

CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC.

Docket DT 16-872



RESPONSES TO STAFF'S DATA REQUESTS – FIRST SET

Date Request Received: February 17, 2017

Date of Response: March 6, 2017

Request No. Staff 1-82

Witness: Gabe Waggoner

1-82. Please provide details of what Consolidated was able to determine from review of FairPoint's network related to current operations, facility replacement/retirement requirements, and future growth. Specifically, please provide Consolidated's assumptions concerning:

- a. Resources needed to maintain existing infrastructure and services
- b. Resources needed to improve service quality where necessary
- c. Resources needed to deploy new facilities and introduce new service offers or to expand existing service offers
- d. Condition of and replacement needs for existing copper loop and Inter-office facilities
- e. Condition of and replacement needs for existing switching network including switch rebalancing if needed
- f. Condition of and replacement needs for signaling network and associated databases
- g. Condition of and replacement needs for the test equipment and tools needed for network maintenance.

RESPONSE:

- 1-82 a,b,c Consolidated will review the resources and practices and procedures used by FairPoint after close and will determine the resources required after this review.
- 1-82 d Consolidated has inspected the physical copper and inter-office facilities and feels they are in good condition. Continued review of the CAF II deployment plan and overall maintenance upgrade plan FairPoint is utilizing will be completed after close to determine opportunities and needs for upgrades.
- 1-82 e FairPoint has begun deploying the Metaswitch VoIP switch. This is the initial beginning of an upgrade opportunity for voice services. The switching networks appear in good condition and Consolidated will build a plan that will approach upgrading this network after further review when the transaction is completed.
- 1-82 f The FairPoint signaling STP and SCP network appears in good condition with current support and software loads. Consolidated has made no determination of replacement needs for this network. However, while Consolidated has maintained its own STP network in our California market, it was recently decommissioned and is now outsourced as all other markets are to our signaling vendors.
- 1-82 g Consolidated will be reviewing the test equipment and tools utilized by FairPoint after close. Consolidated believes that the tools we have developed and the test equipment we utilize to maintain IP packetized networks will be incorporated into the NH market to enhance the capabilities of managing the network.