

**BEFORE THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Case No. DT 12-107**

**AMENDMENT TO NHOS PETITION FOR INVESTIGATION**

**I. PRELIMINARY**

On July 3, 2012, the Commission issued Order No. 25,386, which denied NECTA's motion to dismiss the April 24, 2012 Petition For Investigation (the "Petition") filed by New Hampshire Optical Systems, Inc. ("NHOS"). The Order directed NHOS, within 30 days, to "revise its filings in order to provide greater clarity and specificity about the particular acts or actors that NHOS alleges are impeding its work." Pursuant to the Order, NHOS submits the following Amendment to its Petition and subsequent pleadings in this case.

NHOS understands from the Order that NHOS has been requested to supplement its pleadings so that the Commission may conduct the investigation requested by the NHOS pursuant to RSA 365:5, and so that the "actors" involved can receive notice and an opportunity to respond to this matter. NHOS does not interpret the Order as directing NHOS to file a complaint under RSA 365:1 and Puc 204.01.

**II. SUPPLEMENTAL FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

1. NHOS hereby incorporates by reference the facts set forth in the Petition, as well as in its June 6, 2012 Statement of Position Regarding Charges For Utility Pole Make Ready, and its June 15, 2012 Objection to NECTA's Motion to Dismiss.

**A. The Middle-Mile Project**

2. On April 14, 2011, NHOS was awarded a contract for a project that entails the installation of approximately 750 miles of fiber optic cable in New Hampshire, through a region

extending generally from the seacoast, to the southwest part of the state, and then north to the Lakes Region and the North Country (the “Middle-Mile Project”).

3. The Middle-Mile Project is funded by a grant awarded under the federal Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (“BTOP”) to NHOS and its partners, the University of New Hampshire (“UNH”) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (“NTIA”).

4. The deadline for NHOS to complete the installation of cable along the 750 mile route of the Middle-Mile Project is June 2013. If this deadline is not met, there is a risk that federal funding received for the Project will lapse.

5. To complete its work under the Middle-Mile Project, NHOS must attach fiber optic cable to approximately 23,000 utility poles. Those poles are owned by providers of telecommunications and electrical services, examples of which include FairPoint Communications, Unital and PSNH.

6. Certain third parties previously have attached their utilities to many of the 23,000 utility poles within the scope of the Middle-Mile Project. These third parties (“third-party attachers”) include Tech Valley/segTEL.

**B. Pole Attachment Agreements**

7. The rights and obligations between the pole owners and third-party attachers are governed by pole attachment agreements (“PAAs”) entered into between each pole owner and each attacher. A standard PAA is employed by pole owners for all attachments in the State of New Hampshire. A sample PAA is attached as Exhibit A.

8. The PAA serves as a means of implementing the standards set forth in Puc 1300 for ensuring that the rates, charges, terms and conditions for pole attachments “are just and reasonable.”

9. The PAA provides for the issuance of non-exclusive licenses to the third-party attachers (the “Licensees”) which authorize the connection of the Licensees’ facilities to the utility poles of the pole owners (the “Licensors”). See Article 2.1. Before attaching to any pole, a Licensee must submit applications for pole attachment licenses, and must designate the priority for the completion of make-ready work – such as the rearrangement of existing facilities or other pole changes – that must be performed by the Licensor prior to the attachment of the Licensee’s facilities. See Article 3.3. The PAA provides that Licensors “shall make commercially reasonable efforts” to complete make-ready work within six months of receiving payment for the work from the Licensee. See Article 5.4.

10. With respect to make-ready work required to be performed by existing third-party attachers (not the pole owners), the PAA does not grant new attachers the power to control the time, scope or rate of third-party make-ready work. However, pole owners have the contractual right under the PAA to demand that Licensees perform this work within designated time frames, and, if those time frames are not met, to perform the make-ready work themselves at the Licensees’ expense.

11. Specifically, Article 7.1.5 of the PAA states that when a pole owner or other attachers (such as NHOS) “need to attach additional facilities to any of Licensor’s Utility Poles,” the Licensee “will upon written notice from the Licensor rearrange its Attachments on the Utility Pole or transfer them to a replacement Utility Pole ... so that the additional facilities of the Licensor ... or other Licensee [such as NHOS] may be attached ...”

12. Further, Article 7.1.6 provides that if the Licensee “does not rearrange or transfer its Attachments within fifteen (15) days after receipt of written notice from the Licensor requesting such rearrangement or transfer ... Licensor ... may perform or have performed such rearrangement or transfer.”

13. The PAA does not give new attachers, such as NHOS, the right to enforce these provisions, or to demand that the pole owners insist that existing third-party attachers act expeditiously, and in a just and reasonable manner, in performing make-ready work required to attach new facilities.

**C. Third-Party Make Ready Work Has Prevented NHOS From Beginning Work on the Middle-Mile Project**

14. In October 2010, NHOS entered into PAAs with the owners of the utility poles within the scope of the Middle-Mile Project. Then, in June and July 2011, NHOS filed applications with pole owners for licenses to begin the installation of its fiber optic cable, and it paid for make-ready work required of the pole owners for the work to proceed.

15. More than a year has passed, yet NHOS has been unable to proceed with the Project. This is because existing third-party attachers, in particular segTEL, have refused to perform the make-ready work that must occur before NHOS can attach its fiber optic cable.

16. The third-party attachers have demanded that NHOS agree to pay for make-ready work that is unrelated to new attachments, unreasonable in scope, and charged at excessive rates. Further, these attachers have deliberately delayed the start of that work, even after NHOS assented to their unreasonable payment demands.

17. Third-party attachers, like segTEL, clearly have no incentive to cooperate in allowing competitors like NHOS to gain access to utility poles, and they are free to exploit to their advantage the absence of rules and standards over third-party make-ready work.

18. Moreover, to date, pole owners have declined to enforce the provisions of Articles 7.1.5 and 7.1.6 of the PAA to require that third-party attachers perform the make-ready work necessary for NHOS to install its fiber optic cable.

19. NHOS shares the Commission's position, set forth in the Order, that current Commission rules do not appear to provide definitive direction over disputes between prospective and existing attachers and that the existing regulatory structure may be in need of further standards. NHOS also agrees with Unitil's position that while there are provisions in the PAA allowing the sole owners to perform make-ready if the attacher does not, the owners may be reluctant to do so to avoid some liability in moving those facilities. Additionally when the pole owners are reluctant, the new attacher has no authority to leverage the provisions in the PAA. The result of these issues is that a new attacher has little to no leverage to negotiate reasonable terms with existing attachers and is left to rely on the cooperation of existing attachers for establishing reasonable rates and timeframes for performance of make-ready work.

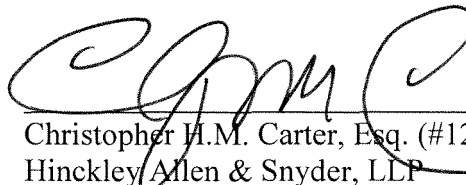
20. For the reasons set forth above, and in NHOS' prior pleadings, NHOS requests that the Commission investigate third-party make-ready practices on the Middle-Mile Project, and demand that pole owners employ their contractual right under the PAA to require third-party attachers to perform make-ready work in a timely fashion, and under terms that are fair and reasonable.

