



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

DA 02-1497
Released: June 27, 2002

**COMMENTS REQUESTED ON VERIZON'S JOINT APPLICATION FOR
AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE IN-REGION, INTERLATA SERVICE IN
DELAWARE AND NEW HAMPSHIRE**

WC DOCKET NO. 02-157

On June 27, 2002, Verizon New England Inc., Verizon Delaware Inc., Bell Atlantic Communications, Inc. (d/b/a Verizon Long Distance), NYNEX Long Distance Company (d/b/a Verizon Enterprise Solutions), Verizon Global Networks Inc., and Verizon Select Services Inc. (collectively, "Verizon"), filed a joint application for authorization to provide in-region, interLATA service in the states of Delaware and New Hampshire, pursuant to section 271 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act), 47 U.S.C. § 271. Pursuant to section 271 of the Act, an applicant must demonstrate compliance with section 271 on a state-by-state basis. This Public Notice establishes certain procedural requirements relating to consideration of Verizon's joint application. The Commission, in a prior Public Notice, adopted general procedural requirements that apply to the processing of this and all other applications for authorization under section 271 of the Act.¹ A copy of this earlier Public Notice is attached hereto. Also attached is a protective order adopted today, *Application by Verizon New England Inc., Verizon Delaware Inc., et. al., for Authorization To Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in New Hampshire and Delaware*, Protective Order, DA 02-1498 (WCB rel. June 27, 2002), that establishes the conditions under which access will be made available to confidential documents submitted in this proceeding by Verizon or any other party.

Comments By Interested Third Parties. Comments by interested third parties in support of or in opposition to Verizon's joint application must be filed on or before **July 17, 2002**, and must be filed in conformance with the procedures set forth in the attached *March 23, 2001 Public Notice*. As in prior section 271 application proceedings, comments may not exceed 100 pages.²

¹ See *Updated Filing Requirements for Bell Operating Company Applications Under Section 271 of the Communications Act*, Public Notice, DA 01-734 (CCB rel. Mar. 23, 2001) (*Mar. 23, 2001 Public Notice*).

² Recognizing that this application covers two states, however, the Commission retains discretion to extend the page

Pursuant to Sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file Comments on or before **July 17, 2002**. Parties may file reply comments on or before **August 12, 2002**.

Comments and replies may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 Fed. Reg. 24121 (1998). Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>>. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, however, commenters must transmit one electronic copy of the comments to each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. To get further instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form <your e-mail address>." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

If a party chooses to file comments or replies by paper, an original and four copies must be sent to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, CY-B402, Washington, D.C., 20554. Fifteen additional paper copies of each comment and reply must be delivered to Janice Myles, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C327, Washington, D.C., 20554. One copy of each paper comment and reply must be sent to the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554.

All filings must contain the docket or rulemaking number that appears in the caption of this proceeding. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption, commenters must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). The Commission's contractor, Vistrionix, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. The filing hours at this location are 8 am. to 5:30 p.m. First-class U.S. Postal Service mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must contain the Docket Number, and

limit, upon request, if a commenter requires additional pages to address circumstances specific to a particular state. Parties anticipating that they may require additional pages for comments or reply comments are asked to contact Tracey Wilson, Program Analyst at (202) 418-1394, or Henry Thaggert, Attorney Advisor, at (202) 418-7941, in the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, as soon as possible.

must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

In accordance with the Commission's earlier Public Notice announcing that hand-delivered or messenger-delivered filings are no longer accepted at the Commission's headquarters, **hand-delivered or messenger-delivered filings must be delivered to 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002.**³

Filings and comments are available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC, 20554. They may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone (202) 863-2893, facsimile (202) 863-2898, or via e-mail qualexint@aol.com.

If you are sending this type of document or using this delivery method...	It should be addressed for delivery to...
Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary	236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002 (8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
Commercial overnight mail (other than United States Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail)	9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743 (8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)
United States Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail	445 12 th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Parties are strongly encouraged to file comments, replies, and *ex parte* items electronically using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

Parties are also requested to send a courtesy copy of their comments, replies and *ex parte* items via email to: gremondi@fcc.gov; twilson@fcc.gov; hthagger@fcc.gov; vschlesi@fcc.gov; and laura.starling@usdoj.gov benjamin.brown2@usdoj.gov; david.arulanantham@usdoj.gov; connie.mcdowell@state.de.us; bjackson@puc.state.nh.us; tgetz@puc.state.nh.us.

