and Settlement Agreement (Settlement Agreement) executed by Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc., FairPoint Communications, Inc., and Commission Staff (Settling Parties), pursuant to N.H. Code Admin. Rules Puc 203.20. The Settlement Agreement effectively resolves all issues regarding the subject matter of this docket, and supports the findings required to be made by the Commission under RSA 374:30, II.

Pursuant to Puc 203.20(f), Commission Staff, on behalf of the Settling Parties, requests that the Commission accept the Settlement Agreement as late-filed, because such acceptance will promote the orderly and efficient conduct of the proceeding and will not impair the rights of any party to the proceeding.

On behalf of the Settling Parties, Staff respectfully requests that the Commission consider and approve the Settlement Agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David K. Wiesner".

David K. Wiesner
Staff Attorney

Enclosures
cc: Docket File
Service List

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.

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Docket #: 16-872-1 Printed: May 24, 2017

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
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
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.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.