Respectfully submitted,

NEW HAMPSHIRE OPTICAL SYSTEMS, INC.

By its attorneys

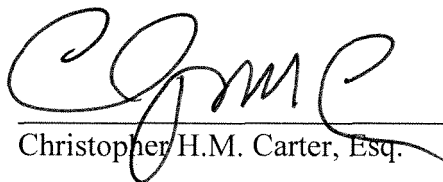
Dated: August 2, 2012



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this date of August 2, 2012, I have forwarded a copy of the foregoing to the persons listed on the service list via electronic mail, and U.S. mail for those unable to be served electronically.



Christopher H.M. Carter, Esq.

#50834474

# Exhibit A

POLE ATTACHMENT AGREEMENT

DATED \_\_\_\_\_

BETWEEN

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE OPERATIONS LLC  
D/B/A FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS - NNE (LICENSOR)

AND

NAME OF POWER COMPANY  
, (LICENSOR)

AND

NAME OF LICENSEE  
, (LICENSEE)



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**POLE ATTACHMENT AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT, made as of this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, between NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE OPERATIONS LLC, d/b/a FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS - NNE, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware, having its principal office at 521 East Morehead Street, Suite 250, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202 (“FairPoint”), and \_\_\_\_\_ (an electric company), organized and existing under the laws of the State of \_\_\_\_\_, having its principal office at \_\_\_\_\_

(either or both hereinafter called “Licensor”) and \_\_\_\_\_, organized and existing under the laws of the State/Commonwealth of \_\_\_\_\_, having its principal office at \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter called “Licensee”).

**WITNESSETH**

WHEREAS, Licensee for its own use desires to place and maintain cables, equipment, and facilities on poles of Licensor, specifically in the State of \_\_\_\_\_; and

WHEREAS, Licensor is willing to permit, to the extent it may lawfully do so, the placement of cables, equipment, and facilities by Licensee on Licensor’s poles subject to the terms of this Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants, terms and conditions herein contained, the parties agree as follows:

**ARTICLE I - DEFINITIONS**

- 1.1 **Anchor.** A facility consisting of an assembly of a rod secured to a fixed object or plate designed to resist the pull of guy strand, or strands.
- 1.2 **Anchor Attachment.** A guy strand attached to an anchor solely owned or jointly owned by Licensor or for which Licensor is responsible for authorizing attachments.
- 1.3 **Attachment.** Any of Licensee’s facilities in direct contact with or supported by a utility pole, and/or any article of equipment attached to a point on a pole not normally occupied by a strand attachment (e.g., power supplies, equipment, cabinets, terminals, etc.). Attachments, for purposes of this Agreement, shall not include any antenna or related equipment used for wireless telecommunication services. For billing purposes an Attachment is counted for each guy strand and cable supported by a through-bolt and for each article of equipment attached to a Utility Pole.

- 1.4 Attachment Fee. A specified amount revised periodically, billed semi-annually or annually to the Licensee.
- 1.5 Attachment Fees and Charges. The Attachment Fee and the other charges payable by Licensee pursuant to Article III.
- 1.6 Guy Strand. A metal cable of high tensile strength which is attached to a pole and anchor or another pole for the purpose of reducing pole stress.
- 1.7 Joint Owner. A person, corporation or other legal entity having an ownership interest in a pole and/or anchor.
- 1.8 Joint User. A party to whom use of the pole or anchor has been extended by the owner of the facility. The term "Joint User" shall not include Licensees.
- 1.9 Licensee's Facilities. The cable and all associated equipment and hardware owned by the Licensee.
- 1.10 Licensee's Maintenance Work. Work performed by Licensee on its facilities and attachments for repair, replacement and daily servicing of its plant, not associated with any significant overlash or rebuild project.
- 1.11 Make-ready Work. All work, including, but not limited to rearrangement and/or transfer of existing facilities, replacement of a pole or any other changes required to accommodate the attachment of licensee's facilities to a pole or anchor.
- 1.12 Overlash. The act of attaching any single strand, hardware, cable, wires and/or apparatus owned by Licensee to same Licensee's existing strand, hardware, cable, wires and/or apparatus.
- 1.13 Periodic Inspection. Licensor's inspection of Licensee's facilities performed to determine that attachments are authorized and are maintained in conformance with the required specifications in Article VI of this Agreement.
- 1.14 Planning Manager's Area. A geographic area assigned to a FairPoint Engineer representative. The Planning Manager's Areas are set forth in APPENDIX III.
- 1.15 Pre-construction Survey. There are two elements of the Pre-construction Survey: 1.) field inspection of the existing pole and anchor facilities to determine any necessary Make-ready Work, and 2.) administrative effort required to process the application and to prepare the charges for Make-ready Work, if applicable.
- 1.16 Post-construction Inspection. Inspection performed to measure and/or to visually observe Licensee's Facilities, during or shortly after completion of construction to ensure the attachment and the installation of the Licensee's Facilities conform to the standards required by this Agreement.

- 1.17 Rebuild. Work other than Licensee's Maintenance Work performed by Licensee to replace, add to or alter its existing attachments or facilities attached to Licensor's poles.
- 1.18 Subsequent Inspections. Inspections performed to confirm the correction of non-conforming conditions, which were observed during Periodic or Post-construction Inspections.
- 1.19 Suspension Strand (Messenger). A metal cable of high tensile strength attached to a pole and used to support facilities.
- 1.20 Unit Cost. A dollar amount subject to periodic revision by Licensor, associated with Pre-construction Surveys, Make-ready Work and Inspections applicable to specific work operations and functions.
- 1.21 Utility Pole. A pole solely owned, jointly owned, or jointly used by the Licensor and used to support its facilities and/or the facilities of an authorized Licensee.

## **ARTICLE II – SCOPE OF AGREEMENT**

- 2.1 Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, Licensor agrees to issue to Licensee for any lawful purpose, revocable, non-exclusive licenses authorizing the attachment of Licensee's Facilities to Licensor's poles. This Agreement governs the fees, charges, terms and conditions under which Licensor issues such licenses to Licensee. Licensee must obtain separate authorization from, and pay all applicable fees and charges to, each Licensor and any Joint Owner or Joint User of any Utility Pole. This Agreement is not in and of itself a license, and before making any attachment to any Utility Pole, Licensee must apply for and obtain a license.
- 2.2 This Agreement supersedes all previous aerial agreements between Licensor and Licensee with respect to the subject matter contained herein. This Agreement shall govern all existing licenses between Licensee and Licensor as well as all licenses issued subsequent to execution of this Agreement.
- 2.3 No use, however extended, of Licensor's poles or payment of any fees or charges required under this Agreement shall create or vest in Licensee any ownership or property rights in such poles. Licensee's rights herein shall be and remain a license.
- 2.4 Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to require Licensor to construct, retain, extend, place, or maintain any pole or other facilities not needed for Licensor's own service requirements.
- 2.5 Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as a limitation, restriction, or prohibition against Licensor entering into agreements with other parties regarding the poles covered by this Agreement. The rights of the Licensee

shall at all times be subject to any existing agreement(s) or arrangement(s) between Licensor and any Joint Owner(s) or Joint User(s) of Licensor's poles.

