



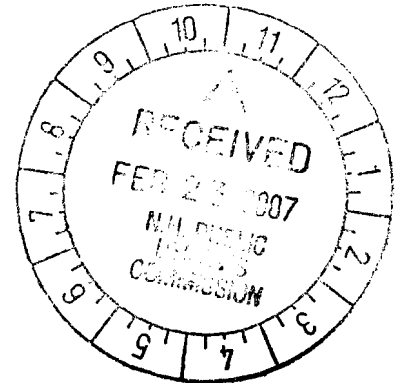
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February 22, 2007

Debra A. Howland,
Exec Director & Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429



Re: Petition to Intervene in Docket No. DT 07-011

Dear Ms. Howland:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced proceeding, please find one original and eight copies of the following:

1. The New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.'s Petition to Intervene in Docket No. DT 07-011 pertaining to the Joint Application of Verizon New England, Inc., Bell Atlantic communications, Inc., NYNEX Long Distance Co., Verizon Select Services, Inc., and FairPoint Communications Inc.; and
2. A Certificate of Service.

Please date stamp the enclosed extra copy of this letter and return it to me in the enclosed postage prepaid envelope for our files.

Thank you for your assistance in this regard.

Very truly yours,

Christopher J. Pollart

Enc.

cc: Ms. Dena DeLucca, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Ms. Heather Kaufman, New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Service List

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Joint Application by Verizon New England, Inc., Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc.
NYNEX Long Distance Company, Verizon Select Services
and
FairPoint Communications, Inc.

Docket No. DT 07-011

PETITION FOR INTERVENTION
OF
NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Pursuant to RSA 541-A:32 and N.H. Code Admin. Rule § 203.17, and the provisions of the Order of Notice issued in this proceeding on February 7, 2007, the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc. ("NHEC") hereby requests full intervention status in the above-captioned matter. NHEC's rights, duties, privileges, immunities and other substantial interests may be affected by the proceeding. In support of its Petition for Intervention, NHEC states as follows:

1. On January 31, 2007, Verizon New England, Inc., Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. NYNEX Long Distance Company, Verizon Select Services and FairPoint Communications, Inc. filed a joint application ("Joint Application") with the Commission seeking, *inter alia*, to transfer Verizon New England's ("Verizon") assets, business and franchise related to the provision of local exchange and intrastate toll service in New Hampshire, pursuant to RSA 374:30, to Northern New England Telephone Operations Inc. ("Telco"). See Joint Application, at 3. The Joint Application also seeks the Commission's authorization for Telco to commence business as a local exchange and intrastate toll service provider within the portions of the State of New Hampshire served by Verizon, pursuant to RSA 374:26. See Joint Application, at 4.
2. Pursuant to RSA 374:30, the Commission must determine that the transfer of a public utility's franchise, works and systems is in the public good. The granting of a franchise to operate as a public utility also must be found to be in the public good. RSA 374:26. An entity seeking permission to operate as a public utility must demonstrate whether "it

possesses the technical, managerial and financial capabilities to own and operate the system.” *Re Lakes Region Water Company, Inc.*, Docket No. DW 05-097, Order No. 24,502, 90 NH PUC 341 (August 19, 2005). “Every public utility shall furnish such service and facilities as shall be reasonably safe and adequate and in all other respects just and reasonable.” RSA 374:1.

3. NHEC and Verizon each own a proportionate number of utility poles, anchors and guys located within the franchise common service territories served by both NHEC and Verizon. Each owner is responsible for maintaining its joint poles within the common service territory. With respect to the poles owned by NHEC and Verizon for joint use, the owner of such poles is responsible for setting poles for new utility service, maintaining poles and their rights of way, and emergency response to replace poles damaged by accident or weather. The responsibilities of the two companies are governed by a contract entitled “General Agreement Joint Use of Wood Poles”, dated July 1, 1977, as amended on August 7, 2003, and Inter-company Operating Procedures, as amended from time to time.
4. NHEC and Verizon have participated along with other parties in the Generic Investigation of Utility Poles Docket No. DM 05-172, (“Pole Docket”). In that proceeding, the Commission has undertaken an investigation into the performance of the electric distribution companies and Verizon in the following areas:
 - a. Adequacy of labor resources;
 - b. Inspection and maintenance of joint poles;
 - c. Timely placement and removal of poles;
 - d. Double poles;
 - e. Intercompany communication and notification; and
 - f. Pole line trimming.
5. The Pole Docket investigation is still pending and is not complete. In technical sessions the electric distribution companies have expressed their dissatisfaction with Verizon’s

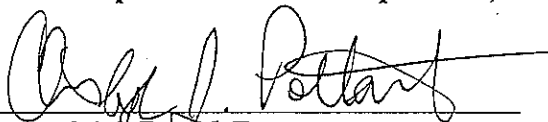
performance, and NHEC has directly expressed its dissatisfaction with Verizon's performance to Verizon, in the following areas:

- a. Emergency response;
 - b. Transfer of plant to new poles and removal of old poles;
 - c. Setting of new poles owned by Verizon; and
 - d. Sharing of trimming costs for maintenance, construction and so-called "trouble trees":
6. Given the joint use arrangements of the utility infrastructure and NHEC's experience with Verizon in recent years, NHEC has a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding. NHEC's primary interest is to make sure that the proposed transaction, if approved, will be in the public good, particularly with respect to whether:
- a. the successor to Verizon has the resources and commitment to provide reasonable, safe and adequate utility service;
 - b. the issues involved in the on-going Pole Docket are adequately addressed; and
 - c. all of NHEC's members will receive adequate, just and reasonable service regardless of whether the poles providing their service are owned by NHEC or Verizon.

WHEREFORE, NHEC respectfully requests full party intervenor status in this proceeding and requests such further relief as may be just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted this 23rd day of February, 2007,

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative, Inc.

By: 

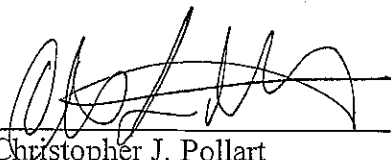
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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a copy of the above Petition for Intervention was provided to all persons on the attached service list pursuant to the Commission rules of practice and procedure.

2/22/07

Date



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