

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Before the
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. DT 23-103

CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC. AND
CONDOR HOLDINGS, LLC

JOINT PETITION TO APPROVE TRANSFER OF CONTROL

Petition to Intervene

The Town of Benton respectfully petitions the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) to allow it to intervene in the above-captioned matter, pursuant to NH Rev Stat § 541-A:32, and the N.H. Code of Admin. Proc. Puc 203.1. The Commission should grant this request because the Town of Benton’s rights, privileges and other substantial interests may be directly affected by the Commission’s actions in this proceeding.

In support of this Petition, the Town of Benton states as follows:

1. The Town of Benton is an incorporated municipality of the State of New Hampshire.
2. On December 27, 2023 Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. (“CCHI”) and Condor Holdings, LLC (“Condor”) filed a Joint Petition to transfer indirect ownership and control of Transferor’s incumbent local exchange carrier (“ILEC”) subsidiaries Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC (“CCNE”) and Consolidated Communications of Maine Company (“CCM,” and together with CCNE, “Consolidated”) to Condor pursuant to RSA 374:30, II.
3. The Town of Benton and most residents of the Town of Benton, continue to depend on copper wire telephone and digital subscriber line (“DSL”) internet services provided by Consolidated’s ILEC subsidiaries in New Hampshire.
4. The maintenance and service of those copper wires and related infrastructure to provide telephone and DSL internet service is essential to the communications needs of Benton residents, including the emergency management needs of the Town which are provided from the Town Hall.
5. Consolidated’s ILEC subsidiaries in New Hampshire own utility poles in the Town of Benton and many other utility poles in the Town of Benton are subject to joint use agreements with Consolidated’s ILEC subsidiaries.
6. The maintenance and customer service of telephone and DSL internet services and the utility poles which deliver those services is of vital concern to the economic, educational, social and health interests of the residents of the Town of Benton.
7. The Town of Benton respectfully requests that the Commission permit it to intervene in this docket because of the significant effect the proposed transfer of control may have on, among other things, the rates, terms and conditions that apply to the Town of Benton and its residents and the maintenance and service of the copper wire infrastructure to assure the reliability of essential telephone and internet services to the Town and its residents.
8. In light of the foregoing, the Town of Benton has a direct and substantial interest in the subject

matter of this proceeding, and the Commission's determinations in this proceeding will likely have a direct impact upon the Town of Benton and its residents.

6. No other party to this proceeding may be able to adequately represent the Town of Benton's interests.

WHEREFORE, the Town of Benton respectfully requests that the Commission grant it permission to intervene and to be treated as a party to the proceeding.

Respectfully submitted March 8, 2024.

/s/ William R Darcy

William R. Darcy, Chair

Town of Benton, Board of Selectmen

221 Coventry Road

Benton, NH 03785

bentonnh@gmail.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 8th day of March, 2024, a copy of the foregoing Petition to Intervene has been served via email on the service list to this proceeding.

/s/ William R. Darcy

William R. Darcy

Service List

ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov

Marie-Helene.B.Bailinson@energy.nh.gov

sberlin@fh2.com

russell.blau@morganlewis.com

joshua.bobeck@morganlewis.com

sbouboulis@wiley.law

dbrooks@wiley.law

bbyrd@fh2.com

acalloway@fh2.com

michael.chowaniec@charter.com

Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov

paul.b.dexter@energy.nh.gov

joshua.w.elliott@energy.nh.gov

jgolden2320@gmail.com

wjohnsen@wiley.law

mjohnson@devinemillimet.com

donald.m.kreis@oca.nh.gov

jleckey@drm.com

Andrew.lipman@morganlewis.com

nmalmquist@drm.com

patrick.mchugh@consolidated.com

amanda.o.noonan@energy.nh.gov

agordon@pylerome.com

ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov

jhykel@pylerome.com

mike.shultz@consolidated.com

david.j.shulock@energy.nh.gov

mike.shultz@consolidated.com
ed_starr@ibew.org
Garrett.Vanosdell@Consolidated.com
leetal.weiss@morganlewis.com