- 2.6 Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to require Licensor to grant a license where Licensor believes that placement of Licensee's Facilities would interfere with Licensor's existing service requirements, or the use of Licensor's facilities by other parties, or create a hazardous or unsafe condition.

### **ARTICLE III – FEES AND CHARGES**

#### **3.1 General**

3.1.1 Licensee agrees to pay to Licensor the applicable Attachment Fees and Charges as specified in and in accordance with the terms and conditions of subpart 3.2 of this Agreement and of APPENDIX I, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

3.1.2 The Licensor may change the amount of Attachment Fees and Charges specified in APPENDIX I by giving the Licensee not less than sixty (60) days written notice prior to the date the change is to become effective. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, Licensee may terminate this Agreement at the end of such sixty (60) day notice period if the change in Attachment Fees and Charges is not acceptable to Licensee.

Upon termination, Licensee shall thereafter remove its facilities and attachments in accordance with the process set forth in Article X, subpart 10.3 of this Agreement.

3.1.3 Changes in the amount of Attachment Fees and Charges specified in APPENDIX I shall become effective on the date specified by Licensor, subject to the sixty (60) day advance written notice. Licensee shall have the right to challenge the increase to the Attachment Fees and Charges by submitting the issue to the regulatory body asserting jurisdiction over this Agreement for decision. Licensee shall pay the existing Attachment Fees and Charges during the time that the issue is being reviewed by said regulatory body, subject to true-up based on the final determination of rates by said regulatory body plus any interest prescribed by said regulatory body.

3.1.4 Licensor shall provide licensee with an updated APPENDIX I following the effective date of the new Attachment Fees and Charges.

#### **3.2 Attachment Fees**

3.2.1 Licensees shall pay an Attachment Fee for each Attachment made to Licensor's Utility Poles. For the purpose of computing the Attachment Fees due hereunder, the Fee shall be based upon the number of attachments for which licenses have been issued.

3.2.2 Attachment Fees are calculated from the first day of the month following the date a license is issued. Fees shall be payable semi-annually or annually in advance, unless otherwise provided. Payment is due within the later of thirty (30) days from the first day of January and the first day of July or thirty (30) days from the date the bill is issued.

3.3 Pre-construction Survey, Make-ready Work and Inspection Charges

3.3.1 Licensee shall calculate and pay to Licensor the applicable Pre-construction Survey Charge with its License Application. The License Application forms are set forth in APPENDIX IV, attached hereto and made a part hereof. The Pre-construction Survey Charge shall be calculated based on the rates and formulas set forth in APPENDIX I.

3.3.2 Except as provided in Appendix VI, Licensee shall make an advance payment of the applicable charge to Licensor prior to any performance by Licensor of any Pre-construction Survey, Make-ready Work, Post-construction Inspection or Subsequent Inspection. Where the work to be performed by Licensor is covered by a Unit Cost as described in subpart 3.3.4, the Licensor shall use the Unit Cost for the charge. Where the work to be performed by Licensor is not covered by a Unit Cost, in whole or in part, the charge will be based on an estimate of charges. For any charges based on an estimate, the Licensee shall be credited for any amount paid in excess of the Licensor's estimated charges, or shall be billed for any amount in addition to Licensor's estimated charges, as compared to the actual charges as finally computed.

3.3.3 Licensee shall make payment to the Licensor within thirty (30) days following the invoice date for Periodic Inspections according to subpart 3.3.4 of this Agreement.

3.3.4 Pre-construction Survey, Make-ready Work, and Inspection (Post-construction Inspection, Periodic Inspection and Subsequent Inspection) Charges are based upon Unit Costs, where available. Unit Costs are set forth in APPENDIX I of this Agreement and are subject to change from time to time; provided however, the Unit Costs shall not change more frequently than once every twelve (12) months. Any changes in Unit Cost shall not vary by more than five percent (5%) per annum from the existing Unit Cost; provided that in the case of a significant and unforeseen change in circumstances affecting Licensor's costs, Licensor may adjust Unit Cost in excess of 5%. Sixty (60) days prior to any change in Unit Cost in excess of 5%, Licensor shall provide to Licensee a written explanation of the significant and unforeseen change in circumstance for the increase. A significant and unforeseen change in circumstances affecting Licensor's costs includes changes in tax laws, accounting changes, and regulatory, judicial or legislative changes that affect the Licensor's costs. A statement

of current Unit Costs is set forth in APPENDIX I and changes thereto shall be published at the time of such change.

- 3.3.5 For work where Unit Costs are not available, such as cable splicing, such costs will be billed on an actual time and material basis plus an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of such costs.

#### 3.4 Payment Requirements

- 3.4.1 For any bill rendered by Licensor to Licensee hereunder, except where advance payment is required, payment is due within thirty (30) days from the date of the bill. Late payment of any bill is subject to a late fee of 1.5% per month applied to the outstanding balance from the due date of the bill. Licensor, at its sole discretion, may change this late fee from time to time during the term of this Agreement to reflect prevailing market conditions.
- 3.4.2 Non-payment of any amount due hereunder shall constitute a default of this Agreement, and subject this Agreement to termination under the provisions of Article X.
- 3.4.3 For any bill rendered by Licensor to Licensee for advance payment of Pre-construction Survey charges or Make-ready Work charges, hereunder, payment shall be made within thirty (30) days of the bill date. If such advance payment is not received within thirty (30) days, Licensor shall have the right to issue a letter of cancellation no sooner than fifteen (15) days thereafter, which will cancel the Licensee's application for the license. Thereafter, if Licensee wishes to proceed, Licensee shall submit a new application for a license, as if it had never submitted the initial application.

#### 3.5 Billing Disputes

- 3.5.1 Where Licensee in good faith disputes a bill or invoice rendered by Licensor, Licensee shall make payment of all portions of said bill or invoice not in dispute as provided in Article III. Where the cumulative amount of all of Licensee's bills or portions(s) of bills in dispute is in excess of \$10,000.00, Licensee shall deposit said cumulative disputed amounts in an interest-bearing escrow account until such time as the disputes are resolved. The disputed amount deposited together with the proportional interest, shall be distributed immediately to Licensor and/or Licensee in accordance with and upon resolution of the dispute. Where the cumulative amount of all of Licensee's bills or portions of bills in dispute is less than or equal to \$10,000.00, Licensee shall make payment to Licensor and shall be rebated an appropriate amount (including interest computed at the prime rate at a bank mutually agreed to by the parties) based on the resolution of the dispute.

