

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DE 21-020**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
d/b/a EVERSOURCE ENERGY AND
CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS OF NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND
COMPANY, LLC d/b/a CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS**

Joint Petition to Approve Pole Asset Transfer

**PETITION OF
NEW ENGLAND CABLE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION, INC.
FOR INTERVENTION**

NOW COMES New England Cable and Telecommunications Association, Inc. (“NECTA”), by and through its undersigned counsel, and respectfully petitions the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (“the Commission”) pursuant to RSA 541-A:32 and N.H. Admin. R. Puc 203.17 to allow NECTA to intervene in the above-captioned docket. In support of this Petition, NECTA states as follows:

1. NECTA is a non-profit corporation and trade association that represents the interests of most communications companies and their affiliates (“NECTA Members”) in New England, including New Hampshire.

2. NECTA has offices at the following address: 121 Loring Ave, Suite 340, Salem, Massachusetts 02110.

3. NECTA Members offer communications services in New Hampshire by attaching facilities and associated equipment to utility poles that are either: jointly owned by Public Service Company of New Hampshire d/b/a Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) and Consolidated

Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC d/b/a Consolidated Communications (“Consolidated”); solely owned by Consolidated; or solely owned by Eversource.

4. As pole attachers, NECTA Members are provided certain rights and privileges under N.H. RSA 374:34-a, N.H. Admin. R. 1300, and pole attachment agreements they have entered into with Eversource and Consolidated.

5. Because the instant docket concerns the transfer of Consolidated’s interests in poles it jointly owns with Eversource, as well as certain poles that Consolidated solely owns, the rights, duties privileges, immunities and other substantial interests of NECTA Members will be directly affected by the instant proceeding. The terms and conditions of the transfer of Consolidated’s pole assets to Eversource could directly impact, among other things, the rates paid by NECTA Members for pole attachments, and how their pole attachment applications are processed. In view of the foregoing, NECTA qualifies for intervention in this docket pursuant to N.H. RSA 541-A:32, I.(b).

6. The instant petition is timely filed as the Commission’s March 18, 2021 Order of Notice establishes a deadline of March 30, 2021 for intervention petitions.

7. The orderly and prompt conduct of this proceeding will not be impaired by allowing NECTA’s intervention. Allowing NECTA to represent the interests of its members will reduce the number of individual intervenors, thereby facilitating a more efficient process. In addition, in the event any individual NECTA member elects to intervene separately in this docket, NECTA will coordinate its participation with such individual member to minimize duplication of evidence, examination or argument.

8. NECTA has previously been granted intervention by this Commission, commissions in other New England states, and by the Federal Communications Commission, in many proceedings relating to access by communications operators to utility poles needed to install and maintain cables and associated equipment, as well as proceedings regarding pole attachment rates, terms and conditions. *See, e.g., Verizon New Hampshire and Electric Utilities, Generic Investigation into Utility Poles, DM 05-172.*

WHEREFORE, NECTA respectfully requests that the Commission:

- A. Allow NECTA to intervene as a full party to this proceeding; and
- B. Grant such further relief as is appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

**NEW ENGLAND CABLE AND
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION,
INC.**

By its attorneys,
Orr & Reno, P.A.

By:  _____

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Dated: March 29, 2021

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that on the date set forth above a copy of the within Petition was sent by electronic or U.S. mail to persons listed on the Service List in this docket.



Susan S. Geiger

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