

Suzan DeBusk Paiva
Assistant General Counsel



1717 Arch Street, 3 East
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Tel: (215) 466-4755
Fax: (215) 563-2658
Suzan.D.Paiva@Verizon.com

July 1, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 2nd Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Joint Petition of
Verizon North LLC (f/k/a Verizon North Retain Co., f/k/a Verizon North Inc.)
and Level 3 Communications, LLC.
for Approval of Adoption of an Interconnection Agreement
[Reference Docket No. A-310633F7001]
Dkt. No.

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed please find Amendment No. 4 to the Interconnection Agreement between Verizon North LLC f/k/a Verizon North Retain Co. f/k/a Verizon North Inc. ("Verizon North") and Level 3 Communications, LLC ("Level 3") which Agreement was filed with the Commission on September 30, 2002 and approved by the Commission by Order entered December 6, 2002 and subsequently amended by Orders entered February 7, 2003 and January 13, 2005 in Docket No. A-310633 F7001, and on February 6, 2014 in Docket No. A-2013-2394429. This Amendment should be attached to and made part of the September 30, 2002 filed Agreement. The Amendment was signed by the second of the two parties' signers on June 3, 2014. Thus, this Joint Filing is being made within 30 days of the day that the Amendment was signed, as required by ordering Paragraph 5 of the Commission's May 3, 2004 Final Order in Docket No. M-00960799. As evidenced by the cc: below, notice of this filing is being provided to Level 3.

Very truly yours,


Suzan D. Paiva

SDP/slb
Enclosure

cc: Aimee Lee, Level 3 Communications, LLC
Attached Certificate of Service

SERVICE LIST

Tanya J. McCloskey
Acting Consumer Advocate
Office of Consumer Advocate
555 Walnut Street, 5th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1921

John R. Evans
Office of Small Business Advocate
Commerce Building, Suite 1102
300 North Second Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Johnnie E. Simms
Bureau of Investigation & Enforcement
PA Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Bldg
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Office of Special Assistants
PA Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Bureau of Consumer Services
PA Public Utility Commission
P. O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Office of the Attorney General
Bureau of Consumer Protection
Strawberry Square, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

AMENDMENT NO. 4
TO THE
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
VERIZON NORTH LLC, F/K/A VERIZON NORTH RETAIN CO.
AND
LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

This Amendment No. 4 (this "Amendment") shall be deemed effective on August 1, 2013 (the "Amendment Effective Date"), by and between Verizon North LLC, f/k/a Verizon North Retain Co. ("Verizon"), a Delaware limited liability company with offices at 1717 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 and Level 3 Communications, LLC ("Level 3"), a Delaware limited liability company with offices at 1025 Eldorado Blvd., Broomfield, Colorado 80021. (Verizon and Level 3 may be hereinafter referred to individually as a "Party" and, collectively, as the "Parties"). This Amendment only covers the services addressed herein that Verizon provides in its operating territory in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (the "State").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, pursuant to an adoption letter dated May 1, 2002 (the "Adoption Letter"), Level 3 adopted in the State of Pennsylvania, the interconnection agreement between Ciera Network Systems Inc. and Verizon that was approved by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (such Adoption Letter and underlying adopted interconnection agreement referred to herein, together with any amendment(s) thereto, collectively being the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2001, in the Order on Remand and Report and Order, *In the Matter of Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Intercarrier Compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic*, FCC 01-131, CC Docket Nos. 96-98 and 99-68, 16 FCC Rcd 9151 ("Order"), the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") affirmed its prior determination that Internet traffic is not subject to Reciprocal Compensation under Section 251(b)(5) of the Act, but exercised its authority under Section 201 of the Act to establish a transitional plan for intercarrier compensation for Internet traffic; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Order, Verizon has elected to offer an optional Reciprocal Compensation rate plan for traffic subject to Section 251(b)(5) of the Act, under which such traffic exchanged between Verizon and a local exchange carrier or CMRS provider in Verizon's service territory in a given state will be subject to compensation at the same rate applicable to intercarrier compensation for Internet traffic in Verizon's service territory in that state under the terms of the Order; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2011, in the Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, *In the Matter of Connect America Fund*, FCC 11-161, WC Docket No. 1090, *et al.*, 27 FCC Rcd 17663 (2011), and subsequent orders on reconsideration and

clarification, the FCC made certain changes to its intercarrier compensation rules that apply to the Parties; and

