

**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of  
Numbering Resource Optimization

CC Docket No. 99-200

**OPPOSITION TO PETITION FOR WAIVER**

The Commission may waive its rules upon a showing of “special circumstances.”<sup>1</sup> The petition filed by the Maine Public Utility Commission (“MPUC”) demonstrates no special circumstances at all — in fact, it presents precisely the circumstances the Commission had in mind when it established the requirement that all states conform their pooling trials to the national framework by September 1<sup>st</sup>. The MPUC apparently recognizes this fact, as it has also asked the Commission to reconsider and modify that requirement. The Commission should deny the MPUC waiver request for failure to meet the standards for such relief.

But the MPUC petition should not be granted for another reason as well. As Verizon<sup>2</sup> and others showed in their oppositions to the MPUC’s reconsideration petition, the Commission correctly understood the importance of a standard, nationwide number pooling framework, and it correctly required states that had undertaken non-standard pooling trials to conform to that framework and gave them a reasonable time in which to do so. The MPUC can claim no surprise at having to conform to the national standard — that requirement was explicitly set out in the order which allowed the MPUC to conduct a pooling trial in the first place:

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<sup>1</sup> *WAIT Radio v. FCC*, 418 F.2d 1153, 1157 (D.C. Cir. 1969).

<sup>2</sup> The Verizon telephone companies are the affiliated local telephone companies of Bell Atlantic Corporation (including the telephone companies formerly affiliated with GTE Corp.), d/b/a Verizon Communications. A list of these companies is attached.

“Whatever decisions this Commission reaches with regard to thousands-block pooling administration and guidelines will supersede whatever systems the Maine Commission puts in place prior to enactment of those rules.”<sup>3</sup>

Having accepted the Commission’s delegated authority on this basis, the MPUC cannot now ask to change the deal.

Verizon urges the Commission to stay the course toward national uniformity and to deny the MPUC’s petition.

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>3</sup> *Maine Public Utilities Commission Petition for Additional Delegated Authority to Implement Number Conservation Measures*, 14 FCC Rcd 16440 ¶ 36 (1999).

## THE VERIZON TELEPHONE COMPANIES

The Verizon telephone companies are the affiliated local telephone companies of Bell Atlantic Corporation (d/b/a Verizon Communications), including the telephone companies formerly affiliated with GTE Corporation. They are:

Contel of Minnesota, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Minnesota  
Contel of the South, Inc. d/b/a Verizon South Systems  
GTE Alaska Incorporated d/b/a Verizon Alaska  
GTE Arkansas Incorporated d/b/a Verizon Arkansas  
GTE Midwest Incorporated d/b/a Verizon Midwest  
GTE Southwest Incorporated d/b/a Verizon Southwest  
The Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation  
Verizon California Inc.  
Verizon Delaware Inc.  
Verizon Florida Inc.  
Verizon Hawaii Inc.  
Verizon Maryland Inc.  
Verizon New England Inc.  
Verizon New Jersey Inc.  
Verizon New York Inc.  
Verizon North Inc.  
Verizon Northwest Inc.  
Verizon Pennsylvania Inc.  
Verizon South Inc.  
Verizon Virginia Inc.  
Verizon Washington, DC Inc.  
Verizon West Coast Inc.  
Verizon West Virginia Inc.