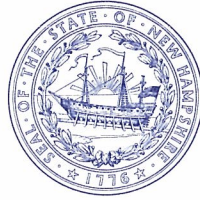


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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AND SECRETARY  
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January 29, 2010

Re: DT 07-011 Verizon New Engand, et al  
Transfer of Assets to FairPoint Communications, Inc.  
Hearing on RSA 91-A Request from the Union Leader

To the Parties:

On January 7, 2010, Denis Paiste, on behalf of the Union Leader Corporation (Union Leader), requested pursuant to RSA 91-A:4 and RSA 378:43 a copy of the cover letter and report of Accenture (Report) filed by Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a FairPoint Communications --NNE (FairPoint) with the Commission on November 30, 2009.

On January 14, 2010, the Commission issued Order No. 25,063 scheduling a hearing, pursuant to the requirements of RSA 378:43, to occur at 10:00 a.m. on February 2, 2010. The Commission further ordered that FairPoint, the Union Leader, Staff and any other interested parties, meet to discuss how the hearing should be conducted and provide recommendations on the conduct of the proceeding no later than January 27, 2010. On January 27, 2010, Staff filed its report on behalf of the parties including recommendations for the conduct of the February 2 hearing.

The Commission has determined that the February 2 hearing will be conducted as follows:

1. FairPoint and the Union Leader will be permitted to call one witness to testify and be cross-examined;
2. Pursuant to RSA 91-A:2 and :3, the hearing will include a public session and a non-public session; and
3. FairPoint, the Union Leader and any other party will be permitted to present oral argument after the conclusion of testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra A. Howland".

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director