WHEREAS, Level 3 has requested that the Parties amend the Agreement to address the matters set forth herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties agree as follows:

1. **Amendment to Agreement**. The Agreement is amended to incorporate the terms and conditions set forth in this Amendment, all of which shall apply to and be a part of the Agreement (hereinafter referred to as the "Amended Agreement") notwithstanding any other term or condition of the Amended Agreement, a Tariff or a Verizon Statement of Generally Available Terms and Conditions ("SGAT").
 - 1.1 **Reciprocal Compensation Rate**.
 - 1.1.1 As of the Rate Effectiveness Date, the Reciprocal Compensation Rate that shall apply pursuant to Section 251(b)(5) of the Act and Section 7 of the Interconnection Attachment of the Agreement for the transport and termination of Reciprocal Compensation Traffic and Locally-Dialed ISP Traffic (as hereafter defined) shall be the Reciprocal Compensation Rate set out in Exhibit A to this Amendment.
 - 1.1.2 The "Rate Effectiveness Date" shall be November 1, 2012.
 - 1.1.3 The Reciprocal Compensation Rate provided for in Section 1.1.1 above shall replace and apply in lieu of the Reciprocal Compensation Rate for the transport and termination of Reciprocal Compensation Traffic set out in the Agreement (including, but not limited to, the Reciprocal Compensation Rate set out in Sections I.A and I.B of Appendix A to the Pricing Attachment of the Agreement, and Section 2.1 of Amendment No. 2).
 - 1.1.4 The Reciprocal Compensation Rate provided for in Section 1.1.1 above shall apply to the Parties in an equal and symmetrical manner.
 - 1.1.5 The Reciprocal Compensation Rate (including, but not limited to, per minute of use rates) billed by Level 3 to Verizon shall not exceed the Reciprocal Compensation Rate (including, but not limited to, per minute of use rates) billed by Verizon to Level 3.
 - 1.1.6 The rates provided for in Section 1.1.1 above shall apply until such time as they are replaced prospectively by such new rates as may be approved or allowed into effect from time to time by the Commission pursuant to FCC orders and FCC regulations, or by the FCC, subject to a stay or other order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.
 - 1.2 Reciprocal Compensation shall not apply to traffic that is not subject to Reciprocal Compensation under Section 251(b)(5) of the Act.
 - 1.3 Except as expressly set forth in Section 1.1, the following terms shall apply to the exchange of V/FX Traffic:

1.3.1 The Parties' rights and obligations with respect to any intercarrier compensation that may be due in connection with their exchange of interexchange traffic (including, without limitation, V/FX Traffic that is not Locally-Dialed ISP Traffic) shall be governed by Applicable Law (including, without limitation, the payment of originating and terminating access charges for traffic that is interexchange based on the physical location of the calling and called parties). For purposes of this Amendment, "V/FX Traffic" shall mean calls in which a Level 3 Customer is assigned a telephone number with an NXX code (as set forth in the LERG) associated with an exchange that is different than the exchange (as set forth in the LERG) associated with the actual physical location of such Customer's station.

1.3.2 The Parties hereby agree that, as of the Effective Date, they are exchanging only a *de minimis* amount of V/FX Traffic that is not Locally-Dialed ISP Traffic. If either Party becomes aware that it is exchanging with the other Party more than a *de minimis* amount of V/FX traffic that is not Locally-Dialed ISP Traffic, it shall promptly notify such other Party. The Parties further agree that, from time to time, upon written request from either Party, the other Party shall review with the requesting Party whether the amount of such V/FX Traffic that is not Locally-Dialed ISP Traffic exchanged between them remains *de minimis*.

1.4 "Locally-Dialed ISP Traffic" shall mean traffic: (a) that originates on the public switched telephone network and terminates to an Internet service provider, and (b) for which the rate center associated with the called number is within the local calling area (as defined by the incumbent local exchange carrier in whose service territory the calling party is located, including mandatory EAS) in which the calling party is located.