State Commissions and Department of Justice Written Consultations. The Delaware Public Service Commission and the New Hampshire Public Utility Commission must file any written

³ See Public Notice, FCC Announces New Filing Location for Paper Documents, DA 01-2919 (rel. December 14, 2001).

consultation on or before **July 17, 2002**. Any written consultation by the U.S. Department of Justice, which by the Act's express terms must become part of the Commission's record, must be filed on or before **August 1, 2002**. Because the state commissions and the Department of Justice are given roles by statute in a section 271 proceeding, copies of all pleadings, including comments and *ex partes*, should be filed with those parties.⁴

Replies. All participants in the proceeding – the applicant, interested third parties, the State Commissions, and the Department of Justice – may file a reply to any comment filed by any other participant on or before **August 12, 2002**. If a party chooses to file by paper, an original and four copies of all reply comments must be filed with Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., TW-B204, Washington D.C. 20554. In addition, fifteen copies of each reply comment must be delivered to Janice Myles, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C327, Washington, D.C., 20554; and one copy must be sent to Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington D.C., 20554. Reply comments may not exceed 50 pages, unless parties request additional pages to address state-specific circumstances, as described above in footnote 2. Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered filings will be accepted only at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002.⁵ As with comments, **parties are encouraged to file replies electronically using the ECFS. Parties are also requested to send a courtesy copy of any replies via email to:** gremondi@fcc.gov; twilson@fcc.gov; hthagger@fcc.gov; vschlesi@fcc.gov; and laura.starling@usdoj.gov; benjamin.brown2@usdoj.gov; david.arulanantham@usdoj.gov; connie.mcdowell@state.de.us; bjackson@puc.state.nh.us; tgetz@puc.state.nh.us.

Treatment of Confidential Information. To the extent a submission by any party (including the applicant, the Department of Justice, the Delaware Public Service Commission, the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, or any commenter) includes confidential information or comments on confidential information that another participant has submitted, the party must file with the Office of the Secretary: (a) one copy of only the portion(s) of the submission that contain confidential information or comment on confidential information that another participant has submitted, exclusive of the remainder of the submission; and (b) one original and two copies of the entire confidential submission in redacted form. Each of the submissions described in items (a) and (b) must be accompanied by a cover letter. The submission described in item (a) and accompanying cover letter should be stamped “**Confidential—Not for Public Inspection.**” The original and two copies of the redacted submission described in item (b) and their accompanying cover letters should be stamped “**Redacted—For Public Inspection.**” The cover letters accompanying both sets of submissions set forth in items (a) and (b) above should state

⁴ Please forward copies to the attention of: (1) The Honorable Commissioner, Arnetta McRae, Delaware Public Service Commission, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Cannon Building, Suite 100, Dover, Delaware 19904; (2) The Honorable Chairman, Tom B. Getz, New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission, 8 Old Suncook Road, Building No. 1, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-7319, e-mail: tgetz@puc.state.nh.us; (3) Laura Starling, U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, Telecommunications and Media Enforcement Section, 1401 H St., N.W., Suite 8000, Washington, DC 20530, e-mail: laura.starling@usdoj.gov; and (4) Benjamin Brown, U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, Telecommunications and Media Enforcement Section, 1401 H St., N.W., Suite 8000, Washington, DC 20530, e-mail: benjamin.brown2@usdoj.gov.

⁵ See Public Notice, FCC Announces New in Filing Location for Paper Documents, DA 01-2919 (rel. Dec. 14, 2001).

that the party is filing a confidential portion of the submission and a redacted version of the entire submission. Other than bearing different stamps (*i.e.*, “Confidential—Not for Public Inspection” or “Redacted—For Public Inspection”), the (a) and (b) cover letters should be identical. The submissions should be sent to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-B204, Washington, D.C. 20554. Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered filings will be accepted only at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 110, Washington, DC 20002. Each redacted filing must also be submitted on a read-only CD-ROM.⁶ Three sets of the confidential and redacted submissions should also be sent to Tracey Wilson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C437, Washington, DC 20554.

All questions relating to access to confidential information submitted by Verizon should be directed to Steven McPherson, Verizon, 1515 North Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA 22201, (703) 351-3083.

Availability of Information. A wide range of information relating to Verizon’s section 271 joint application for Delaware and New Hampshire may be retrieved from the Commission’s website at <http://www.fcc.gov>.⁷ Specific information, such as comments and *ex parte* submissions, may be obtained from the ECFS, which is accessible through the Commission’s website. Moreover, Verizon has voluntarily agreed to post relevant documents, including its joint application and supporting affidavits and substantive *ex parte* submissions, on the World Wide Web at <http://newscenter.verizon.com/policy>.

The joint application will be available for public inspection during regular business hours in the Reference Information Center of the Federal Communications Commission, Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, DC, 20554. Paper copies of the joint application, and the record generated in response thereto, may be obtained from the Commission’s copy contractor.

Ex Parte Rules: Permit-but-Disclose Proceeding. Because of the broad policy issues involved, section 271 application proceedings initially are classified as permit-but-disclose proceedings.⁸ Accordingly, *ex parte* presentations will be permitted, provided they are disclosed in conformance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.⁹ Because of the 90-day statutory timeframe for decision, the Commission strongly encourages parties to set forth their views comprehensively in the formal filings specified above (*e.g.*, written consultations, oppositions, supporting comments, etc.) and not to rely on subsequent *ex parte* presentations. In any event, parties may file no more than a total of 20 pages of written *ex parte* submissions. This 20-page

⁶ If filing on a CD-ROM is not possible, applicants may file on a 3.5 inch computer diskette.

