

CHAIRMAN
Thomas B. Getz

COMMISSIONERS
Graham J. Morrison
Clifton C. Below

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AND SECRETARY
Debra A. Howland

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

TDD Access: Relay NH
1-800-735-2964

Website:
www.puc.nh.gov

May 7, 2007

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429



Re: DT 07-027 Kearsarge Telephone Company, Wilton Telephone Company, Hollis Telephone Company and Merrimack County Telephone Company
Petitions for Alternative Regulation pursuant to RSA 374:3-b

Dear Ms. Howland:

Following the pre-hearing conference in the above-referenced proceeding, Staff, the OCA, the TDS Companies (Companies) and intervenors held a technical session, at which participants agreed upon an initial procedural schedule.

The parties and Staff agreed that it would be useful to brief a number of issues involving the interpretation of the statutory language in RSA 374:3-b. The parties will ask the Commission to review the briefs with a view to determining how the statute will be applied in its review of the Companies' proposed plans. Accordingly, the following schedule is proposed:

Initial Briefs by all parties and Staff	June 1, 2007
Reply Briefs by all parties and Staff	June 15, 2007
Technical Session (following order on briefs)	July 6, 2007
Technical Session (date reserved if order is delayed)	July 19, 2007

The parties and staff further agreed to develop a procedural schedule for the remainder of the proceeding at the technical session. The technical session will be held following the Commission's order on the briefs.

The Companies agreed to provide confidential material to Staff and the OCA, but objected to having to disclose it to any other party. The intervenors did not request access to the confidential information, but reserved the right to request access later if they determined that they needed the confidential material for this proceeding. In that event, the Companies and the intervenors will attempt to work out disclosure arrangements, and, failing agreement, may ask the Commission to determine what information the Companies must disclose.

Finally, with regard to intervention the parties recommend that the Commission grant all pending petitions to intervene as well as Granite State Telephone's petition to intervene, should it file one.

Staff and the parties request that the Commission approve this initial procedural schedule.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Anne Ross". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "F" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

F. Anne Ross, Esq.
Staff Attorney

Cc: Service List