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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 3265, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-3265

September 27, 2012

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-A306  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Karen Majcher, Vice President  
Universal Service Administrative Co.  
2000 L Street N.W. Suite 200  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45/WC Docket No. 10-90, Annual State Certification of  
Support for Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.314

Dear Secretary Dortch and Vice President Majcher:

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PaPUC) hereby certifies to the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Service Administrative Company that the PaPUC has reviewed the comparability of Verizon Pa's and Verizon North's residential rates in their rural areas, and hereby certifies that the residential rates are reasonably comparable to the nationwide urban rates for purposes of section 254(b)(3) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. 47 U.S.C. § 254(b)(3). Attached, please find Verizon PA and Verizon North's rate comparability review.

Please time stamp the extra copy of this filing and return it to Heidi Wushinske, Assistant Counsel, in the enclosed stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Chiavetta  
Secretary

Attachment

cc: Heidi Wushinske, Assistant Counsel  
Kathy Bonette, Verizon State Regulatory

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List ABCDE

**Rate Comparison related to Section 54.316 of the Code of Federal Regulations**

**§54.316 - Rate comparability review and certification for areas served by non-rural carriers**

*b) Safe Harbor - For the purposes of its certification, a state may presume that the residential rates in rural areas served by non-rural incumbent local exchange carriers are reasonably comparable to urban rates nationwide if the rates are below the nationwide urban rate benchmark.*

Nationwide urban rate benchmark = **\$36.52** per Table 1.13 of the FCC's 2008 Reference Book of Rates, Price Indices, and Household Expenditures for Telephone Service

**Verizon's Residence Rates in Rural Areas as of Oct. 15, 2011**

Residential Rates for Local Service	Verizon PA - Cell 4			Verizon North - Cell 4		
Usage Rate Group	A	D	F	A	D	F
Dial Tone Line	\$8.53	\$8.53	\$8.53	\$8.53	\$8.53	\$8.53
Local Area	\$3.82	\$5.22	\$6.87	\$6.05	\$7.28	\$8.33
Unlimited Usage Option						
Monthly Charge for Flat-Rate Service	\$12.35	\$13.75	\$15.40	\$14.58	\$15.81	\$16.86
Federal Subscriber Line Charge	\$5.82	\$5.82	\$5.82	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50
Federal Universal Service Fund Surcharge	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.99	\$0.99	\$0.99
911 Surcharge (varies by county; range = \$1.00 to \$1.50)	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25	\$1.25
Pennsylvania Relay Surcharge	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08	\$0.08
Federal Tax	\$0.61	\$0.65	\$0.70	\$0.70	\$0.74	\$0.77
Surcharges and Taxes	\$2.83	\$2.87	\$2.92	\$3.02	\$3.06	\$3.09
<b>Total Monthly Charge for Flat-Rate Service</b>	<b>\$21.00</b>	<b>\$22.44</b>	<b>\$24.14</b>	<b>\$24.10</b>	<b>\$25.37</b>	<b>\$26.45</b>

The Safe Harbor provision is applicable because Verizon's rural residence rates for local service, including surcharges and taxes, are less than the nationwide urban rate benchmark.