



Consolidated[®]
communications

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July 13, 2017

Mr. Steve King
Executive Director
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Consolidated Communications Acquires FairPoint Communications

Dear Mr. King:

Effective July 3, 2017, Consolidated Communications Holdings, Inc. completed its acquisition of FairPoint Communications, Inc. The merger further positions the company as a leading broadband and business service provider across a 24-state service area. Acquiring FairPoint will add 22,000 fiber route miles to the Consolidated Communications fiber network, without any overlapping markets. The combined network spans 24 states and more than 36,000 fiber route miles, making Consolidated Communications the nation's ninth largest fiber provider. The newly combined company will continue to be headquartered in Mattoon, IL and includes about 4,400 workers. The consummation of the merger will not result in any change in the terms or conditions of service or the manner in which any FairPoint company previously provided service to its customers.

Any changes to the company contacts or the trade or "doing business as (d/b/a)" names of any FairPoint company will be registered with the proper state agency and/or provided under a separate notice, as applicable, at the appropriate time. Should you have any questions, please call me at (936) 788-7414.

Sincerely,

Michael Shultz
Vice President – Regulatory & Public Policy