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FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS NAMES TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY EXPERT MIKE C. REED AS MAINE STATE PRESIDENT

PORTLAND, Maine (January 21, 2010) – FairPoint Communications has named Michael C. Reed, a 40-year veteran of the telecommunications industry, as Maine State President. In his new role, Reed will be responsible for regulatory matters, governmental relations, and economic development for FairPoint Communications in the Pine Tree State.

Reed has held a variety of positions that have given him hands-on experience in the industry, starting with his first job as an equipment installation technician with NYNEX. He has a top-to-bottom understanding of the telecommunications industry, combining his operational and technical background with over 20 years of frontline experience in external relations, including regulatory and legislative responsibilities. He most recently served as state government affairs manager for communications service provider TDS Communications, covering Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York and Pennsylvania.

“We are delighted to have Mike join FairPoint in this very important role. He is recognized throughout the industry as a leader in telecom policy which, combined with his operational background and regulatory and legislative experience, makes him uniquely qualified for the position,” says Peter Nixon, president of FairPoint Communications. “This experience, together with his understanding of the region, brings just the background we were looking for to continue our efforts to build lasting relationships in Maine.”

He serves as chairman of the New York State Telecommunications Association and is president of the New Hampshire Telephone Association. Reed most recently lived in Vermont and will be relocating to Maine.

About FairPoint

FairPoint Communications, Inc. is an industry leading provider of communications services to communities across the country. Today, FairPoint owns and operates local exchange companies in 18 states offering advanced communications with a personal

touch, including local and long distance voice, data, Internet, television and broadband services. Learn more at www.FairPoint.com.