- 3.5.2 Where Licensee fails to pay an amount due and owing under this Agreement (including amounts in dispute that are less than or equal to \$10,000) or fails to establish an escrow account for disputed amounts more than \$10,000, or fails to invoke the dispute-resolution procedures set forth in subpart 15.10 of this Agreement within six (6) months of the establishment of amounts disputed in good faith, in addition to all other remedies available to Licensor including termination under provisions of Article X of this Agreement, Licensor may refuse to perform any survey, inspection or Make-ready Work for Licensee and may refuse to issue any license to Licensee until such time as the amount is paid or is deposited in an escrow account.

#### **ARTICLE IV - APPLICATION FOR AND ISSUANCE OF LICENSES**

- 4.1 Before Licensee makes an Attachment to any pole, Licensee shall make application for and have received a license therefor in the forms attached in APPENDIX IV. Licensor may update these forms from time to time during the term of the Agreement.
- 4.2 Licensee agrees to limit the filing of applications for pole attachment licenses to include not more than 200 poles on any one application. Licensor reserves the right to limit the filing for pole attachments to no more than 2,000 poles on all applications that are pending approval by Licensor at any one time within a single Planning Manager's Area. Licensee further agrees to designate a desired priority of completion of the Pre-construction Survey and Make-ready Work for each application relative to all other of its applications on file with Licensor at the same time.
- 4.3 Properly completed license applications received by Licensor on the same day from two or more licensees for attachment accommodations on the same pole(s), shall be processed together. All Pre-construction Survey or Make-ready Work required to accommodate the applicants will be completed simultaneously for the benefit of all applicants. All applicants will be rebated with the pro rata share of costs based on the number of applicants.

#### **ARTICLE V – PRE-CONSTRUCTION SURVEY and MAKE-READY WORK**

- 5.1 A Pre-construction Survey is required for each Utility pole and Anchor for which an Attachment is requested to determine the adequacy of the Utility Pole and Anchor to accommodate Licensee's Attachments and facilities. The Pre-construction Survey will be performed jointly by representatives of Licensor, Joint Owner and/or Joint User, and Licensee unless otherwise agreed to by all parties.
- 5.2 Licensor will process all requests for access to Utility Poles on a non-discriminatory basis in the order such requests are received.



- 5.3 Within forty-five (45) days of receipt of written notification in the form of a complete license application and the correct Pre-construction Survey fee payment, Licensor shall perform or have performed a Pre-construction Survey and present the Pre-construction Survey results. The Pre-construction Survey results will contain one of the following statements:
- (a) If no Make-ready Work is required, a license shall be issued for the Attachment.
  - (b) If Licensor determines that the Utility Pole or Anchor to which Licensee desires to make Attachments is inadequate or otherwise needs rearrangement of the existing facilities thereon to accommodate the Licensee's Facilities, in accordance with the specifications set forth in Article VI, Licensor will provide Licensee with an itemized invoice for such anticipated Make-ready Work. The Make-ready Work will be performed following receipt by Licensor of advance payment (provided that this Agreement has been fully executed by both the Licensee and Licensor). Upon receipt of the advance payment, Licensor will provide the Licensee with the estimated start and estimated construction completion date of the Make-ready Work.
  - (c) If Licensor determines that the Utility Pole may not reasonably be rearranged or replaced to accommodate Licensee's Facilities for reasons of capacity, safety, reliability or engineering, the Licensor may refuse to grant a license for the Attachment. Licensor shall provide the specific reason(s) for such denial. Licensor shall not unreasonably exercise the right reserved under this subpart 5.3(c).
- 5.4 Licensor shall make commercially reasonable efforts to complete Make-ready Work within six (6) months of receipt of payment for Make-ready Work from Licensee, except for reasons beyond Licensor's control. For applications consisting of six (6) or fewer Utility Poles requiring Make-ready Work, and where FairPoint is the only party required to perform make-ready work, FairPoint will complete the make-ready work within 45 days.
- 5.5 To the extent practicable, Licensor shall provide Licensee, no less than sixty (60) days prior written notice of any modification of Utility Poles (such as pole replacement or relocation) other than routine maintenance, or modifications in response to emergencies, or to a request from a governmental authority.

## **ARTICLE VI - SPECIFICATIONS AND LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

- 6.1 Licensee's Facilities shall be placed and maintained in accordance with the requirements and specifications of the latest editions of the "Blue Book - Manual of Construction Procedures" (Blue Book), published by Telcordia Technologies Inc.; the "National Electrical Code" (NEC), published by the National Fire Protection Association, Inc.; the "National Electrical Safety Code" (NESC),

published by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.; and rules and regulations of the U.S. Department of Labor issued pursuant to the “Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970”, as amended, (OSHA) or any governing authority having jurisdiction over the subject matter. Where a difference in specifications may exist, the more stringent shall apply.

- 6.2 Licensee shall be responsible for obtaining from the appropriate public and/or private authority any required authorization to construct, operate and/or maintain Licensee’s Facilities on public and private property at the location of Licensor’s Utility Poles. Licensee shall be responsible for obtaining permission from any Joint Owner(s) or Joint User(s) of the Utility Pole before making any Attachment thereto. This permission shall be in the form of a license or other writing.
- 6.3 No license granted under this Agreement shall extend to any of the Licensor’s Utility Poles where the placement of Licensee’s Attachments would result in a forfeiture of the rights of Licensor, Joint Owner(s), or Joint User(s) to occupy the property on which such Utility Poles are located. The Licensor does not warrant the validity or apportionability of any rights it may hold to place facilities on public or private property. The Licensor will, upon written request by the Licensee, provide available information and copies of any documents in its files pertinent to the nature of the rights the Licensor possesses over private property. The cost of providing such information and reproducing documents shall be borne by Licensee.

## **ARTICLE VII - CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ATTACHMENTS**

### **7.1 General Provisions**

- 7.1.1 Licensee shall, at its own expense, construct and maintain its Attachments and facilities on Licensor’s Utility Poles in a safe condition and in a manner acceptable to Licensor. Licensee shall construct and maintain its Attachments and facilities so as not to conflict with the use of Licensor’s Utility Poles by Licensor or by other authorized users of Licensor’s Utility Poles, nor electrically interfere with Licensor’s facilities attached thereto.
- 7.1.2 Licensor shall specify the point of attachment on each of Licensor’s Utility Poles to be occupied by Licensee’s Attachment. Where multiple Licensees’ Attachments are involved, Licensor shall attempt, to the extent practical, to designate the same relative position on each Utility Pole for each Licensee’s Attachments.
- 7.1.3 Licensee shall provide written notice to the Licensor of the actual dates of attachment within thirty (30) days of the date of attachment so that Licensor may promptly schedule a Post-construction Inspection.
- 7.1.4 Licensee may attach its Guy Strand to Licensor’s existing Anchor rod at no charge where Licensor determines that adequate capacity is available; provided that Licensee agrees to secure any necessary right-of-way

therefor from the appropriate property owner. Should Licensor, Joint Owner(s) or Joint User(s), if any, for its own service requirements, need to increase its load on the Anchor rod to which Licensee's guy is attached, Licensee will either arrange its Guy Strand on the Anchor rod or transfer it to a replacement Anchor as determined by Licensor.

