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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



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February 2, 2017

Debra A. Howland  
Executive Director  
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission  
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10  
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: DT 16-872, Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.  
Joint Petition for Findings in Furtherance of the Acquisition of FairPoint  
Communications, Inc. and its New Hampshire Operating Subsidiaries  
Report of February 1, 2017 Technical Session**

Dear Ms. Howland:

On February 1, 2017, representatives of the Joint Petitioners, Labor Intervenors, and Commission Staff met in technical session to discuss preliminary issues relevant to this proceeding, including the development of a procedural schedule for the docket.

The technical session participants agreed to recommend the following procedural schedule to the Commission:

Action	Date or Deadline (all in 2017)
Data Requests on Joint Petition and Pre-Filed Direct Testimony from Labor Intervenors	Wed., February 8
Responses to Labor Intervenors' First DR Set	Wed., February 15
Data Requests to Joint Petitioners - Rolling Discovery through March 10	Thurs., February 2 Through Fri., March 10
Joint Petitioners' Responses to Data Requests (7 days for all responses)	Fri., March 17
Technical Session	Wed., March 22 9:30 a.m.
Responses to follow-up discovery questions	Mon., March 27
Staff and Labor Intervenors Direct Testimony	Fri., March 31

Data Requests to Staff and Interveners	Thurs., April 6
Staff and Interveners Responses to Data Requests	Thurs., April 13
Technical Session/Settlement Conference	Tues., April 18 9:30 a.m.
Responses to follow-up discovery questions	Wed., April 19
Joint Petitioners' Rebuttal Testimony (workpapers provided to parties but not filed)	Fri., April 21 (at 12:00 noon)
Technical Session/Settlement Conference	Tues., April 25 9:30 a.m.
Hearing	Thurs., April 27 9:30 a.m.
Hearing	Fri., April 28 9:30 a.m.
Post-Hearing Briefs	Mon., May 15
Order – proposed target issuance date (to meet 6/30/17 merger closing date)	Tues., May 30

In addition, the parties agreed to the following procedures to apply in the event of potential discovery disputes:

- (1) Objections to data requests would be due within 4 calendar days;
- (2) Motion to compel must be filed within 5 calendar days from the date of objection; and
- (3) Objection to any motion to compel must be filed within 3 calendar days following the filing of the motion.

Staff, on behalf of the parties, respectfully requests that the Commission approve the proposed procedural schedule and discovery dispute procedures.

I certify that a copy of this letter will be served electronically on the parties on the service list at the same time it is filed with the Commission.

Sincerely,



David K. Wiesner  
Staff Attorney

cc: Docket File  
Service List

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**SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED**

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**Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.11 (a) (1): Serve an electronic copy on each person identified on the service list.**

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Docket #: 16-872-1      Printed: February 02, 2017

**FILING INSTRUCTIONS:**

- a) Pursuant to N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 (a), with the exception of Discovery, file 7 copies, as well as an electronic copy, of all documents including cover letter with:**

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- b) Serve an electronic copy with each person identified on the Commission's service list and with the Office of Consumer Advocate.**
- c) Serve a written copy on each person on the service list not able to receive electronic mail.**