

Communications
Workers of America
AFL-CIO, CLC

501 Third Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001-2797
202/434-1100



August 4, 2015

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

RE: Ex Parte Notice. WC Docket No 15-44. In the Matter of Verizon Communications Inc. and Frontier Communications Corporation Application for Consent to Partially Assign and Transfer Control of Certain Assets in California, Florida, and Texas

In our initial comments in this proceeding, the Communications Workers of America (“CWA”) urged the Commission to ensure that the proposed Verizon Communications Inc. (“Verizon”) sale of six million landlines in California, Texas, and Florida to Frontier Communications (“Frontier”) would serve the public interest in the provision of quality telecommunications services, broadband expansion, and good jobs.¹ CWA represents approximately 5,400 Verizon employees in California, Texas, and a Missouri call center that will be impacted by this transaction.

I am pleased to report that CWA has reached agreements with Frontier that provide CWA with the assurance that the new Frontier will invest in good jobs and have the skilled, career workforce needed to provide quality service to customers. Specifically, the agreements provide employment security protections, the addition of 150 jobs in California and 60 jobs in Texas, a commitment to a 100 percent U.S. based workforce, operational flexibility to enhance the service experience for customers, and two-year extension of the collective bargaining agreements.² (See attached summaries of the agreements)

Moreover, Frontier’s commitment to post-transaction broadband expansion by utilizing, to the

¹ Comments of Communications Workers of America, In the Matter of Verizon Communications Inc. and Frontier Communications Corporation Application for Consent to Partially Assign and Transfer Control of Certain Assets in California, Florida, and Texas, WC Docket No. 15-44, April 13, 2015.

² “Frontier Communications and Communications Workers of America Reach Agreement in California,” July 27, 2015; “Frontier Communications and Communications Workers of America Reach Agreement in Texas and Missouri,” July 31, 2015.

extent that it can, Connect America Funds, California Advanced Services Funds, coupled with its own investment, will serve the public interest in broadband expansion to unserved and underserved rural areas and extension of all-fiber networks in more densely populated urban and suburban areas.³

Because the proposed Frontier/Verizon transaction serves the public interest in good jobs, quality services, and broadband expansion, CWA urges the Commission to move forward expeditiously to approve the transaction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Goldman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Debbie Goldman
Telecommunications Policy Director
Communications Workers of America

cc: Randy Clarke, Dennis Johnson, Alex Johns, Chris Sova, Jodie May

³ Joint Opposition to Petitions to Deny and Reply to Comments by Frontier Communications Corporation and Verizon Communications Inc., , In the Matter of Verizon Communications Inc. and Frontier Communications Corporation Application for Consent to Partially Assign and Transfer Control of Certain Assets in California, Florida, and Texas, WC Docket No. 15-44, April 28, 2015, pp. 7-8; Before the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California, Joint Application for Approval of Transfer of Control over Verizon California Inc. and Related Approval of Transfer of Assets and Certifications, Application No. 15-03-005, March 18, 2015.