

August 26, 2024

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

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

**RE: Adoption of Federal Communications Commission Regulations Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 77.4  
Docket No. L-2018-3002672**

Secretary Chiavetta:

Crown Castle Fiber LLC (“Crown Castle”) submits the following comments in response to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission’s (“Commission”) inquiry in the above-captioned docket regarding adoption of new Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) rules on pole attachments.

Crown Castle has thirty years of experience building and operating network infrastructure. As the nation’s largest independent owner and operator of shared infrastructure, Crown Castle works with wireless carriers, enterprise customers, technology companies, broadband providers, and municipalities to design and deliver unique end-to-end infrastructure solutions that bring new innovations, opportunities, and possibilities to people and businesses around the country.

As a network owner and operator, Crown Castle has approximately 115,000 small cell nodes on air or under contract and owns and operates approximately 90,000 route miles of fiber serving small cells, on-net buildings, cloud access points and connected data centers, points of presence (PoPs), and central offices (COs). Crown Castle offers and provides a variety of facilities-based and resold telecommunications services to wholesale customers as well as customers in government, education, health care, financial services, and other enterprises.

Crown Castle’s responses to the two numbered topics on which the Commission seeks comment are as follows:

- 1. Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 77.4(e), should the Commission allow the FCC’s addition of new subsection (c)(4) to existing regulation 47 C.F.R. § 1.1411 to become effective in Pennsylvania by operation of law on the date that is sixty (60) days from publication of this notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, or should the Commission determine otherwise for good cause shown?*

The Commission should permit this federal rule change to take effect by operation of law. This rule is straightforward, presents no Pennsylvania-specific issues, and should be simple to implement without additional comment. In promulgating this rule, which requires pole owners to provide prospective attachers with information about the state of their poles, the FCC heard comment from a variety of stakeholders and developed an extensive record. Permitting comment on this issue would only invite pole owners and attachers to rehash arguments that have already been presented to the FCC. The Commission’s adoption of this updated rule should be automatic.

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2. *Pursuant to 52 Pa. Code § 77.4(e), should the Commission allow the FCC's new section 1.1415 to become effective in Pennsylvania by operation of law on the date that is sixty (60) days from publication of this notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, or should the Commission determine otherwise for good cause shown?*

The Commission should stay this federal rule change from taking effect and provide a notice and comment period for stakeholders to opine this rule change in Pennsylvania. This rule, which creates a new FCC intra-agency task force to provide expedited pole attachment dispute resolution, was designed specifically for the FCC; as such, it may require more consideration of how the Commission will implement an expedited process into its existing, Pennsylvania-specific dispute resolution process. Speeding the pole attachment dispute resolution process is vital—particularly as the federal government invests historic sums in broadband deployment with the goal of connecting all Americans, which will necessitate additional wireline and wireless attachments to existing utility poles—and the Commission should endeavor to take comment and determine how to update its process on an accelerated basis.

Crown Castle appreciates the opportunity to comment on these important issues.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Van Bloys*

Van Bloys

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