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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



TDD Access Relay NH 711

Tel. (603) 271-3670

Website: www.energy.nh.gov

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

April 30, 2024

Daniel C. Goldner, Chair New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301

RE: DT 24-047 Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC Interconnection Agreement between Teliax, Inc. and Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC – DOE Recommendation

Dear Chair Goldner:

On March 21, 2024, Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company, LLC (Consolidated) filed an interconnection agreement (Agreement) between it and Teliax, Inc. (Teliax) with a request by both parties that the Commission approve it pursuant to 47 U.S.C. section 252(e). The Agreement states that the Parties have arrived at this Agreement through negotiations.

Section 47 USC 252(e)(2)(A) requires the Commission to approve a negotiated interconnection agreement unless it is determined that the agreement, or some portion of it, discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement or that the implementation of the agreement would not be consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity.

In their filing, Consolidated states that the Agreement does not discriminate against nonparties, is consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity and is consistent with the orders, rules and regulations of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission. The filing also states that the parties have arrived at this Agreement through negotiation. After review, Department staff found no evidence to dispute these claims. As such, the Department recommends approval of the Interconnection Agreement.

The Department would also note that as recently April 1, 2024, in Order No. 26,988, the Commission has approved interconnection agreements via Order *Nisi*. As such, the Department would support an Order *Nisi* for approval of this Agreement.

Sincerely,

Moth c. your

Matthew C. Young Staff Attorney/Hearings Examiner New Hampshire Department of Energy

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Email Addresses

ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov kevin.kastor@consolidated.com ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov

Without Email Addresses

All

ClerksOffice@puc.nh.gov

Department of Energy Department of Energy 21 South Fruit St Ste 10 Concord NH 03301 Energy-Litigation@energy.nh.gov

Kevin Kastor Consolidated Communications

kevin.kastor@consolidated.com

4/30/24, 10:37 AM

OCA Litigation OCA Litigation 21 South Fruit St Ste 18 Concord NH 03301 ocalitigation@oca.nh.gov View Service List