



Comcast Cable
1010 Stony Hill Road, Suite 300
Yardley PA 19067
Tel: 484.398.0150
Fax: 484.398.0131

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CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

August 20, 2009

Chairman James H. Cawley
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 3rd Floor North
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-3265

RE: Initial Decision entered at Docket Nos. C-2008-2029477 / C-2008-2029479

Dear Chairman Cawley:

I am writing on behalf of Comcast Phone of Pennsylvania, LLC d/b/a Comcast Digital Phone and Comcast Business Communications, LLC d/b/a Comcast Long Distance (collectively "Comcast") to express support for the Initial Decision ("ID") dated May 12, 2009 in the above-captioned action. Decisions such as this which make clear that telecommunications carriers will not be permitted to contort the language of their tariffs and interconnection agreements to extract unlawful payments from other carriers are important to establishing a vibrant and functioning telecommunications market for the consumers of Pennsylvania.

This proceeding was the result of a complaint filed by Choice One Communications of Pennsylvania, Inc. and CTC Communications Corp. (collectively "Choice One") against Verizon Pennsylvania Inc. and Verizon North, Inc. (collectively "Verizon") regarding, in relevant part, the charges Verizon imposed for Access Toll Connecting (ATC) Trunk Ports.

Administrative Law Judge Wayne L. Weisman del properly concluded that Verizon's imposition of a tariffed access charge for an unrelated interconnection service is unlawful. Comcast agrees with the ID's finding that ATC Trunks are interconnection facilities and not switched access services subject to Verizon's access tariff. Further, as ALJ Weisman del rightfully concluded, even if certain portions of Verizon's access tariff did apply, ATC Trunks connect to the end office side of the access tandem, and therefore are not subject to dedicated tandem trunk port charges. The ID is consistent with decisions in similar cases in New York, Virginia and Massachusetts.¹

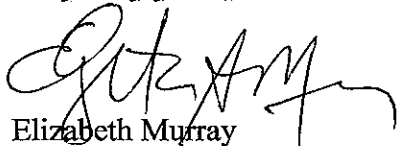
¹ See State of New York Public Service Commission, CASE 08-C-0163 and CASE 08-C-0873, Order Granting Relief, Dated July 22, 2009 <http://documents.dps.state.ny.us/public/Common/ViewDoc.aspx?DocRefId={26FE266F-73BD-47F2-BA5D-7B9A6A9EFBF5}>; Commonwealth of Virginia State Corporation Commission, Case No. PUC-2008-00060, Report of Senior Hearing Examiner, Dated July 29, 2009; and, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable, Docket D.T.C 08-3, Order Date April 9, 2009 (available at <http://db.state.ma.us/dtc/frmDocketList.asp>.)

Similar to Choice One, Comcast was notified in 2007 that Verizon was going to impose the same charges on Comcast. Like Choice One, Comcast has been disputing the charges asserting that they are not justified under the interconnection agreement, tariffs or applicable regulations. Currently, Comcast's wholesale offerings have facilitated the ability of Pennsylvania consumers in the service territories of Verizon, Windstream, Frontier, Consolidated, and (soon) D&E to have the option of choosing Comcast Digital Voice – a product which has been rated #1 in call clarity. Decisions like this one by ALJ Weisman enable consumers to have the opportunity to avail themselves of better and less costly competitive offerings.

For all these reasons, Comcast supports the ID issued in the above-captioned proceeding.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,



Elizabeth Murray
Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs



Robert Munoz
Director of Regulatory Compliance

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