- 7.1.5 Should Licensor, Joint Owner(s), Joint User(s), or other Licensee need to attach additional facilities to any of Licensor's Utility Poles, to which Licensee is attached, Licensee will upon written notice from the Licensor either rearrange its Attachments on the Utility Pole or transfer them to a replacement Utility Pole as reasonably determined by Licensor so that the additional facilities of Licensor, Joint Owner(s) Joint User(s) or other Licensee may be attached provided that, except to the extent such relocation is required to accommodate the needs of Licensor, Joint Owner(s) or Joint User(s), such rearrangement does not materially reduce, impair or otherwise diminish Licensee's operations from the property and subject to receipt of all necessary government permits and approvals for such rearrangement or transfer. Licensee shall not be required to bear any of the costs of rearranging its facilities if such rearrangement is required as a result of an additional occupancy by any entity including Licensor or other Licensees. Any rearrangement costs shall be borne by the entity or entities requesting rearrangement. Licensee shall be solely responsible for collecting any rearrangement costs incurred pursuant to this paragraph. Licensor's sole responsibility shall be limited to reimbursement of its pro rata share of such costs caused by its own additional occupancies.
- 7.1.6 If Licensee does not rearrange or transfer its Attachments within fifteen (15) days after receipt of written notice from Licensor requesting such rearrangement or transfer and indicating that such Utility Pole is ready for rearrangement or transfer by Licensee, Licensor, Joint Owner(s) or Joint User(s) may perform or have performed such rearrangement or transfer, and, notwithstanding the provisions of subpart 7.1.7, Licensee agrees to pay the cost thereof. The foregoing shall not preclude Licensee from thereafter seeking reimbursement of such rearrangements costs as if it had performed the work in accordance with this paragraph.
- 7.1.7 Licensee shall not be required to bear any of the costs of rearranging or replacing its Attachment if such rearrangement or replacement is necessitated solely as a result of an additional attachment or modification of an existing attachment sought by another party (including the Licensor, Joint Owner(s) or Joint User(s)) and should be paid for any work it performs to accommodate such request. Where multiple parties join in a modification, each party's proportionate share of the total cost will be based on a ratio of the amount of new space occupied by that party to the total amount of new space occupied by all parties joining in the modification. Licensor shall not be required to use revenue that may result from the use of any additional space resulting from such

replacement or rearrangement to compensate parties that paid for the modification.

- 7.1.8 Unless otherwise governed by law, all tree trimming made necessary, in the opinion of the Licensor, by reason of the Licensee's proposed Attachments at the time of attachment (provided the owner(s) of such trees grant permission to the Licensor) shall be performed by contractors approved by and under the direction of Licensor, at the sole expense of the Licensee.
- 7.1.9 Any such tree trimming that may be required on Licensee's customer's premises, to clear Licensee's cable drop, shall be performed by the Licensee at its expense.
- 7.1.10 Tree trimming needed as a result of adverse weather conditions such as wind, snow or ice storms, shall be performed by Licensor or its approved contractors. Since such tree trimming benefits Licensor, Licensee and other parties that may be lawfully attached to Licensor's Utility Poles, Licensee agrees to negotiate in good faith with the Licensor, on a case-by-case basis, to establish an appropriate sharing of costs associated with the tree trimming projects.
- 7.1.11 For each new facility attached by Licensee to Licensor's Utility Poles, on or after the date of execution of this Agreement, Licensee shall place identification tags on cables located on Utility Poles and identification apparatus tags on any associated items of Licensee's Facilities. Licensee shall also place these identification tags when engaged in an Overlash or Rebuild project. Overlashed bundles require one tag per bundle, per Licensee. The requirements for identification tags are set forth in the Blue Book.
- 7.1.12 When Licensor deems it an immediate threat to safety and/or an emergency exists, it may rearrange, transfer, or remove Licensee's Attachments to Licensor's Utility Poles at Licensee's expense. Licensor shall make reasonable efforts to contact Licensee as circumstances permit.

## 7.2 Licensee's Routine Maintenance, Overlash, Rebuild Work and Placement of Power Supplies

- 7.2.1 Licensee shall work cooperatively with the local FairPoint Reimbursable Construction Engineer when performing routine Maintenance Work on its facilities and/or Attachments. Cooperative practices shall include a system of notification by phone, facsimile, answering system, or otherwise for scheduling purposes. Any work, which involves six or fewer adjacent spans, shall be presumed to be routine Maintenance Work. Significant simultaneous maintenance activity within a geographic area may be deemed by Licensor to be Rebuild activity.

- 7.2.2 Licensee shall follow the procedures set forth in APPENDICES V, VI and VII, hereof, in performing Rebuild or Overlash work and placing power supplies.

### **ARTICLE VIII - INSPECTION OF LICENSEE'S FACILITIES**

- 8.1 The Licensor reserves the right to make Post-construction, Subsequent, and Periodic Inspections of any part or all of Licensee's facilities attached to Licensor's Utility Poles and/or Anchors. Licensor shall provide Licensee with a copy of any written report of such inspection within thirty (30) days following the inspection. Charges and billing for inspections as set forth in Article III shall apply, provided that FairPoint commences Post-construction and Subsequent Inspections within 90 days after notification from Licensee that the work is complete.
- 8.2 Except as provided in Appendix VI and VII, Post-construction Inspections shall consist of a 10 percent sample of the Utility Poles to which the Licensee has attached facilities after completion of work. If FairPoint determines that the Licensee is not in compliance at greater than 2 percent of the sampled locations, FairPoint may inspect and bill Licensee to inspect all Utility Poles involved in the project. Within ten (10) days of the completion of a Post-construction Inspection, the Licensor shall notify the Licensee in writing of the date of completion of Post-construction inspection and its findings.
- 8.3 Where Post-construction Inspection by the Licensor has been completed and non-complying conditions have been identified, Licensee shall correct any non-complying conditions within thirty (30) days of the date of the written notice from the Licensor. If after said 30-day period Licensee has not corrected all such non-complying conditions, Licensor may notify Licensee that if all such non-complying conditions are not corrected within an additional 30-day period, no further attachment authorizations shall be issued to Licensee until Licensee's Facilities are brought into compliance. If corrections are not made by Licensee within 30 days from the second notification by Licensor, the Licensor may perform or have performed such corrections and Licensee shall pay to the Licensor the cost of performing such work.
- 8.4 Licensor may undertake Subsequent Inspections to determine if appropriate corrective action has been taken by Licensee. If the Subsequent Inspection finds continued non-complying conditions, Licensor may perform or have performed corrective action at the sole expense of the Licensee or Licensor may terminate the license pursuant to Article X.
- 8.5 The making of Post-construction, Subsequent and/or Periodic Inspections or the failure to do so shall not operate to relieve Licensee of any responsibility, obligation, or liability specified in this Agreement.

