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STATE OF VERMONT

Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR)

MEMO TO: Senator Ann Cummings, Chair, Senate Committee on Finance
Representative Amy Sheldon, Chair, House Committee on Environment and
Energy

FROM: Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules

DATE: July 27, 2023

SUBJECT: Concerns Related to the Rule Governing Outage Reporting Requirements for
Originating Carriers and Electric Power Companies

The Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (LCAR) reviewed and approved the [Rule Governing Outage Reporting Requirements for Originating Carriers and Electric Power Companies](#) (Outage Reporting Rule) at LCAR's June 29, 2023, meeting. At this meeting, LCAR took testimony from Barbara M. Neal, Executive Director, Enhanced 911 Board, and Stephen Whitaker, speaking as a concerned citizen, and heard and discussed concerns related to whether or not voice telecommunications services that rely on new technologies are covered by the Outage Reporting Rule, the reporting thresholds for outages under the Outage Reporting Rule, and the data that is collected under the Outage Reporting Rule when there is an outage that is required to be reported under the Outage Reporting Rule. See [Jun. 29, 2023, LCAR Meeting at 12:16-46:50](#).

These issues are outside the jurisdiction of LCAR but within the jurisdiction of your committees, and therefore, LCAR requests that your committees review them during the 2024 legislative session. In addition, LCAR requests that your committees consider whether the Outage Reporting Rule is consistent with the State's objective of establishing a reliable, universally accessible, statewide public safety communications system, comprising integrated 911 call-taking and regional dispatch systems.