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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

2016 SEP 19 AM 10:32

PAULA PONTE,
Complainant

PA P.U.C.
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

v.

Docket No. C-2016-2559745

VERIZON PENNSYLVANIA LLC,
Respondent

COMPLAINANT'S ANSWER TO PRELIMINARY OBJECTIONS OF RESPONDENT

Paula Ponte hereby submits the following Answer to Verizon's Preliminary Objections, and avers and represents as follows:

1. THIS IS NOT A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY ISSUE.
2. The Complaint against Verizon is based upon the fact that the proximity of Verizon's utility pole to the building constitutes both a safety issue and a functional one. These issues are separate from, and should supersede, any right of way rights that Verizon may have.
3. There are federal and state regulations regarding the proximity of utility services to private buildings. In Ponte's original informal complaint to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, it was determined by the PUC investigator that it was unclear as to which regulation would apply to this situation and that a formal complaint would need to be filed in order to determine this question.
4. The proximity of the pole and lines to the building is less than three feet. With the lines running along the entire 36 feet of the western arm of the building, there is a risk of fire, electrocution, etc. Also, the proximity of the lines from the building preclude routine maintenance being accomplished on that side of the building. And then there is also the issue of fire egress from rooms on that side of the building.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, Complainant respectfully requests that Verizon's motion to dismiss the Complaint be denied

Date: Sept 11, 2016

Paula Ponte

Paula Ponte

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Paula Ponte, hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of Complainant's Answer to Verizon's Preliminary Objections upon the participants listed below.

Dated this 11th day of Sept, 2016

VIA USPS FIRST CLASS MAIL

Verizon Pennsylvania LLC
1717 Arch St, 3SE
Philadelphia, Pa 19103

Paula Ponte

PA R.U.C.
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

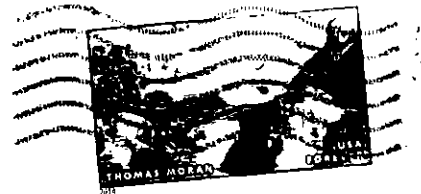
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