- 8.6 Licensor reserves the right to make Periodic Inspections of all or any part of the Attachments or facilities of Licensee at the expense of Licensee, upon sixty (60) days prior written notice to the Licensee. Periodic Inspections of the entire plant of the Licensee will not be made more often than once every five years unless, in Licensor's judgment, such inspections are required for reasons involving safety or because of an alleged violation by Licensee of the terms of this Agreement. Licensor shall make a reasonable effort to coordinate its Periodic Inspections with any Joint Owner and Licensee.

#### **ARTICLE IX - UNAUTHORIZED ATTACHMENTS**

- 9.1 If any of Licensee's Facilities are attached to Licensor's poles without being licensed, Licensor, may recover fees as specified in subpart 9.2, without prejudice to its other rights or remedies under this Agreement, including termination, or otherwise, and require Licensee to submit in writing, within thirty (30) days after receipt of written notification from Licensor of the unauthorized attachment, a pole attachment application. If such application is not received within the specified time period, Licensee shall remove its unauthorized attachments within thirty (30) days of the final date for submitting the required application, or Licensor may remove Licensee's Attachments or facilities without liability at the Licensee's expense.
- 9.2 Upon discovery of an unauthorized Attachment, Licensee agrees to pay an amount equal to five times the current applicable annual Attachment Fee specified in APPENDIX I times the number of unauthorized Attachments. The unauthorized attachment fee shall be in addition to all other amounts due and owing to Licensor under this Agreement.

#### **ARTICLE X – TERMINATION**

10.1 60-Day Termination

In addition to rights of termination provided to the Licensor under other provisions of this Agreement, the Licensor shall have the right to terminate Licensee's license, authorizations and/or rights granted under provisions of this Agreement where:

- (a) the Licensee's Facilities are maintained or used in violation of any law or in aid of an unlawful act or undertaking;
- (b) the Licensee ceases to have authority to construct and operate its facilities on public or private property at the location of the particular Utility Pole or Anchor covered by the authorization;
- (c) the Licensee fails to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this Agreement or defaults in any of its obligations thereunder;

- (d) the Licensee attaches to a Utility Pole and/or Anchor without having first been issued authorization therefor;
- (e) the Licensee, subject to provisions specified in Article II, ceases to provide its services;
- (f) the Licensee sublets or apportsions part of the licensed assigned space or otherwise permits its assigned space to be used by an entity or an affiliate not authorized pursuant to Article 11.2.
- (g) except in circumstances in which Licensors has accepted evidence of self-insurance in accordance with Article XIV, the Licensee's insurance carrier shall at any time notify the Licensors that the policy or policies of insurance as required in Article XIV will be or have been cancelled or amended so that those requirements will no longer be satisfied;
- (h) the Licensee shall fail to pay any sum due or deposit any sum required under this Agreement, or shall fail to maintain satisfactory surety as required in Article XII;
- (i) any authorization that may be required by any governmental or private authority for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Licensee's facilities on a pole or anchor is denied, revoked or cancelled.

10.1.1 The Licensors will notify the Licensee in writing of any instances cited in this subpart. The Licensee shall take corrective action as necessary to eliminate the non-compliance and shall confirm in writing to the Licensors within sixty (60) days following such written notice that the non-compliance has ceased or been corrected. If Licensee fails to discontinue or correct non-compliance and fails to give the required written confirmation to the Licensors within the time stated above, the Licensors may terminate the license(s), authorization and/or rights granted hereunder for the poles and/or anchors at which such non-compliance has occurred.

## 10.2 General

10.2.1 In the event of termination of any of the Licensee's licenses, authorization and/or rights hereunder, the Licensee shall remove Licensee's Facilities from the Utility Poles and Anchors within sixty (60) days of the effective date of the termination; provided, however, that Licensee shall be liable for and pay all fees and charges pursuant to provisions of this Agreement to the Licensors until Licensee's Facilities are actually removed from the Utility Pole(s) and Anchor(s). If the Licensee fails to remove Licensee's Facilities within the specified period, the Licensors shall have the right to remove Licensee's Facilities at the Licensee's expense and without

liability on the part of the Licensor for damage or injury to Licensee's Facilities or interruption of Licensee services.

10.2.2 When Licensee's Facilities are removed from a Utility Pole or Anchor, no Attachment to the same Utility Pole or Anchor shall be made until the Licensee has first complied with all of the provisions of this Agreement as though no such Utility Pole or Anchor Attachment had been made previously and all outstanding charges due to the Licensor for such Utility Pole or Anchor have been paid in full.

10.2.3 Any license issued under this Agreement shall automatically terminate when Licensee ceases to have authority to construct, operate and/or maintain its attachments on the public or private property at the location of the particular Utility Pole covered by the license. Such automatic termination shall be stayed if the Licensee has sought judicial or regulatory review of the decision that: (1) has acted to terminate such authority or (2) has declared that the Licensee lacks such authority.

### 10.3 Licensee's Removal of Attachments

10.3.1 Licensee may at any time remove its Attachments from a Utility Pole or Anchor after first giving Licensor written notice of such removal. Licensee shall complete and provide to Licensor the Notification of Discontinuance of Use of Poles as contained in APPENDIX IV hereto. Licensor shall verify and execute such form within thirty (30) days of submission. Billing for the Attachment shall cease as of the last day of the month in which verification occurs. Licensor may update this form from time to time during the term of this Agreement.

10.3.2 Following such removal, no Attachment shall again be made to such Utility Pole until Licensee shall have complied first with all of the provisions of this Agreement as though no such Attachment had been made previously.

## **ARTICLE XI - ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS**

11.1 Licensee shall not assign or transfer any license or any authorization granted under this Agreement, and such licenses and authorizations shall not inure to the benefit of Licensee's successors or assigns, without the prior written consent of Licensor, which shall be in the form of an assignment agreement satisfactory to the Licensor. Licensor shall not unreasonably withhold, condition, or delay such consent.

11.2 In the event such consent or consents are granted by Licensor, then the provisions of this Agreement shall apply to and bind the successors and assigns of Licensee. Licensee may, however, assign this Agreement without Licensor's consent to an entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control with Licensee or to an entity acquiring fifty-one percent (51%) or more of Licensee's stock or assets



provided that any such assignment shall be subject to the assignee's being capable of assuming all of the obligations of Licensee hereunder. Any such assignment shall impose no obligations upon or be effective against Licensor, and Licensor shall have no liability to any assignee of such assignment, until Licensor has received prior written notice of any such assignment. Licensee may also assign this Agreement, without Licensor's consent and without prior notice to FairPoint, to an institutional mortgagee or lender providing financing to Licensee with respect to Licensee's Facilities in the event such institutional mortgagee or lender exercises its foreclosure right against Licensee and operates the Licensee Facilities on the Right of Way; provided such institutional mortgagee or lender is capable of assuming all of the obligations of the Licensee hereunder and further provided that such assignment shall not be effective against Licensor unless and until written notice of such assignment and exercise of rights is provided to Licensor. Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, Licensee shall not be relieved of any of its obligations hereunder without Licensor's prior written consent.

