

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Debra A. Howland

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

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

Website:
www.puc.nh.gov

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

June 26, 2017

Robert D. Meehan
Director – Regulatory NH
FairPoint Communications
770 Elm Street, 1st Floor
Manchester, NH 03101

Re: DT 17-099: Northland Telephone Company: Intrastate Access Tariff Revisions and Waiver Requests

Dear Mr. Meehan:

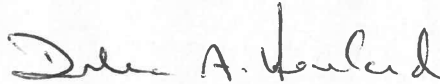
On June 14, 2017, Northland Telephone Company (Northland) submitted a filing to revise its common intrastate access tariff for effect on July 1, 2017, pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Report and Order FCC 11-161 (Transformation Order). Consistent with the Transformation Order, as revised, the tariff filing proposes to set Northland intrastate access rates equal to current Northland interstate rates. Northland also requested waivers of Puc 1603.07(a)(1), which requires 30 days' notice before a tariff change becomes effective, and of Puc 1604.05(d), which requires a utility to formally request a waiver allowing a tariff to take effect before the 30 days have elapsed.

Staff reviewed the proposed tariff changes for compliance with FCC orders and rules, and following its investigation, recommended that those proposed changes be allowed to go into effect. To enable this, Staff recommended that the waiver of Puc 1603.07(a)(1) be granted. Staff concluded that no waiver of Puc 1604.05(d) is necessary, since Northland's filing of June 14, 2017 satisfies that rule.

The Commission has accepted Staff's recommendation that the proposed tariff changes be allowed to take effect. The Commission grants a waiver of Puc 1603.07(a)(1), allowing those changes to take effect in less than 30 days after filing. The Commission considers Northland's filing of June 14, 2017 to be a sufficient waiver request under Puc 1604.05(d), and declines to issue a waiver of that rule, finding such a waiver to be unnecessary.

For administrative efficiency, an order will not be issued by the Commission either suspending, rejecting, or approving the proposed tariff changes. Pursuant to RSA 378:3 and RSA 378:6, IV, the proposed tariff changes, filed on June 14, 2017, and pursuant to Staff's recommendation, are effective, as proposed, on July 1, 2017. Tariff pages should be filed referencing Docket No. DT 17-099 and reflecting the effective date of July 1, 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Debra A. Howland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

Cc: Service List
Docket file

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.

Executive.Director@puc.nh.gov
amanda.noonan@puc.nh.gov
david.wiesner@puc.nh.gov
michael.ladam@puc.nh.gov
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov
robert.meehan@fairpoint.com

Docket #: 17-099-1 Printed: June 27, 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.**