



350 S. Loop 336 West, Conroe, TX 77304-3308
www.consolidated.com

July 13, 2017

Ms. Carlotta Stauffer
Office of Commission Clerk
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RECEIVED-FPSC
2017 JUL 18 AM 8:25
COMMISSION
CLERK

RE: Consolidated Communications Acquires FairPoint Communications

Dear Ms. Stauffer:

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 Shultz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael Shultz
Vice President – Regulatory & Public Policy

cc: Beth Salak, Director, Florida Public Service Commission