- 11.3 All notice of such assignments shall include any change to the notice address provided in subpart 15.3. Within thirty (30) days of the assignment, Licensor and assignee shall execute an assignment agreement.

**ARTICLE XII - SURETY REQUIREMENTS**

- 12.1 Licensee shall furnish a surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit satisfactory to the Licensor according to the following criteria:

Poles	Security
1 - 50	\$10,000
51 - 500	\$75,000
501 - 2000	\$300,000 *
2001 - 3000	\$450,000
3,000 +	\$500,000

- 12.2 The maximum security limit required is \$500,000.
- 12.3 If the financial security is in the form of a bond, irrevocable letter of credit, or other security as deemed acceptable by Licensor, such instrument shall be issued by a surety company or bank satisfactory to the Licensor and shall guarantee Licensee's obligations under the agreement. The Licensee is obligated to maintain the security in the full amount for the terms of the agreement.
- 12.4 The amount of the bond or the financial security shall not operate as a limitation upon the obligations of the Licensee.

### ARTICLE XIII - LIABILITY AND DAMAGES

- 13.1 Licensor reserves to itself, its successors and assigns, the right to locate and maintain its poles and to operate its facilities in conjunction therewith in such a manner as will best enable it to fulfill its own service requirements. Licensor shall not be liable to Licensee for any interruption of Licensee's service nor for interference with the operation of Licensee's communications services arising in any manner, except from Licensor's negligence, out of the use of Licensor's poles.
- 13.2 Licensor shall exercise reasonable care to avoid damaging Licensee's Facilities attached to Utility Poles under this Agreement, and shall make an immediate report to Licensee of the occurrence of any such damage caused by Licensor's employees, agents or contractors. Licensor agrees to reimburse Licensee for all reasonable costs incurred by Licensee for the physical repair of damage to such Licensee's facilities proximately caused by the negligence of Licensor; however, Licensor shall not be liable to Licensee for any loss of Licensee's revenue or profits resulting from any interruption of Licensee's service caused by such damage or interference with the operation of Licensee's Facilities caused by such damage.
- 13.3 Licensee shall exercise reasonable care to avoid damaging the facilities of Licensor and of others attached to Licensor's poles, and shall make an immediate report of damage to the owner of facilities so damaged. Licensee assumes all responsibility for any and all direct loss from damage caused by Licensee's employees, agents or contractors; however, Licensee shall not be liable to Licensor for any loss of Licensor's revenue or profits resulting from any interruption of Licensor's service caused by such damage or interference with the operation of Licensor's facilities caused by such damage.
- 13.4 Licensee shall indemnify, protect and save harmless Licensor from and against any and all claims, demands, causes of actions and costs, including attorneys' fees, for damages to property and injury or death to Licensee's employees or other persons, including but not limited to, payments under any Workers Compensation law or under any plan for employee's disability and death benefits, which may arise out of or be caused by the erection, maintenance, presence, use or removal of Licensee's Facilities or by their proximity to the facilities of all parties attached to Licensor's poles, or by any act or omission of the Licensee's employees, agents or contractors on or in the vicinity of Licensor's poles. The foregoing indemnity, hold harmless and defense provisions shall not apply in the case of claims, which solely arise from the negligence, misconduct or other fault of Licensor. It shall apply, however, if a claim is the result of the joint negligence, joint misconduct or joint fault of Licensee and Licensor, but in such case the amount of the claim for which Licensor is entitled to indemnification shall be limited to that portion of such claim attributable to the negligence, misconduct or other fault of Licensee.

- 13.5 The Licensee shall indemnify, protect and save harmless Licensor from any and all claims, demands, causes of action and costs, including attorneys' fees, which arise directly or indirectly from the construction, attachment or operation of Licensee's Facilities on Licensor's Utility Poles, including but not limited to damages, costs and expense of relocating poles due to the loss of right-of-way or property owner consents, taxes, special charges by others, claims and demands for damages or loss from infringement of copyright, for libel and slander, for unauthorized use of television or radio broadcast programs and other program material, and from and against all claims, demands and costs, including attorneys' fees, for infringement of patents with respect to the manufacture, use and operation of Licensee's Facilities in combination with Utility Poles or otherwise. The foregoing indemnity shall not apply in the case of claims, which solely arise from the negligence, misconduct or other fault of Licensor. It shall apply, however, if a claim is the result of the joint negligence, joint misconduct, or joint fault of Licensee and Licensor, but in such case the amount of the claim for which Licensor is entitled to indemnification shall be limited to that portion of such claim attributable to the negligence, misconduct or other fault of Licensee.
- 13.6 Licensor and Licensee shall promptly advise each other of all claims relating to damage to property or injury to or death of persons, arising or alleged to have arisen in any manner by the erection, maintenance, repair, replacement, presence, use or removal of facilities governed by this License Agreement. Copies of all accident reports and statements made to a Licensor's or Licensee's insurer by the other Licensor or Licensee or affected entity shall be furnished promptly to the Licensor or Licensee.
- 13.7 Unless expressly provided for otherwise herein, neither Licensor nor Licensee shall be liable to the other for any special, consequential or other indirect damages arising under this Agreement.
- 13.8 The provisions of this Article shall survive the expiration or earlier termination of this Agreement or any license issued hereunder.

#### **ARTICLE XIV - INSURANCE**

- 14.1 Licensee shall secure and maintain (and ensure its subcontractors, if any, secure and maintain) all insurance and/or bonds required by law or this Agreement including without limitation:
- (a) Commercial General Liability insurance (including, but not limited to, premises-operations; explosion, collapse and underground hazard; broad form property damage; products/completed operations; contractual liability; independent contractors; personal injury) with limits of at least \$2,000,000 combined single limit for each occurrence.
  - (b) Commercial Automobile Liability insurance with limits of at least \$2,000,000 combined single limit for each occurrence. Notwithstanding,

if the Licensee does not own or operate any vehicles or automobiles associated with the Licensee's business or associated with the work related to this Agreement, then Licensee must only provide satisfactory evidence that its subcontractor(s) have purchased and maintained Commercial Automobile Liability insurance in such amount.

(c) Workers' Compensation insurance as required by statute and Employer's Liability insurance with limits of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

14.2 The above limits may be satisfied by a combination of underlying/primary and excess/umbrella insurance. All policies provided by the Licensee shall be deemed primary and non-contributory to all other applicable coverages. The Licensee shall waive its right of subrogation for all insurance claims. The Commercial General Liability and Commercial Auto Liability policies must name Licensor, its subsidiaries and affiliates as additional insureds. The Licensee's insurance companies must be licensed to do business in the applicable state(s) and must meet or exceed an A.M. Best rating of A-X or its equivalent.

