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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: February 21, 2012

AT (OFFICE): NHPUC

FROM: *David*
David Goyette, Utility Analyst III - Telecommunications

SUBJECT: DT 12-041 FairPoint Communications - NNE
Special Contract Amendments for Digital Centrex Service

TO: Debra Howland, Executive Director
Kate Bailey, Director - Telecommunications

On February 9, 2012, Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a FairPoint Communications - NNE (FairPoint) filed Amendments Nos. 1 and 2 to an existing special contract for Digital Centrex Service. The original contract was assigned Docket No. DT 09-060 and, after Commission review, became effective May 13, 2009.

Amendments No. 1 and No. 2 have not been submitted to the Commission prior to the instant filing, and could be viewed as one combined, single amendment. The amendments extend the contract term by an additional 36 months and modify the contract rate.

In its cover letter FairPoint requested certain information be kept confidential.

Staff has reviewed the cost study data submitted by FairPoint and confirmed that the contract rates under the amendments exceed the price floor requirements as defined in Order Nos. 23,357 and 23,493 (Docket No. DT 99-018). Based on its analysis, Staff recommends that Amendments No. 1 and No. 2 be allowed to go into effect pursuant to RSA 378:18-b, II(a).