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PA P.U.C.
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

Tom Li
125 Haddon Road
New Hyde Park, NY 11040-1740

April 5, 2016

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Attn: Secretary
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Subject: Docket P-2015-2510230 – 717 Area Code

To Whom It May Concern:

When the issue of relief for the 717 area code came up previously in 2009-10, I supported a geographic split option that roughly followed the Susquehanna River – with the eastern side (containing Harrisburg and Lancaster) retaining area code 717 – since that option most closely aligned with political/physical geographic boundaries, as compared to several other split options. Since then, however, changes in the growth rate of CO codes in area code 717 have resulted in a different split option being the only one from the original 2009-10 relief petition that conforms to relief planning guidelines, and that is the one being proposed now. Although I still support a geographic split for area code 717, the current proposed split option is not as desirable as the one I originally supported. With this split option, the northern section (containing Harrisburg) should change to the new area code while the southern section (containing Lancaster) should retain area code 717. If the PUC finds it desirable to go with another split option which may not conform to relief planning guidelines, it can seek approval from the FCC (which has granted approval for similar occasions in the past).

As with past area code relief proceedings, I recommend holding public hearings in various major communities located throughout area code 717, and I also recommend monitoring the projected exhaust date closely such that the relief petition can be delayed and/or dismissed if the PED moves out significantly.

Sincerely,

Tom Li

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USA FOREVER

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