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*Executive Councilor
District One*

May 23, 2012

**Ms. Debra Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
Public Utilities Commission- State of NH
21 South Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301**

**RE: Broadband Expansion by FairPoint Communications
Docket DT 07-011**

Dear Ms. Howland,

As you know, I represent District One, on the Executive Council. On behalf of my constituents, I am writing in support of FairPoint Communication's efforts to expand broadband to areas of its service territory that are currently without high speed broadband. I support the use of FairPoint's service quality penalties for broadband expansion. I was pleased to see that FairPoint has agreed to contribute an additional \$500, 000 to this effort. Over \$3 million dollars will go a long way in bringing broadband service to our citizens in rural areas.

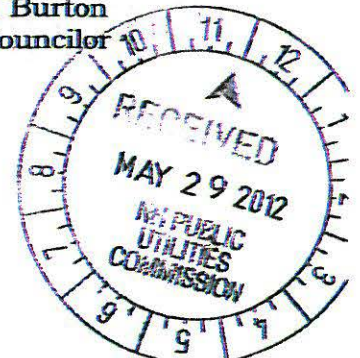
The Public Utilities Commission's order of May 8, 2012 contains a reference to potential additional penalties being imposed upon FairPoint. FairPoint should be commended for its willingness to contribute additional funds of \$500,000 for this project, not penalized. I fear if the Commission imposes additional penalties that the company will elect to just issue a rebate to customers of the SQI penalties and our un-served population will continue to be un-served by broadband.

I urge the Commission to not allow additional penalties to stand in the way of broadband expansion to our state's un-served areas. Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,



**Raymond S. Burton
Executive Councilor**



Towns in Council District #1

CARROLL COUNTY:

Albany, Bartlett, Chatham, Conway, Eaton, Effingham, Freedom, Hart's Loc., Jackson, Madison, Moultonborough, Ossipee, Sandwich, Tamworth, Tuftonboro, Wakefield, Wolfeboro,

GRAFTON COUNTY:

Alexandria, Ashland, Bath, Benton, Bethlehem, Bridgewater, Bristol, Campton, Canaan, Dorchester, Easton, Ellsworth, Enfield, Franconia, Grafton, Groton, Hanover, Haverhill, Hebron, Holderness, Landaff, Lebanon, Lincoln, Lisbon, Livermore, Littleton, Lyman, Lyme, Monroe, Orange, Orford, Piermont, Plymouth, Rumney, Sugar Hill, Thornton, Warren, Waterville Valley, Wentworth, Woodstock

BELKNAP COUNTY:

Alton, Belmont, Center Harbor, Gifford, Laconia, Meredith, New Hampton, Sanbornton, Tilton

COOS COUNTY:

Berlin, Carroll, Clarksville, Colebrook, Columbia, Dalton, Dixville, Dummer, Errol, Gorham, Jefferson, Lancaster, Milan, Millsfield, Northumberland, Pittsburg, Randolph, Shelburne, Stewartstown, Stark, Stratford, Whitefield

SULLIVAN COUNTY:

Charlestown, Claremont, Cornish, Croydon, Grantham, Newport, Plainfield, Springfield, Sunapee