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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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December 31, 2020

Kath Mullholand, Director
Regulatory Innovation and Strategy Division
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Eligible Telecommunications Carrier Designations

Dear Director Mullholand:

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(6), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is authorized to designate a telecommunications carrier as a Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) if the provider's services are not subject to state jurisdiction. The Commission has determined that it lacks authority under New Hampshire law to designate as an ETC a provider of Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) or Internet Protocol-enabled (IP-enabled) services. *See* Secretarial Letter dated December 18, 2020, Docket No. DT 20-194.

In order to access Federal Universal Service Fund (FUSF) monies, telecommunications carriers must obtain an ETC designation. As a result, providers of VoIP and IP-enabled services which have received notice of FUSF awards have requested a determination by the Commission that it lacks authority to designate them as ETCs under New Hampshire law. In the interest of administrative efficiency, the Commission has delegated to the Director of the Regulatory Innovation and Strategy Division the authority to provide written confirmation to VoIP and IP-enabled service providers of the status of the Commission's ETC designation authority for that purpose, effective immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra A. Howland".

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director