



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

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO OUR FILE

M-00011468

January 9, 2003

William B. Petersen
Assistant General Counsel
Verizon Pennsylvania Inc.
1717 Arch St. 32NW
Philadelphia, PA 19103

RE: Performance Metrics and Remedies – *PMO II*

Dear Mr. Petersen:

The Commission acknowledges your January 7, 2003 letter wherein Verizon Pennsylvania Inc. (Verizon PA) elects to utilize a state-specific website for posting the Pennsylvania Carrier-to-Carrier Guidelines (Guidelines) and the Pennsylvania Performance Assurance Plan (PAP) in lieu of future hard-copy service of these documents.¹ It is understood that the website should be available approximately February 28, 2003. As you have pointed out in your letter, this is after the due date of January 10, 2003, for the upcoming compliance filing at this docket. In consideration of the “voluminous nature” of some of the materials in the up-coming compliance filing, you have requested authority for Verizon PA to serve the documents “electronically” for the January 10, 2003 filing. The Commission has interpreted your request to “serve the requisite parties with these voluminous materials electronically” to mean service by email (e-service) or by disk.

Service by a participant is covered by 52 PA Code §1.54(b), which provides that “[s]ervice may be in person, by available delivery service, by mail, or as otherwise directed by the Commission. Service may also be by telecopier to those parties which have agreed to accept service in that manner.” The regulation clearly does not specifically provide for e-service, but it does give the Commission discretion to direct service other than as listed, and other proceedings before the Commission have incorporated service of documents by email or on disk. The Commission notes that the parties to this proceeding have relied on email to handle a myriad of communications.

Accordingly, based upon these premises and Commission’s understanding that the state-specific website will be available in the very near future, the Commission shall permit Verizon PA to use e-service for the actual Guidelines and PAP compliance filing documents due January 10, 2003, in conjunction with regular service of notice of the e-service. The concurrent paper service of the notice of e-service is consistent with the

¹ Ronald F. Weigel, Verizon PA’s Director, Government Relations, further advises that it is his expectation that access to the documents on the website will not require a password or special status to view.

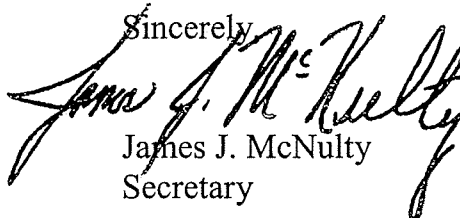
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obligations that Verizon PA would have incurred had the website been available in time for the January 10, 2003 filing. (See page 89 of the *PMO II*: "If the items are posted, Verizon [PA] will need to merely serve notice of the postings to the requisite entities.") If an entity notifies Verizon PA that it cannot receive the compliance filing documents via email, Verizon PA shall arrange to provide that entity with either a hard copy or disk, as the entity requests. The e-service must accommodate firewall considerations. Additionally, the e-service and any disks must provide the documents in a format or formats that accommodate citation to official as-filed pagination, printing, searching, copying, and editing constraints in Word and Word Perfect.

As with all filings at this docket, Verizon PA will continue to provide the Commission and staff with the requisite number of hard copies and will provide the Commission's Bureau of Fixed Utility Services, Office of Special Assistants, and Law Bureau with the filing on disk as well.

Questions may be directed to Louise Fink Smith, 717-787-8866.

Sincerely,



James J. McNulty
Secretary

cc: Service list
Steven J. Samara, Pennsylvania Telephone Association
Verdina Showell, Office of Special Assistants
Gary Wagner, Bureau of Fixed Utility Services
Louise Fink Smith, Law Bureau
Cyndi Page, Communications