1.5 "Local Traffic" shall mean Non-Access Telecommunications Traffic, as defined in 47 C.F.R. § 51.701(b).

1.6 [Intentionally Left Blank].

1.7 [Intentionally Left Blank].

1.8 [Intentionally Left Blank].

1.9 [Intentionally Left Blank].

2. Miscellaneous Provisions.

2.1 Conflict Between this Amendment and the Agreement. This Amendment shall be deemed to revise the terms and conditions of the Agreement to the extent necessary to give effect to the terms and conditions of this Amendment. In the event of a conflict between the terms and conditions of this Amendment and the terms and conditions of the Agreement, this Amendment shall govern; provided, however, that the fact that a term or condition appears in this Amendment but not in the Agreement, or in the Agreement but not in this Amendment, shall not be interpreted as, or deemed grounds for finding, a conflict for purposes of this Section 2.

- 2.2 **Capitalization.** Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined herein have the meanings set forth in the Amended Agreement.
- 2.3 **Counterparts.** This Amendment may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original and all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 2.4 **Captions.** The Parties acknowledge that the captions in this Amendment have been inserted solely for convenience of reference and in no way define or limit the scope or substance of any term or condition of this Amendment.
- 2.5 **Scope of Amendment.** This Amendment shall amend, modify and revise the Agreement only to the extent set forth expressly in this Amendment and, except to the extent expressly set forth in this Amendment, the terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect after the Amendment Effective Date. For the avoidance of any doubt, nothing in this Amendment shall be deemed to amend or extend the term of the Amended Agreement, or to affect the right of a Party to exercise any right of termination it may have under the Amended Agreement.
- 2.6 **Joint Work Product.** The Parties acknowledge that this Amendment is the joint work product of the Parties, that, for convenience, this Amendment has been drafted in final form by Verizon and that, accordingly, in the event of ambiguities in this Amendment, no inferences shall be drawn for or against either Party on the basis of authorship of this Amendment.
- 2.7 **Amendments.** No amendments or modifications shall be made to this Amendment unless in writing and signed by appropriate representatives of the Parties.
- 2.8 **Waivers.** A failure or delay of either Party to enforce any of the provisions of this Amendment, or any right or remedy available under this Amendment, or at law or in equity, or to require performance of any of the provisions of this Amendment, or to exercise any option that is provided under this Amendment, shall in no way be construed to be a waiver of such provisions, rights, remedies or options.
- 2.9 **Definitions.** Notwithstanding any other provision in the Agreement, this Amendment or any Verizon Tariff or SGAT, the term "Tariff," as used in this Amendment, shall mean: (a) Any applicable Federal or state tariff of a Party, as amended from time to time; or (b) any standard agreement or other document, as amended from time to time, that sets forth the generally available terms, conditions and prices under which a Party offers a Service. The term "Tariff" does not include any Verizon Statement of Generally Available Terms (SGAT) which has been approved or is pending approval by the Commission pursuant to Section 252(f) of the Act.
- 2.10 **Further Assurances.** Level 3 represents and warrants that as of the Amendment Effective Date, and covenants that so long as this Amendment and the Agreement remain in effect, neither Level 3, nor any competitive local exchange carrier controlled by or under common control with Level 3, shall exchange with Verizon, or any incumbent local exchange carrier controlled by or under common control with Verizon, Reciprocal Compensation Traffic or Locally-Dialed ISP Traffic for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at any rates other than the rates for such traffic as specified in this Amendment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have caused this Amendment to be executed as of the Amendment Effective Date.

LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC

VERIZON NORTH LLC

By: [Signature]

By: [Signature]

Printed: Shaun Andrews

Printed: Jennifer Ross **SHERI D. SCHLABS**

Title: SVP Voice Services

Acting
Title: Director - Interconnection

Date: 5/27/14

Date: 6/3/14

EXHIBIT A

A. SERVICES, FACILITIES, AND ARRANGEMENTS:

Service or Element Description:

Recurring Charges:

Non-Recurring Charge:

I. Reciprocal Compensation Traffic Termination

Reciprocal Compensation Traffic

Rate Effectiveness
Date and thereafter --
\$0.0007 per minute of
use

Not Applicable
