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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

November 2, 2005

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Debra A. Howland, Executive Director  
& Secretary  
Public Utilities Commission  
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

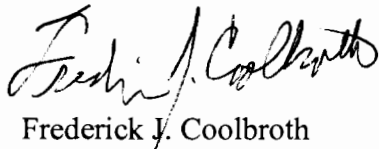
Re: DM 05-172 Utility Pole Investigation

Dear Ms. Howland:

Enclosed for filing in the above-docketed matter are an original and eight (8) copies of a Petition to Intervene by the New Hampshire Telephone Association.

A diskette containing the Petition is also enclosed.

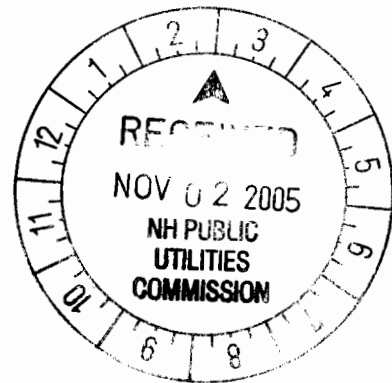
Very truly yours,

  
Frederick J. Coolbroth

FJC:kaa

Enclosures

cc: Service List



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DM 05-172

Utility Pole Investigation

**Petition of New Hampshire Telephone Association  
To Intervene**

Pursuant to RSA 541-A:32 and N.H. Admin. Rule Puc 203.02, New Hampshire Telephone Association (“NHTA”) hereby petitions to intervene in the above-docketed proceeding, and in support of its Petition, states as follows:

1. NHTA is an association of small incumbent local exchange carriers operating in New Hampshire. NHTA’s members include Merrimack County Telephone Company, Granite State Telephone, Inc., Kearsarge Telephone Company, Inc., Wilton Telephone Company, Inc., Hollis Telephone Company, Dunbarton Telephone Company, Inc., Northland Telephone Company of Maine, Inc., Bretton Woods Telephone Company, Inc., and Dixville Telephone Company.

2. As incumbent local exchange carriers, each of the NHTA member companies owns distribution poles within its exchange service territory, either solely or jointly with an electric company.

3. Although the Staff Memorandum referenced in the Commission’s Order of Notice in this docket refers primarily to Verizon New England, Inc., d/b/a Verizon New Hampshire (“Verizon”), the Commission has opened this docket as a generic investigation on pole related issues generally.

4. The Order of Notice states that the issues to be investigated include, among other things, "joint ownership of poles by electric and telecommunications utilities; pole installations, replacements and removals; response time to customer requests for service; maintenance obligations and related safety concerns; emergency response; tree trimming; private property construction charges and multiple attachments."

5. As owners of utility poles, the rights, duties, privileges, immunities and other substantial interests of the NHTA member companies may be affected by this proceeding.

6. The participation in this proceeding of NHTA's member companies is in the interest of justice, and their participation through NHTA will enhance the orderly and prompt conduct of this proceeding.

7. NHTA is able to furnish testimony and information which will assist the Commission in its investigation.

WHEREFORE, NHTA respectfully requests that the Commission grant this Petition to Intervene.

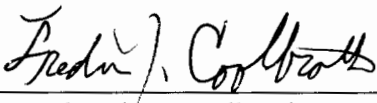
Respectfully submitted,

NEW HAMPSHIRE TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION

By Its Attorneys,

DEVINE, MILLIMET & BRANCH,  
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Dated: November 2, 2005

By:   
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