Morgan Lewis

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May 4, 2017

VIA ECFS

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554

Re: <u>WC Docket No. 16-417; ITC-T/C-20161220-00357 et al., Consolidated Communications and</u> <u>FairPoint Communications Joint Application for Transfer of Control</u>

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to 47 CFR § 1.1206(b)(2), this letter provides notice that, on May 2, 2017, Michael Shultz, VP Regulatory and Public Policy of Consolidated Communications, Holdings Inc. ("Consolidated"); Bruce Metge, General Counsel of FairPoint Communications, Inc. ("FairPoint"); Karen Brinkmann, PLLC, Counsel to FairPoint; along with Russell M. Blau and the undersigned, as Counsel for Consolidated, met separately with Dr. Jay Schwarz, Acting Legal Advisor to Chairman Pai; Amy Bender, Legal Advisor to Commissioner O'Rielly; Claude Aiken, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Clyburn; and Kris Monteith, Acting Chief, Daniel Khan, Adam Copeland, Dennis Johnson and Christian Hoefly of the Wireline Competition Bureau.

In these meetings, Consolidated and FairPoint discussed the status and timing of the Commission's action on the above referenced applications. The parties provided the Commission with an overview of the transaction; the Section 214 transfer of control applications filed on December 20, 2016; the supplement filed with the Commission on March 22, 2017, and an update regarding progress on receiving state commission approvals. Consolidated and FairPoint urged the Commission to approve the transfer of control of FairPoint at the earliest possible date to allow the parties to close the transaction.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joshua M. Bobeck

Joshua M. Bobeck

cc: Dr. Jay Schwarz Amy Bender Claude Aiken Kris Monteith Daniel Khan Adam Copeland Dennis Johnson Christian Hoefly

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