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October 3, 2017

Via Hand Delivery and Electronic Mail

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

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

Dear Ms. Howland:

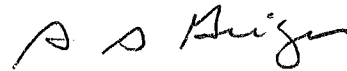
Enclosed for filing in the above-captioned docket please find an original and six (6) copies of a Motion for Protective Order and Confidential Treatment filed on behalf of Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. ("Consolidated"). The enclosed Motion seeks protective treatment for Consolidated's plan to achieve targeted merger efficiencies. This highly confidential information is being provided to the Commission and Labor Intervenors in accordance with Section II. D, paragraph 17 of a Revised Settlement Agreement which the Commission approved in Order No. 26, 022 (May 31, 2017).

Seven (7) copies each of the redacted and highly confidential versions of a document entitled "Consolidated Communications Synergy Plan-New Hampshire Summary 9/29/17" are also enclosed. Please maintain the unredacted documents within the Commission offices in a secure location as required by N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.08(g).

Please contact me if there are any questions about these filings. Thank you for your assistance.

Ms. Debra A. Howland, Executive Director
October 3, 2017
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Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. S. Geiger". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent than the middle initial.

Susan S. Geiger

Enclosures
cc: Service List (electronic mail)

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