

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
)
Accounting Safeguards Under the)
Telecommunications Act of 1996) CC Docket No. 96-150
)
)

ORDER

Adopted: November 15, 2001

Released: November 15, 2001

By the Chief, Accounting Safeguards Division:

1. On June 21, 2001, the Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau) released a public notice seeking comment on the audit report of Verizon Communications, Inc. (Verizon) in accordance with the Commission’s rules and procedures implementing section 272(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. As explained below, we extend the deadline for commenting on the report.

2. On June 11, 2001, Verizon submitted its first section 272(d) biennial audit report addressing its compliance with the section 272 non-accounting and accounting safeguards. Verizon supplemented its submission on June 18, 2001. Verizon requested confidential treatment of some information contained in the section 272(d) biennial audit report. In August 2001, AT&T Corporation (AT&T) and the Competitive Telecommunications Association (Comptel) submitted letters requesting access to the redacted information and additional time to review the audit report. On October 12, 2001, the Accounting Safeguards Division (Division) granted an extension of time until November 20, 2001 for filing comments in order to provide time for resolving surrounding Verizon’s request.

3. We grant a limited extension of time until January 24, 2002 for submitting comments on Verizon’s section 272(d) biennial audit report. An extension of time will afford the Bureau an opportunity to evaluate and consider the issues raised, while preserving the public’s ability to comment on the audit report.

4. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.201-0.204, 1.3, 53.209-53.213, the comment period for the Verizon section 272(d) biennial audit report IS EXTENDED to January 24, 2001.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Kenneth P. Moran
Chief, Accounting Safeguards Division, CCB