

Nneka Ezenwa
Director
Federal Regulatory Affairs



April 21, 2009

Ex Parte

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Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Petition of Verizon New England for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 160 (c) in Rhode Island WC Docket No. 08-24; Petition of the Verizon Telephone Companies for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160 (c) in Cox's Service Territory in the Virginia Beach Metropolitan Statistical Area WC Docket No. 08-49

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 20, 2009, Dee May and Ed Shakin of Verizon met with Julie Veach, Marcus Maher, Randy Clarke, Don Stockdale and Stephanie Weiner of the Wireline Competition Bureau. During the meeting, Verizon encouraged the Commission to approve its forbearance petitions. In particular, Verizon emphasized the importance of considering wireless competition in the forbearance analysis. Approximately 18% of households have cut-the-cord altogether, and many more use wireless for a large portion of their phone minutes. Verizon also emphasized that, consistent with the Commission's *Omaha* and *Anchorage* forbearance orders, competition from cable alone is sufficient to warrant forbearance from unbundling requirements. These discussions were consistent with the points Verizon raised in its April 10, 2009 ex parte in the above-captioned proceedings.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nneka Ezenwa".

Attachment

cc: Julie Veach
Marcus Maher
Randy Clarke
Don Stockdale
Stephanie Weiner