

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120**

**Verizon Pennsylvania LLC and  
Verizon North LLC v.  
Metropolitan Edison Company,  
Pennsylvania Electric Company and  
Pennsylvania Power Company**

**Public Meeting Dec. 3, 2020  
3019347-OSA  
Docket No. C-2020-3019347**

**STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN GLADYS BROWN DUTRIEUILLE**

Over a decade ago in the Broadband National Plan, the FCC noted that pole attachments constitute a considerable impediment to the deployment of broadband networks and services throughout the nation.

This dispute centers on the rates that Verizon will pay First Energy to use First Energy's poles to attach the facilities Verizon needs use to provide voice and advanced broadband services in Pennsylvania. Based on the resolution of this case, Verizon's pole attachment expenses will decrease.

The pandemic demonstrates the critical role that broadband plays in Pennsylvania. It is my hope that Verizon will use a significant portion of the projected savings to augment its planned investment in Pennsylvania. The additional investment from these savings should make broadband more available and affordable throughout Verizon's service territory.

**December 3, 2020**  
**Date**



**Gladys Brown Dutrieuille, Chairman**