



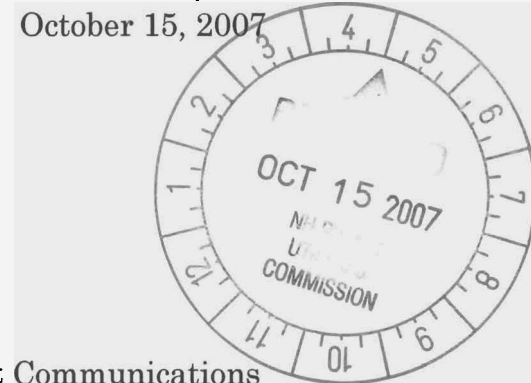
**Public Service
of New Hampshire**

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The Northeast Utilities System

October 15, 2007



Ms. Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: Docket No. DT 07-011
Verizon New England et alia
Petition for Authority to Transfer Assets to FairPoint Communications
Hearing Procedure Issues

Dear Ms. Howland:

The Commission's General Counsel, Donald Kreis reported to the Commission on October 10, 2007 the results of the Informal Conference held on October 9, 2007 among the attorneys representing parties in the above-captioned proceeding. It was agreed that each party would submit a document by October 15, 2007 setting forth: (1) any witness availability issues, (2) an estimate of how much time the party believes it will need to cross examine each witness, (3) a list of any witnesses the party believes it has no need to cross-examine, and (4) the number of persons who will attend the hearings on behalf of the party.

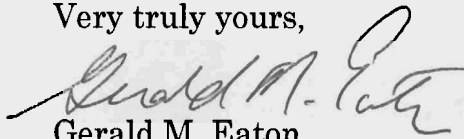
Granite State Electric Company d.b.a. National Grid ("National Grid"), Unutil Energy Systems Inc. ("Unutil") Public Service Company of New Hampshire ("PSNH") all have similar presentations. All three have entered into Memoranda of Understanding with FairPoint Communications, Inc. regarding their mutual obligations for their jointly owned poles subsequent to the proposed merger. These parties have agreed to present their witnesses¹ on the same day, perhaps as a panel, so that these issues may be dealt with in the most timely and efficient manner. The best day for all three witnesses is October 31, 2007. Direct testimony of our witnesses will be brief, but we reserve the opportunity to conduct any redirect for issues raised during cross examination of our witnesses.

¹ National Grid's witness is Cheryl Warren, Unutil's witness is Thomas Meissner and PSNH's witness is Robert Hybsch.

Unitil plans on cross examining Mr. Nestor of Verizon for up to two hours and will have twenty minutes of questions for Mr. Hybsch of PSNH. Assuming Mr. Epler goes first, PSNH will have between twenty minutes to one half hour for Mr. Nester and will cross examine no other witnesses. National Grid has no plans to cross examine any of the witnesses.

PSNH will have two persons in the hearing room on the date when these issues are addressed. PSNH may also have counsel attend the opening session on October 22, 2007 to learn the Commission's instructions for conduct of the proceeding. If any other information is required, please contact either Attorney Blackmore, Attorney Epler or me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald M. Eaton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and "E".

Gerald M. Eaton
Senior Counsel

cc: All Parties on E-Mail Service List