

Dee May
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December 26, 2001

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Ex Parte

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, S.W. - Portals
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Bell Atlantic Corp. and GTE Corp., CC Docket No. 98-184

Dear Ms. Salas:

Please file the attached response to questions raised by the Common Carrier Bureau staff regarding the Illinois and Ohio Performance Plans in the above proceeding.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dee May".

cc: C. Matthey
M. Stone
A. Dale

Dee May
Assistant Vice President
Federal Regulatory



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December 26, 2001

Mark Stone
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Stone:

In your correspondence dated December 12, 2001 you posed several questions pertaining to the Illinois and Ohio Performance Assurance Plans. Your questions and the corresponding answers are provided below.

For Illinois:

- 1) Question: Verizon's February 20, 2001 letter to the ICC outlining the performance assurance plan appears to be a proposal to that Commission. If so, was it approved? When? Please provide documentation of any approval.

Response: The February 20, 2001 document was the result of Illinois Merger Condition #2 which required that a six month OSS collaborative be held. The Merger Condition did not dictate what should happen as a result of the collaborative. The February 20 letter informs the ICC of the outcome of that collaborative -- the adoption of the Verizon Federal Carrier-to-Carrier Performance Assurance Plan. The letter, together with the Plan that it presented, was in the nature of a compliance filing. Verizon implemented the plan as communicated.

- 2) Question: The proposed performance assurance plan states that Verizon will notify the ICC within 30 days of any changes to the FCC's BA/GTE merger performance plan ("FCC plan") for implementation in the Illinois PAP. Is this the only way by which the Illinois PAP can be updated?

Response: This notification provision was offered to the Illinois collaborative to keep the Illinois State plan in sync with changes approved to the FCC plan. The Illinois PAP may also be updated as a result of a collaborative review process.

For Ohio:

- 3) Question a: The April 26, 2001 Ohio order indicates that the FCC plan was adopted in Ohio, with a few differences. Did Verizon submit any other documents to the Ohio Commission pursuant to this order as it relates to the performance plan (e.g., business rules, payment calculation methodology)?

Response: No, Verizon did not submit any other documents.

Question b: Did the Ohio Commission take any other action related to the Ohio plan, other than the stay that Verizon has already provided? If so, please provide documentation.

Response: The Ohio Commission did not take any other action related to the Ohio plan.

- 4) Question: The April 26, 2001 Ohio order, at Finding 2, indicates that the Ohio plan will be reviewed every three months for possible changes. Is this the only way by which the Ohio PAP can be updated? Can the Ohio Plan be updated when the FCC plan is updated?

Response: The Ohio collaborative established the quarterly review process as the appropriate vehicle to incorporate potential changes in the Ohio PAP plan.

Any updates to the FCC plan, along with the implementation schedule, will be filed with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) and provided to Ohio collaborative members (CLECS, PUCO staff and Ohio Consumers' Counsel).

For both Illinois and Ohio:

- 5) Question: What is the duration of the state plans? In other words, on what dates, if any, will all or part of the plans sunset?

Response: The Ohio incentive plan is identical to the FCC Plan and there is a sunset date. Ohio's Plan was initiated in May 2001 and continues for a period of 36 months. The Illinois incentive plan is identical to the FCC Plan and there is a sunset date. Illinois' Plan was initiated in April 2001 and continues for a period of 36 months. Neither the Ohio nor the Illinois Carrier-to-Carrier plans have a sunset date.

Generally:

- 6) Question: Please provide any other answers and/or documentation that you think would assist our review of Verizon's request.

Response: Verizon does not have any additional documentation to aid in your review at this time, but would be happy to assist in providing any further clarification required.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



cc: D. Attwood
C. Matthey
A. Dale