

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 21-4060-PET

Petition of Consolidated Communications of Vermont Company, LLC, and Consolidated Communications of Northland Company for approval of a successor (2022-2024) Incentive Regulation Plan, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 226b	
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Order entered: 06/30/2022

ORDER TEMPORARILY EXTENDING INCENTIVE REGULATION PLAN

This case involves a petition filed with the Vermont Public Utility Commission (“Commission”) by Consolidated Communications of Vermont Company, LLC, and Consolidated Communications of Northland Company (collectively “Consolidated”) for approval of a new incentive regulation plan pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 226b.

On June 15, 2022, Consolidated filed a motion to extend the period of its current incentive regulation plan until the Commission approves a successor incentive regulation plan in this case.

Also on June 15, 2022, the Vermont Department of Public Service filed a response stating that it does not oppose Consolidated’s request.

Consolidated’s current incentive regulation plan was approved in Docket 8337 and is set to expire on July 31, 2022, pursuant to the extension granted in the Commission’s December 3, 2020, Order in Case No. 20-2684-PET (“Extension Order”). Under 30 V.S.A. § 226b, incentive regulation plans are limited to a maximum period of seven years. As the Commission explained in the Extension Order, the seven-year period for Consolidated’s current incentive regulation plan will not expire until March 18, 2023.¹

The parties’ post-hearing briefing was complete on June 15, 2022, and numerous disagreements remain for resolution by the Commission.² Although additional time may not be

¹ *Petition of Consolidated Communications Company of Vermont, LLC for extension of its current Incentive Regulation Plan until July 31, 2022*, Case No. 20-2684-PET, Order of 12/3/2020 at 5.

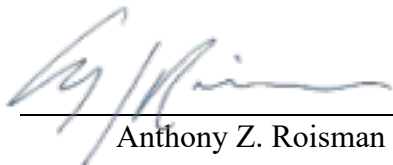
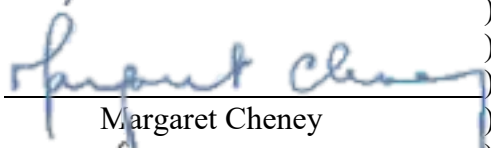
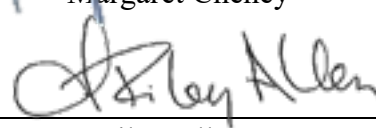
² Consolidated’s motion states that an extension will allow time to “issue a proposal for decision, allow for an opportunity for the parties to comment, and issue a final decision thereafter.” Because this case is being conducted by the Commission, rather than a hearing officer, there will be no proposal for decision or opportunity to comment pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 811.

needed, we agree that extending Consolidated's incentive regulation plan now is prudent and will avoid any uncertainty or concerns that could arise in connection with the plan's potential expiration.

Consolidated's incentive regulation plan, approved in Docket 8337 and extended in Case Nos. 19-3408-PET and 20-2684-PET, is extended and will remain in effect until the Commission issues its final order approving a successor incentive regulation plan in this proceeding, but no later than March 18, 2023.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 30th day of June, 2022.

	)	
Anthony Z. Roisman	)	PUBLIC UTILITY
	)	
	)	
Margaret Cheney	)	COMMISSION
	)	
	)	
J. Riley Allen	)	OF VERMONT

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Filed: June 30, 2022

Attest: 
Clerk of the Commission

Notice to Readers: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Commission (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: puc.clerk@vermont.gov)

PUC Case No. 21-4060-PET - SERVICE LIST

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