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Docket #
01-138

July 31, 2001

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12TH Street, S.W. TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Salas:

We have been following the recent rulings on the part of the Pa. Public Utility Commission regarding telephone service competition, and Verizon's potential long distance entry for Pennsylvania. I wanted to weigh in on issues that are important to the collections industry.

Reliable telecommunications services are critical to the success of my business. As you can appreciate, we cannot afford to be without this vital link. We are viewed as one of the top users of telecommunications technology, in our business processes, in the collections industry. It is imperative that we have the latest available services, at the lowest possible price. As a result, we support Verizon's entry into long distance in Pennsylvania, where we are headquartered. I understand that Verizon Communications has entered the long distance market in New York, and various other states. We have read that New York's customers saved in excess of \$250M last year in local and long distance phone charges, as a result of Verizon offering long distance in that state.

Please consider Verizon's application and support their efforts to bring further competition in Pennsylvania, by allowing them to provide long distance service here in Pennsylvania. By allowing Verizon entry and the opportunity to provide long distance, as well as local service, full competition will be a reality.

Sincerely,

Donald Donagher
President

cc: Original and 4 copies to Magalie Roman Salas
J. McNulty Pa. P.U.C.
K. Trainor, D.O.J.
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