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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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NHPUC 5APR'17 4:08

April 4, 2017

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

Re: DT 16-872, Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.  
Joint Petition for Findings in Furtherance of the Acquisition of FairPoint  
Communications, Inc. and its New Hampshire Operating Subsidiaries  
Request for Modification of Procedural Schedule

Dear Ms. Howland:

As Hearings Examiner, at the Commission's request, I participated in a technical session with the parties on March 22, 2017, and in a further conference call on Monday, April 3, 2017. During the technical session and call, the parties discussed pending discovery matters and modifications to the procedural schedule.

The parties have worked in good faith to resolve all outstanding discovery disputes and to complete discovery in this complex case. During our conference call yesterday the parties reached agreement on the completion of all outstanding discovery and resulting changes to the procedural schedule.

The letter filed earlier today by Staff requesting modifications to the procedural schedule comports with my notes and understanding of the parties' agreements reached during our April 3<sup>rd</sup> conference call. I believe that the resulting schedule appropriately balances the needs of the parties to move this process expeditiously, while allowing for adequate analysis of the proposed transaction. I recommend that the Commission approve the proposed procedural schedule for the balance of this proceeding.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Anne Ross".

F. Anne Ross  
Hearings Examiner

Cc: Service List

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## SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES- DOCKET RELATED

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**Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.**

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Docket #: 16-872-1      Printed: April 04, 2017

### **FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:
- DEBRA A HOWLAND  
EXEC DIRECTOR  
NHPUC  
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10  
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.