

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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September 20, 2019

Paul J. Phillips, Esq.
Primmer, Piper, Eggleston & Cramer PC
900 Elm Street
PO Box 3600
Manchester, NH 03105-3600

RE: DT 19-117, Granite State Telephone, Inc. Petition to Modify Service Territory Boundaries with Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications - NNE

Dear Mr. Phillips:

On July 2, 2019, Granite State Telephone, Inc. (GST) filed a petition to modify service territory boundaries in the Towns of Stoddard and Chester that are shared with Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications - NNE (CCI) pursuant to RSA 374:30, II. On August 20, 2019, the Commission issued Order No. 26,288 approving the petition on a *nisi* basis noting, among other things, that GST is not acquiring any new service territory but aligning its franchise boundary in Stoddard with the area in which it has already been providing service.

On September 3, 2019, Ronald Morrison filed a document on behalf of the Highland Lake Association and approximately four non-members of that association, complaining about issues with their current DSL service and requesting that GST commit to install high-speed internet by the spring of 2020. On September 4, 2019, Shelley Amari, filed a document requesting that the Commission "hold off on any decisions regarding the expansion of [GST's] territory until they can properly manage and address concerns of their internet infrastructure in their current territories."

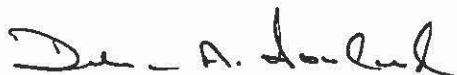
On September 9, 2019, GST responded to the issues raised by the Morrison and Amari Filings. GST clarified that both filings involve the revised franchise boundaries in Stoddard, but not to the change requested in Chester. GST stated that it has been offering broadband internet service to all of the locations covered by the Highland Lake Association in GST's existing and proposed service territory, and GST shared its plans for upgrades to broadband in the area, which include installations on the northwestern shores of Highland Lake in 2020, the area of concern for the Highland Lake Association and Ms. Amari. GST acknowledged those customers had raised important concerns, but nonetheless maintained that those concerns are not germane to this proceeding nor do they fall within the Commission's authority. Since GST has satisfied the conditions of the Order *Nisi*, it requested that the Commission deny the two requests and issue a final order approving the proposed boundary adjustments.

Mr. Morrison replied by letter dated September 9, 2019, reiterating that the information provided in GST's response does not match what its customer service representatives had told him in the past. He requested more details and firmer timelines from GST.

On September 16, 2019, Staff filed a recommendation in which it advised the Commission of a scrivener's error in the Order and related summary and proposed corrections to the description of the franchise boundary modifications therein. Staff acknowledged the concerns of the Highland Lake residents, but noted that the Commission has no authority with respect to DSL or internet access. Staff recommended that the Commission issue a correction to the Order *Nisi* and order summary issued in this proceeding and allow the corrected Order *Nisi* to go into effect as stated therein.

Inasmuch as the Commission has no authority with respect to broadband service and no other objections to Order No. 26,288 were made, the Commission has approved Staff's recommendation. Accordingly, the Commission is issuing *errata* pages for Order No. 26,288, and that Order will go into effect on September 20, 2019. The Commission appreciates GST's willingness to complete the conversion to fiber in the area that includes the Highland Lake Association residents as soon as 2020.

Sincerely,

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

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director

Cc: Docket File
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