⁷ The rules relating to public information and the inspection of records are set forth at sections 0.441 through 0.470 of the Commission’s Rules. 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.441-0.470.

⁸ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(a)(13) (added by 64 FR 68946, 68946 (1999) (effective Jan. 10, 2000)); *e.g.*, Comments Requested on Application by Bell Atlantic for Authorization under Section 271 of the Communications Act to Provide In-Region, InterLATA Service in the State of New York (CC Docket No. 99-295), Public Notice, DA 99-2014, 1999 WL 770903 (CCB rel. Sept. 29, 1999).

⁹ See 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1202, 1.1206(b).

limit does not include: (1) written *ex parte* submissions made solely to disclose an oral *ex parte* contact; (2) written material submitted at the time of an oral presentation to Commission staff that provides a brief outline of the presentation; (3) written material filed in response to direct requests from Commission staff; or (4) written factual exhibits. *Ex parte* submissions in excess of the 20-page limit will not be considered part of the record of this proceeding. In light of the statutory deadline for decision, parties are hereby requested to provide courtesy copies of any *ex parte* presentations made to any member of the Commission to Tracey Wilson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C437, Washington D.C. 20554. **Parties are also requested to send a courtesy copy of *ex parte* submissions via email to:** gremondi@fcc.gov; twilson@fcc.gov; hthagger@fcc.gov; vschlesi@fcc.gov; and laura.starling@usdoj.gov benjamin.brown2@usdoj.gov; david.arulanantham@usdoj.gov; connie.mcdowell@state.de.us; bjackson@puc.state.nh.us; tgetz@puc.state.nh.us.

In recognition of the burden placed on all parties by the 90-day statutory timeframe, Verizon has voluntarily agreed to post a copy of each *ex parte* submission it files with the Commission in this docket at its website: <http://newscenter.verizon.com/policy>. Likewise, parties filing *ex parte* submissions are requested to provide Verizon with a copy of each *ex parte* submission within 24 hours by fax, messenger, or overnight delivery.¹⁰

For purposes of this proceeding, oral *ex parte* presentations from the Department of Justice or the state commissions are deemed to be exempt *ex parte* presentations.¹¹ To the extent that the Commission obtains through such oral *ex parte* presentations new factual information on which the Commission may rely in its decision-making process, the party submitting the information – either the Department of Justice or the state commission– shall prepare a summary for inclusion in the record in accordance with Commission rules, unless such a summary is being prepared by Commission staff.¹² We also waive any page limits for written *ex parte* submissions by the Department of Justice or the state commissions.

Notwithstanding the above, the Commission may, by subsequent public notice, prohibit all presentations to its decision-making personnel regarding the joint application during a seven-day period preceding the anticipated release date of the Commission’s Order regarding the joint application.¹³

Ex Parte Meeting Schedule. The Wireline Competition Bureau staff will be available for meetings on **July 9-10, 2002; July 16-17, 2002; and August 6-7, 2002**, in case interested parties

¹⁰ Copies of *ex parte* submissions delivered to Verizon shall be addressed to: Ann Berkowitz, 1300 Eye Street N.W., Suite 400 West, Washington, DC 20005, Fax (202) 336-7922, Telephone (202) 515-2539.

¹¹ See *id.* § 1.1200(a) (“Where the public interest so requires in a particular proceeding, the Commission and its staff retain the discretion to modify the applicable *ex parte* rules by order, letter, or public notice.”); *id.* § 1204(a)(6), as amended by 64 FR 68946, 68946 (1999) (effective Jan. 10, 2000).

¹² See *id.* § 1.1206(a).

¹³ See *id.* §§ 1.1200; 1.1203.

wish to discuss any issues that they intend to raise in comments or reply comments, as applicable, in support of, or in opposition to, Verizon's joint application.

The purpose of these meetings is to give interested parties an opportunity to inform Bureau staff of such issues prior to filing their written comments or reply comments. The Bureau encourages interested parties to make joint presentations of common concerns to the extent feasible. Parties who wish to schedule meetings with the Bureau should call Tracey Wilson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-1394.

Aside from the meetings listed above, *ex parte* meetings related to this proceeding will occur only at the request of Bureau staff.

Calendar

***Ex Parte* Meetings related to Comments: July 9, 2002; July 10, 2002;
July 16, 2002; and July 17, 2002**

Comments Due: July 17, 2002

State Commission Board Comments Due: July 17, 2002

U.S. Department of Justice Evaluation Due: August 1, 2002

***Ex Parte* Meetings related to Reply Comments: August 6, 2002 and August 7, 2002**

Reply Comments Due: August 12, 2002

Statutory Deadline: September 25, 2002

By the Wireline Competition Bureau.

News Media Contact: Michael Balmoris -- (202) 418-1500

Wireline Competition Bureau Contact: Henry L. Thaggert -- (202) 418-7941

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