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June 12, 2023

Daniel Goldner, Chairman New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: Docket No. DE 21-020

Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy and Consolidated Communications of Northern New England, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications Joint Petition to Approve Pole Asset Transfer Response to NECTA Motion to Modify Tariff

Dear Chairman Goldner:

On June 1, 2023, New England Connectivity and Telecommunications Association, Inc. ("NECTA") filed a Motion to Modify Tariff (the "Motion"). The Motion was filed in response to Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy's (the "Company") May 12, 2023 compliance filing submitting revisions to its tariff in response to the Public Utilities Commission's Order No. 26,279 issued in the Docket DE 21-020.

In its May 12<sup>th</sup> compliance filing, the Company proposed language regarding the Pole Plant Adjustment Mechanism including the following language as part of the definition of Pole Attachment Revenue: "Pole attachment revenues for formerly Consolidated owned poles will be tracked separately and billed at the Consolidated rate at the time of closing, until a full pole attachment survey is conducted and, or a single, unified pole attachment rate is applied to all poles."

NECTA argues that this sentence is problematic because the language does not recognize that Consolidated's rates are disputed and subject to a motion for rehearing in Docket DT 22-047 (Motion at 2). As a result, NECTA objects to the Company's tariff filing and proposes a revision to the language above (<u>id</u>.).

While the Company does not disagree that the outcome of Docket DT 22-047 *could* require revisions to the tariff language submitted by the Company on May 12, 2023, the Company's proposed tariff was correct on the date filed and any revisions can be addressed following resolution of the issues in Docket DT 22-047, if applicable. Order No. 26,279, at 20-21. Alternatively, the Company proposes the following in lieu of NECTA's proposed tariff language:

"Pole attachment revenues for formerly Consolidated owned poles will be tracked separately and billed at the Consolidated rate at the time of closing, <u>unless modified by a final order addressing the issues raised in Docket DT 22-047</u>, until a full pole attachment survey is conducted and, or a single, unified pole attachment rate is applied to all poles." (proposed revision to the May 12<sup>th</sup> filing is underlined).

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The Company's proposed revision provides certainty regarding the rate to be charged pending resolution of the issues presented in Docket DT 22-047 while also memorializing the potential for a future revision in response to concerns set forth in NECTA's Motion.

Thank you. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jessica Buno Ralston

Jessica Burn Kaliter

cc: Service List, Docket DE 21-020