

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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March 6, 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
Request for Extension of Deadline to File Motion to Compel**

Dear Ms. Howland:

On February 17, 2017, Commission Staff served its first set of data requests on the joint petitioners in this proceeding. On February 27, 2017, the joint petitioners separately submitted extensive and detailed objections to a majority of the data requests propounded by Staff.

Pursuant to the approved procedural schedule for the docket, Staff would be required to file a motion to compel with respect to those objections by the close of business today. However, additional substantive responses to Staff's data requests are expected to be provided this afternoon, and the parties also intend to make a final attempt to resolve their outstanding discovery issues before a motion is filed.

Staff therefore requests that the Commission approve an extension of the applicable deadline for filing a motion to compel discovery responses until March 8, 2017. None of the parties has objected to the proposed deadline extension.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Wiesner".

David K. Wiesner
Staff Attorney

cc: Docket File
Service List

SERVICE LIST - EMAIL ADDRESSES - DOCKET RELATED

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: March 06, 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:**
- DEBRA A HOWLAND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NHPUC
21 S. FRUIT ST, SUITE 10
CONCORD NH 03301-2429
- 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.**