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July 13, 2017

Lynn M. Retz
Secretary to the Commission
Kansas Corporation Commission
1500 SW Arrowhead Road
Topeka, KS 66604

RE: Docket No. 17-SFLT-283-ACQ

Dear Ms. Retz:

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Michael' followed by a stylized monogram.

Michael Shultz
Vice President – Regulatory & Public Policy