

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Inter-Department Communication

NHPUC 30AUG'18PM3:47

**DATE:** August 30, 2018  
**AT (OFFICE):** NHPUC

**FROM:**  Kath Mullholand, Director – Regulatory Innovation and Strategy Division

**SUBJECT:** Docket No. DT 18-\_\_\_\_  
2019 Universal Service Certification pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.314  
**Staff Request to Open Docket**

**TO:** Debra A. Howland, Executive Director

**CC:** David K. Wiesner, Staff Attorney

On July 24, 2018, TDS Telecom filed a request that the Commission notify the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that the Commission certifies the use of federal high-cost support provided to New Hampshire eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.314. That federal regulation provides as follows:

States that desire eligible telecommunications carriers to receive support pursuant to the high-cost program must file an annual certification with [USAC] and the [FCC] stating that all federal high-cost support provided to such carriers within that State was used in the preceding calendar year and will be used in the coming calendar year only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended. High-cost support shall only be provided to the extent that the State has filed the requisite certification pursuant to this section.

In order to meet the requirements of that rule, Staff requests that each ETC file an original notarized affidavit no later than August 31 of each year. Once the affidavits are reviewed and accepted, Staff makes its certification to USAC and the FCC. In order to ensure a record of this process, Staff requests that a docket be opened for the purpose of accepting ETC affidavits and recording USAC’s acceptance of the certification on behalf of itself and the FCC.

Please see the attached service list for the proposed docket.

## Service List

- Bretton Woods Telephone, Karen Wante, kwante@bwtc.net
- Consolidated Communications – NNE and Consolidated Communications/Northland, Robert Meehan, Robert.Meehan@consolidated.com
- Dixville Telephone Company, Ann Walsh, awalsh@tillotsoncorp.com
- Dunbarton Telephone Company, Stephen Nelson, scnelson@gsinet.net
- Granite State Communications, Steven Schilling, sshilling@gsc.tech
- TDS Telecom (Kearsarge Telephone Company, Merrimack County Telephone Company, Union Telephone Company, Wilton Telephone Company and MCT Communications, Inc.), Scott Brooks, scott.brooks@tdstelecom.com