

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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NHPUC 13APR'17PM3:41

April 13, 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 Discovery Deadline

To the Parties:

Pursuant to Order No. 25,997 (March 7, 2017) at 17-19, I have been appointed to serve as hearings examiner and presiding officer to address with the parties and attempt to resolve discovery disputes that may arise in the this proceeding. The Commission also granted me authority to extend discovery deadlines under the procedural schedule.

Yesterday counsel for Consolidated Communications Holdings filed a letter requesting an extension of time to file responses to outstanding data requests from Commission Staff. Staff has agreed to the extension until today for the remaining responses.

I believe that the requested extension appropriately balances the needs of the parties to move this process expeditiously, while allowing for adequate analysis of the proposed transaction, and I therefore approve the proposed extension of time for these responses until today.

Very truly yours,

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

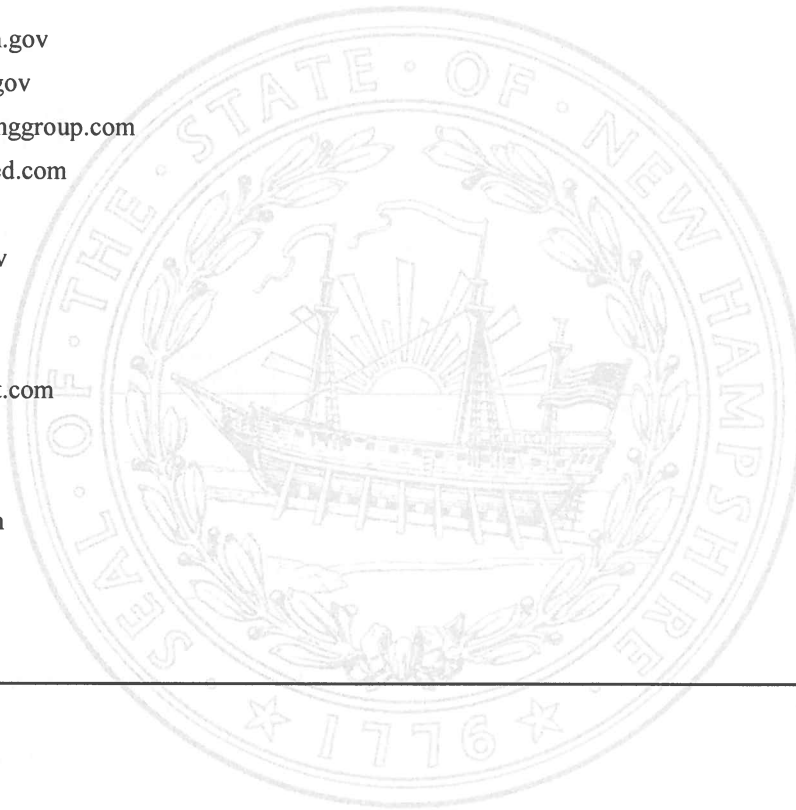
F. Anne Ross  
Hearings Examiner

cc: Service List

## SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES- DOCKET RELATED

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 13, 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.