

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**Inter-Department Communication****DATE:** August 23, 2018**AT (OFFICE):** NHPUC**FROM:**  Kath Mullholand, Director, Regulatory Innovation and Strategy**SUBJECT:** DT 18-117, Petition of Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications – NNE to Temporarily Construct and Maintain Telecommunications Cable across New Hampshire Public Waters**TO:** Debra A. Howland, Executive Director**CC:** David K. Wiesner, Staff Attorney

On July 30, 2018, Northern New England Telephone Operations LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications-NNE (CCI) filed a petition seeking a license to temporarily relocate and maintain an aerial telecommunications cable crossing state-owned public waters at the Weirs in Laconia, New Hampshire. CCI submitted additional material on August 3rd to bring its filing into compliance with Commission rules. CCI requested expedited treatment due to the construction schedule established by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation.

On review of the petition, Staff requested additional information from CCI regarding the status of the utility poles CCI proposes to use for the relocated cable. CCI indicated that poles 372/233 and 372/234 are pre-existing. Pursuant to RSA 371:17-a, in pertinent part, new attachments on existing poles require the utility to “file written notification with the Commission for a license to construct and maintain such cable... [including] a description of the specific geographic and pole locations of the crossing and verification that there is a valid pole attachment license or that an application for a pole attachment license has been submitted to the utility or utilities that own such poles or towers.” Further, the notification must “include an affidavit signed by the responsible officer confirming that the crossing shall be completed in compliance with such pole attachment license and the National Electrical Safety Code. Upon receipt of such notification, no further inquiries or investigations by the commission shall be required in granting the requested license.”

CCI filed the required affidavit on August 21, 2018. As the incumbent telephone utility, CCI is a joint owner with Eversource Energy, and need not provide “verification that there is a valid pole attachment license.” Accordingly, Staff recommends that the requested license be granted.

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
kathryn.mullholand@puc.nh.gov
ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov
randy.knepper@puc.nh.gov
robert.meehan@consolidated.com

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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
EXECUTIVE 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.**