

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

DATE: Sept. 18, 2012
AT (OFFICE): NHPUC



FROM: *ML* Michael Ladam, Asst Director - Telecommunications

SUBJECT: DT 12-186 Northland Telephone Company of Maine, Inc.
d/b/a/FairPoint Communications – Northland Telephone Company of
Maine VoIP / PSTN Tariff Revisions

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

On June 15, 2012, Northland Telephone Company of Maine, Inc. d/b/a/FairPoint Communications – Northland Telephone Company of Maine (Northland) filed a revision to its NHPUC Tariff No. 2, to take effect on July 15, 2012. This tariff revises the methodology for rating certain VoIP / PSTN access traffic as qualified for interstate rates. This change is pursuant to a May 2012 rule change promulgated by the Federal Communications Commission.

On July 13, 2012, the Commission extended the effective date of the tariff by 30 days, to August 14, 2012, to allow Staff and Northland to resolve potential concerns and ambiguities.

In further reviewing the tariff, Staff has concluded that its terms avoid the concerns raised by similar filings. In particular, the Northland filing allows wholesale customers to file traffic percentage metrics at any time, rather than (as is specified in some other filings) only once per quarter. This flexibility resolves the concern Staff originally raised.

The tariff took effect on August 14, 2012. In Staff's assessment no revision in its terms is required, and Northland should make a compliance filing reflecting that date.