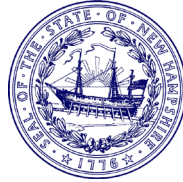


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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

October 4, 2024

Daniel C. Goldner, Chair
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

RE: DT 24-096 Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC; Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC and Charter Fiberlink NH-CCO, LLC – *DOE Recommendation*

Dear Chairman Goldner:

On August 8, 2024, Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC (Consolidated) submitted an amendment to their interconnection agreement with Charter Fiberlink NH-CCO, LLC. The cover letter filed with the Amendment indicates that the Parties have arrived at this Amendment through negotiation.

Section 47 USC 252(e)(2)(A) requires the Commission to approve a negotiated interconnection agreement unless it is determined that the agreement, or some portion of it, discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or that the implementation of the agreement would not be consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

After review, Department staff found no evidence that the Agreement discriminates against nonparties; is inconsistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity; or is inconsistent with the orders, rules, and regulations of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission. As such, the Department recommends approval of the Interconnection Agreement.

The Department would also note that as recently July 25, 2024, in Order No. 27,039 the Commission has approved interconnection agreements via Order *Nisi*. As such, the Department would support an Order *Nisi* for approval of this Agreement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew C. Young".

Matthew C. Young
Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner
New Hampshire Department of Energy

cc: Docket Service List, Paul Dexter, Esq., Matthew C. Young, Esq., Amanda Noonan, Gary Cronin

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