

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

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December 21, 2017

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 171020

Re: Verizon Pennsylvania LLC 2017 Price
Change Opportunity Filing
Docket No. R-2017-2632523
Office of Small Business Advocate v.
Verizon Pennsylvania LLC
Docket No. C-2017-2633476

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Attached for electronic filing please find the Office of Consumer Advocate's Notice of Intervention and Public Statement in the above-referenced proceeding.

Copies have been served per the attached Certificate of Service.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Barrett C. Sheridan
Barrett C. Sheridan
Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 61138
E-Mail: BSheridan@paoca.org

Attachments

cc: Office of Administrative Law Judge
Certificate of Service

*242654

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Re: Verizon Pennsylvania LLC :
2017 Price Change Opportunity Filing : Docket No. R-2017-2632523
Office of Small Business Advocate v. :
Verizon Pennsylvania LLC : Docket No. C-2017-2633476

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the following document, the Office of Consumer Advocate's Notice of Intervention and Public Statement, upon parties of record in this proceeding in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant), in the manner and upon the persons listed below:

Dated this 21st day of December 2017.

SERVICE BY E-MAIL and INTEROFFICE MAIL

Richard A. Kanaskie
Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

SERVICE BY E-MAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID

Susan D. Paiva, Esquire
Verizon
900 Race Street, 6th Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Steven C. Gray
Office of Small Business Advocate
300 North Second Street, Suite 202
Harrisburg, PA 17101

/s/ Barrett C. Sheridan
Barrett C. Sheridan
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BEFORE THE
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Verizon Pennsylvania LLC 2018 Price Change Opportunity Filing	:	Docket No. R-2017-2632523
Office of Small Business Advocate v. Verizon Pennsylvania LLC	:	Docket No. C-2017-2633476


NOTICE OF INTERVENTION

Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code Sections 5.71-74, the Office of Consumer Advocate hereby gives Notice of Intervention in the above captioned proceedings. A copy of all correspondence and notices, documents, orders or other communications with respect to the above captioned proceeding should be addressed to the following:

Barrett C. Sheridan
Assistant Consumer Advocate
PA Attorney I.D. # 61138
E-Mail: BSheridan@paoca.org

Office of Consumer Advocate
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Harrisburg, PA 17101-1923
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Respectfully submitted,



Barrett C. Sheridan
Assistant Consumer Advocate

DATED: December 21, 2017

PUBLIC STATEMENT OF THE
OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE
PURSUANT TO 71 P.S. SECTION 309-4(e)

Act 161 of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, 71 P.S. Section 309-2, as enacted July 9, 1976, authorizes the Consumer Advocate to represent the interests of consumers before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission). In accordance with Act 161, and for the following reasons, the Acting Consumer Advocate determined to file a Notice of Intervention to represent the interests of Pennsylvania telephone consumers in the matter involving the Formal Complaint filed by the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) in response to Verizon Pennsylvania LLC's (Verizon PA's) 2018 Price Change Opportunity (PCO) filing dated November 1, 2017. Verizon PA's filing has been docketed by the Commission at Docket No. R-2017-2632523. Verizon PA has calculated per its Chapter 30 Plan PCO formula an allowed annual increase of \$1,257,000. Verizon PA has proposed to increase residential basic local service rates by \$0.20 per month, increase business local dial tone rates by up to \$2.55 per month, and increase the late payment charge for regulated business services.

The OSBA filed a Formal Complaint dated November 7, 2017 averring that Verizon PA's proposed increases to business dial tone rates may be unjust, unreasonable, unduly discriminatory, and otherwise contrary to the law. OSBA challenges the reasonableness of the business rate increases relative to the level of the proposed increase for residential dial tone line service. OSBA states that the proposed business dial tone line rate increases may violate Section 1301 and 3015(g) of the Public Utility Code.

The OSBA complaint raises questions of law and rate-setting policy which may impact residential consumers. Section 3015(a)(3) of the Public Utility Code limits the level of increase which Verizon PA may impose on residential basic local service rates as part of a PCO filing and

proposed change in rates. The Acting Consumer Advocate files this Notice of Intervention in order to participate in this proceeding involving the Formal Complaint filed by the OSBA regarding the Verizon PA 2018 PCO filing.

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