

Leighton, Adele

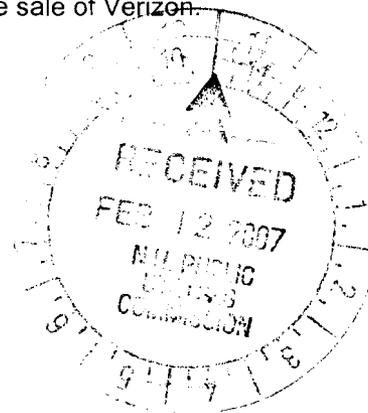
From: Smith, Kim on behalf of PUC
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2007 10:26 AM
To: Leighton, Adele; Bailey, Kate; Howland, Debra; Noonan, Amanda
Subject: FW: Deregulation Is Not Working

I have attached an internet e-mail from our PUC account regarding deregulation and the sale of Verizon.

--Kim

-----Original Message-----

From: Peter Hendrick [mailto:peterhendrick@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, February 09, 2007 1:53 PM
To: PUC
Subject: Deregulation Is Not Working



Dear Commission Members:

The deregulation of the electric industry in New Hampshire has resulted in much higher prices for New Hampshire electric consumers.

The recent acquisition of Granite State Electric by National Grid has increased electric rates in Southwestern New Hampshire by at least 30% within the last year. My kilowatt hours are down and my bill has increase at least 25%.

Traditionally there is no choice for the consumer within a utilitarian monopoly. That is true today. We have seen no benefits from this acquisition. Why was it approved?

Why are consumers paying for the capital gains for GSE stockholders and a return on investment for National Grid stockholders?

What was the rationale that the commission used for approving the acquisition?

Finally, what role will the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission play in approving the sales of regional telephone services by Verizon to FairPoint Communications, Inc.,?

Within this acquisition, they will create a subsidiary that they will own 60 percent of the stock if this is approved.

Will this new company have enough capital and infrastructure to provide the investment necessary to do the upgrades and who will pay for these upgrades? Did not Verizon promise to make infrastructure investments when they acquired the previous company? Did they do so? Are they committed to doing so within this partnership, or is this merely a loophole device to raise rates for consumers and to walk away from previous obligations to improve technology and infrastructure?

Sincerely yours,

Peter Hendrick
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