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March 1, 2017

Via Electronic Mail

Ms. Debra Howland
Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street
Concord, NH 03301

***Re: DT 16-872 – Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. et al.
Joint Petition for Findings in Furtherance of the Acquisition of FairPoint
Communications, Inc. and its New Hampshire Operating Subsidiaries by
Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc.***

Dear Ms. Howland:

I am writing on behalf of Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. (“Consolidated”) for the purpose of informing the Commission and its Staff that Consolidated is in need of additional time to provide responses to Staff’s First Set of Data Requests. Consolidated is in the process of compiling responses and will provide some of them today pursuant to the deadline established in your Secretarial Letter of February 23, 2017. Consolidated expects to provide the rest of the responses to the data requests to which it has not objected by the end of this week or early next week. The number of Staff’s Data Requests is very large and the response deadline is quite short. While Consolidated is making every effort to meet the scheduled response deadline, more time is needed for some of the responses.

I have made a good faith effort to communicate with Staff Attorney David Wiesner concerning this matter, but as of the time of the filing of this letter, I have not received a response from him.

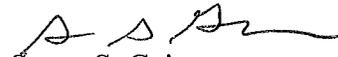
The procedural schedule in this docket calls for rolling discovery through March 10th. Therefore, Consolidated does not believe that the additional time for responding to Staff’s First

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Set of Data Requests will result in a delay in this docket's schedule. The parties will continue to discuss scheduling issues and will advise the Commission if additional changes are needed.

Please contact me if there are any questions about this letter. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Susan S. Geiger

cc: Service List (electronic mail)
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