

Paul J. Phillips, Esq.
pphillips@primmer.com
T 603 626 3300
F 603 626 0997

Admitted in New Hampshire and Vermont

VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

April 13, 2022

Hon. Daniel C. Goldner, Chair New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street Concord, NH 03301

Re: DT 22-007 (Petition of Kearsarge Telephone Company)

Dear Chair Goldner:

I write to advise the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") that Kearsarge Telephone Company's ("KTC's") attempted delivery of compliance notices by U.S. Mail in the above-referenced proceeding was unsuccessful. This letter also describes the further efforts that KTC has taken to correct the customer mailing that was required by the Commission's Order No. 26,602 (April 1, 2022) (the "Order *Nisi*").

This proceeding concerns proposed adjustments to certain telephone exchange boundaries in a portion of the Town of Salisbury. As I indicated in my Compliance Affidavit filed yesterday, KTC sent a copy of the Order *Nisi* by U.S. Mail to the customer locations in the affected area on April 6, 2022. On April 13, 2022, I received back all of the postmarked notices with a label affixed by the U.S. Postal Service indicating that the mailings were "Undeliverable" because "No Such Street" ("NSS") exists in the Town of Salisbury.

In preparation for the original mailing, KTC had confirmed that the house numbers and street names were correct. Following the return of the original mailing, KTC learned that all of the affected locations in the Town of Salisbury are served out of the Post Office in Franklin. Thus, while the affected residences on North Road are in fact located in Salisbury, the Post Office requires that mail to these North Road locations be addressed to "Franklin, NH."

I promptly notified David Wiesner, Counsel for the N.H. Department of Energy, about the returned mailing. Mr. Wiesner recommended, and KTC agreed, that KTC should correct the mailing addresses and send a new mailing out to the affected locations.

¹ Three of the 27 notice letters were not postmarked until April 8, 2022, because house numbers were not available for the mailing until then.

Accordingly, KTC on April 13, 2022, sent a second copy of the Order *Nisi* by U.S. Mail to each affected residence, with each mailing address now corrected to say "Franklin" rather than "Salisbury." Samples of an original returned envelope and a corrected envelope are attached here as **Exhibit 1**. A revised transmittal letter informed each affected customer that the initial mailing had been returned as undeliverable because it was directed to Salisbury rather than to Franklin. A sample of the revised transmittal letter is attached here as **Exhibit 2**.

I also note that a complete copy of the Order *Nisi* was published as a legal notice in the *New Hampshire Union Leader* on April 11, 2022, so that the public has been given notice of this proceeding.

Nonetheless, in light of the passage of a week between the original mailing on April 6, 2022, and the second mailing on April 13, 2022, the Commission may deem it advisable to extend by one week the deadline (now set for April 18, 2022) for the public to submit comments or to request a hearing with the Commission. If, in the Commission's view, additional time for public comment is needed, KTC will have no objection to the Commission allowing such additional time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Paul J. Phillips

Paul J. Phillips

Counsel for Kearsarge Telephone Company d/b/a TDS Telecom

Attachment

cc: David K. Wiesner, Esq., New Hampshire Department of Energy D. Maurice Kreis, Esq., Office of the Consumer Advocate Sarah Davis, Esq., Consolidated Communications Joel Dohmeier, TDS Telecom



MANCHESTER NH 030

6 APR 2022 PM 3 1





900 Elm St., 19th Floor | P.O. Box 3600 | Manchester, NH 03105-3600

LEGAL NOTICE ENCLOSED—DO NOT DISCARD

Local Telephone Customer 363 North Road Salisbury, NH 03 NIXIE

0004/10/22

RETURN TO SENDER INSUFFICIENT ADDRESS UNABLE TO FORWARD

_.9400921669100280

*1363-04710-06-37



900 Elm St., 19th Floor | P.O. Box 3600 | Manchester, NH 03105-3600



LEGAL NOTICE ENCLOSED—DO NOT DISCARD

Local Telephone Customer 363 North Road Franklin, NH 03235

EXHIBIT 2



Paul J. Phillips, Esq.
pphillips@primmer.com
T 603 626 3300
F 603 626 0997

Admitted in New Hampshire and Vermont

SECOND ATTEMPT: FIRST MAILING TO SALISBURY, NH RETURNED AS UNDELIVERABLE

April 13, 2022

Local Telephone Customer 363 North Road Franklin, NH 03235

RE: Regulatory Changes in Your Local Telephone Service

Dear Local Telephone Customer:

The New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (NHPUC) has conditionally approved a request from TDS Telecom to provide local telephone service to your residence in Salisbury, NH. Up until now, Consolidated Communications, Inc., has been the incumbent (default) provider of local telephone service to your location.

In an Order issued on April 1, 2022 (see attached), the NHPUC authorized TDS Telecom to take responsibility as the incumbent local telephone service provider in your area. If given final approval, TDS Telecom will begin providing local telephone service, cable television service, and high-speed Internet access service at symmetrical speeds of up to 1 Gigabyte/second. The transition involves certainly regulatory changes in your local telephone service, as described in the attached NHPUC Order.

As the NHPUC Order indicates, customers have until April 18, 2022, to file an objection to the proposed service area change or to request a hearing at the NHPUC.

If the NHPUC receives no objections, the attached Conditional Approval Order will become final on May 2, 2022, at which time TDS Telecom will begin offering telephone, Internet, and cable television service in your area.

TDS Telecom welcomes the opportunity to be your local service provider.

Sincerely,

/s/ Paul J. Phillips
Paul J. Phillips
Attorney for TDS Telecom

Attached: NHPUC Order No. 26,602 (Docket DT 22-007) (April 1, 2022)