

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DT 07-027

Kearsarge Telephone Company, Wilton Telephone Company, Inc.,
Hollis Telephone Company, Inc. and Merrimack County Telephone Company
Petitions for Alternative Form of Regulation

**Response by Kearsarge Telephone Company and
Merrimack Telephone Company to
Motion by Daniel Bailey for Pre-Hearing Conference**

Kearsarge Telephone Company and Merrimack County Telephone Company (the “Companies”), petitioners in the above-docketed proceeding, hereby respond as follows to the motion dated February 10, 2009 for a pre-hearing conference filed by Daniel Bailey:

1. The Companies have no objection to the holding of a pre-hearing conference in this Docket.
2. The Companies object to any participation by Mr. Bailey as a party with respect to Kearsarge Telephone Company. Mr. Bailey has no connection with Kearsarge Telephone Company. He is not a customer of the company, and he cannot credibly claim reasonable basis upon which he will suffer an injury in fact as a result of the determinations that the Commission makes with regard to Kearsarge Telephone Company. There is no substantive basis to conclude that the services that he wishes to buy from Merrimack County Telephone Company and the price that he will have to pay for them will be affected in any manner by the result of the adjudication of the issues in this case with respect to Kearsarge Telephone Company.
3. In not objecting to the intervention by Mr. Bailey’s predecessor, Ross Patnode, the Companies reserved their rights to object to Mr. Patnode’s participation with regard to

companies and exchanges as to which he had no interest. See, Petition for Late Intervention dated May 15, 2007 filed by Ross Patnode in this Docket, p. 2. The Companies did not waive its rights in this regard when Mr. Bailey was substituted as intervenor following Mr. Patnode's relocation out of the Merrimack County Telephone Company service area.

WHEREFORE, Kearsarge Telephone Company and Merrimack County Telephone Company respectfully assert that they have no objection to a pre-hearing conference in the above-docketed proceeding (and in fact would support such a pre-hearing conference) and respectfully object to any participation by Daniel Bailey in the proceeding as it relates to Kearsarge Telephone Company.

Respectfully submitted,

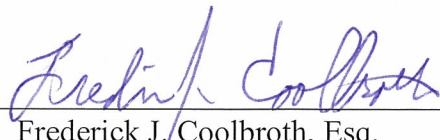
KEARSARGE TELEPHONE CO., WILTON
TELEPHONE CO., INC., HOLLIS TELEPHONE
CO., INC. AND MERRIMACK COUNTY
TELEPHONE CO.

By their Attorneys,

DEVINE, MILLIMET & BRANCH,
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Dated: February 11, 2009

By: _____



Frederick J. Coolbroth, Esq.

Patrick C. McHugh, Esq.

43 North Main Street

Concord, NH 03301

(603) 226-1000

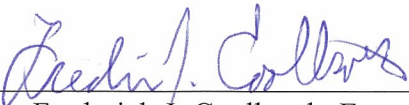
fcoolbroth@devinemillimet.com

pmchugh@devinemillimet.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing response was forwarded this day to the parties by electronic mail.

Dated: February 11, 2009

By: 
Frederick J. Coolbroth, Esq.