



August 2, 2013

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EX PARTE

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

Re: In the Matter of Application of Verizon New Jersey Inc. and Verizon New York Inc. To Discontinue Domestic Telecommunications Services, WC 13-150

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 31, William H. Johnson, Katharine R. Saunders, and I met with Bill Dever, Tim Stelzig, Rodney McDonald, and Jamie Susskind of the Wireline Competition Bureau and Patrick Halley of the Office of Legislative Affairs. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Public Knowledge's July 22, 2013, Motion to Remove¹ Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc.'s ("Verizon") pending application from the normal timeline in the above referenced proceeding.

We explained that, as discussed in Verizon's Opposition,² the Commission should reject Public Knowledge's request to suspend the normal timeline for consideration of this limited discontinuance request. Despite Public Knowledge's attempts to advance its views on the broader technology transition, this proceeding addresses only the narrow discontinuance sought under the unique circumstances wrought by Superstorm Sandy in small portions of New York's Fire Island and New Jersey's Barrier Islands. There, where the storm devastated much of Verizon's copper facilities in these areas, the specific local needs and ongoing risk of future storms meant that the Voice Link device was the best solution for quickly and reliably restoring voice service or for providing service in the future should the last remaining copper fail.

¹ Public Knowledge, *Motion to Remove Application to Discontinue Domestic Telecommunications Services From Streamlined Authorization*, In re Section 63.71 Application of Verizon New Jersey Inc. and Verizon New York Inc. to Discontinue Domestic Telecommunications Services, WC Docket No. 13-150 (July 22, 2013).

² Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc., *Opposition to Public Knowledge's Motion to Remove Application*, In re Section 63.71 Application of Verizon New Jersey Inc. and Verizon New York Inc. to Discontinue Domestic Telecommunications Services, WC Docket No. 13-150 (July 24, 2013).

Marlene H. Dortch

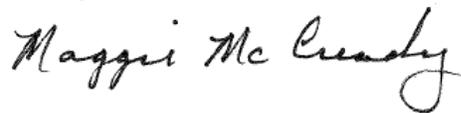
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We also explained that adhering to the ordinary timeline in this proceeding would not interfere with or prejudice state reviews. Because the FCC considers only interstate telecommunications services, any action it might take here does not address or limit the ability of state commissions to consider issues relating to intrastate services. Additionally, we discussed the timing of any potential additional information requests from the Commission in connection with the pending 214 filing, as well as related issues concerning timing and the need to protect commercially sensitive or otherwise confidential information.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maggi McCreedy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

cc: Patrick Halley
Bill Dever
Tim Stelzig
Rodney McDonald
Jamie Susskind