14.3 All insurance must be in effect before Licensor will authorize Licensee to make attachment to Licensor's Utility Poles and shall remain in force until such facilities have been removed from all such Utility Poles. For all insurance, the Licensee must deliver an industry-recognized certificate of insurance evidencing the amount and nature of the coverage, the expiration date of the policy and the waiver of subrogation and stating that the policy of insurance issued to Licensee will not be cancelled or changed without thirty (30) days written notice to Licensor. Also, where applicable, such certificate of insurance shall evidence the name of the Licensor as an additional insured. The Licensee shall submit such certificates of insurance annually to the Licensor as evidence that it has maintained all required insurance. Licensee will provide copies of the applicable insurance policies to Licensor upon request.

14.4 Licensee is responsible for determining whether the above minimum insurance coverages are adequate to protect its interests. The above minimum coverages shall not constitute limitations upon Licensee's liability.

14.5 The minimum insurance coverages are subject to review and revision by Licensor in the event Licensor determines that they are not adequate to protect Licensor's interests.

## **ARTICLE XV - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **15.1 Authorization Not Exclusive**

Nothing herein contained shall be construed as a grant of any exclusive authorization, right or privilege to Licensee. Licensor shall have the right to grant, renew and extend rights and privileges to others not parties to this Agreement, by contract or otherwise, to use any pole covered by this Agreement.

## 15.2 Failure to Enforce

Failure of Licensor or Licensee to enforce or insist upon compliance with any of the terms or conditions of this Agreement or to give notice or declare this Agreement or any authorization granted hereunder terminated shall not constitute a general waiver or relinquishment of any term or condition of this Agreement, but the same shall be and remain at all times in full force and effect.

## 15.3 Notices

APPENDIX II sets forth where written notices required under this Agreement shall be sent to Licensor and Licensee. Notice shall be acceptable in the following forms: first class mail, or if time-sensitive, facsimile followed by first class mail or overnight mail with receipt. Licensee shall complete APPENDIX II and submit it to Licensor with this Agreement.

## 15.4 Severability

If any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be invalid or unenforceable, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not invalidate or render unenforceable the entire Agreement, but rather the entire Agreement shall be construed as if not containing the particular invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions. If the invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions shall be considered an essential element of this Agreement, the parties shall promptly attempt to negotiate a substitute therefor.

## 15.5 Choice of Law

The construction, interpretation and performance of this Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State where the Licensor's poles are located, as set forth in this Agreement, without regard to the principles of conflicts of law. All actions under this Agreement shall be brought in a court of competent subject-matter jurisdiction of the county of the capital of such State or a regulatory agency with subject-matter jurisdiction, and both parties agree to accept and submit to the personal jurisdiction of such court or regulatory agency. Licensee also agrees to submit to the jurisdiction of any court in the United States wherein an action is commenced against Licensor based on a claim for which Licensee has indemnified Licensor hereunder.

## 15.6 Compliance with Laws

The parties hereto shall at all times observe and comply with, and the provisions of this Agreement are subject to, all laws, ordinances, and regulations which in any manner affect the rights and obligations of the parties hereto under this Agreement, so long as such laws, ordinances, or regulations remain in effect. Either Party may, upon written notice, require the other Party to engage in good-faith negotiations to amend the Agreement to comport with regulatory changes or obligations.

#### 15.7 Survival

All rights and obligations hereunder granted or incurred prior to and which by their nature would continue beyond the cancellation, termination, or expiration of this Agreement shall survive such cancellation, termination, or expiration.

#### 15.8 Use of Information

Licensee may provide to Licensor license applications and business plans of its future needs for pole attachments. Such information will allow Licensor to better forecast personnel and equipment requirements. However, as to business plans, such information shall be deemed for use as advance planning purposes only, and no obligation shall be created that Licensor hire personnel or purchase equipment, or Licensee submit license applications for the pole attachments. Such information shall be used only by such employees or contractors of Licensor who have responsibilities relating to the administration of, or to work to be performed under, this Agreement and said employees shall treat such information as Licensor treats its own confidential information of similar type and value. Licensor's obligations hereunder shall not extend to any information that are now available to the public or become available by reason of acts or omissions not attributable to Licensor.

#### 15.9 Access to Records

Licensor, upon receipt of written request, shall provide access to Licensor's pole records in accordance with "Job Aid for Requests to Records" attached hereto as APPENDIX VIII. Licensor may update this form from time to time during the term of this Agreement.

#### 15.10 Dispute Resolution

In the case where Licensee claims that a term or condition is unjust or unreasonable or any dispute arises between the parties relating to this agreement, Licensee shall submit a complaint to the Manager-License Administration Group, specifying all information and its argument relied on to justify its claim. Licensor shall provide a written response to such complaint within 10 business days after receipt of the complaint. Such response shall specifically address all contentions made by Licensee. If Licensee continues to have issues, it may request a meeting with Manager-License Administration Group to discuss such issues. Such meeting shall be held within five (5) business days. If the Licensee is not satisfied with the results of such meeting, it may file a complaint with the regulatory body of competent jurisdiction.

#### 15.11 Emergency Conditions

All parties shall work cooperatively in the case of an emergency to restore service to their respective customers.

## **ARTICLE XVI - TERM OF AGREEMENT**

The initial term of this Agreement shall be for five (5) years commencing on the date stated in the first paragraph of this Agreement. Thereafter, the term of this Agreement shall be automatically renewed annually unless notice of termination is given by either Licensor or Licensee not fewer than 120 days prior to the end of the then expiring term. This Agreement may be terminated by Licensee by written notice of termination not fewer than 30 days prior to the effective date of such termination. Any termination by Licensee shall not become effective until the Licensee has discontinued all existing licenses and has removed any and all facilities. This Agreement may be terminated upon written notice by the Licensor if, within one year from the date of this Agreement, the Licensee has placed no Licensee's Facilities on the Licensor's Utility Poles in accordance with the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement in multiple originals on the day and year first above written.

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE OPERATIONS LLC  
d/b/a FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS - NNE

By: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Title) \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Licensor (an electric company)

By: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Title) \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_

Licensee

By: \_\_\_\_\_

(Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Title) \_\_\_\_\_

(Date) \_\_\_\_\_



## APPENDICES

I. ATTACHMENT FEES and CHARGES

II. NOTICE ADDRESSES

III. PLANNING MANAGER'S AREA

IV. LICENSE APPLICATIONS FORMS

Application and Pole Attachment License	Form 1
Authorization for Field Survey Work	Form 2
Itemized Pole Make-ready Work and Charges	Form 3
Authorization for Pole Make-ready Work	Form 4
Licensee Itemized Self Survey	Form 5
Notification of Discontinuance of Use of Poles	Form 6
Project Management Request	Form 7
Licensee to RCE Notification	Form 8
Power Supply Schematic	Form 10

V. REBUILD

VI. OVERLASH BY LICENSEE TO THEIR OWN FACILITIES

VII. POWER SUPPLIES

VIII. JOB AID FOR REQUESTS TO RECORDS