

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

In the Matter of)	
)	
Petition for Forbearance of the Verizon)	
Telephone Companies Pursuant to)	WC Docket No. 01-338
47 U.S.C. § 160(c))	

ORDER

Adopted: July 28, 2003

Released: July 28, 2003

By the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau:

1. In this Order, pursuant to section 10(c) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (the Act),¹ we extend by 90 days the date by which the petition requesting forbearance filed by the Verizon telephone companies (Verizon) shall be deemed granted in the absence of a Commission decision that the petition fails to meet the standards for forbearance under section 10(a) of the Act.

2. On July 29, 2002, Verizon filed a petition requesting the Commission to forbear from applying items four through six and ten of the section 271 competitive checklist once the corresponding elements no longer need to be unbundled under section 251(d)(2) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.² Section 10(c) of the Act states that a petition for forbearance shall be deemed granted if the Commission does not deny the petition for failure to meet the requirements for forbearance under subsection (a) within one year after the Commission receives it, unless the one-year period is extended by the Commission. The Commission may extend the initial one-year period by an additional 90 days if the Commission finds that an extension is necessary to meet the requirements of subsection 10(a).³

3. The petition under review raises significant questions regarding whether forbearance from items four through six and ten of the section 271 competitive checklist meets the statutory requirements set forth in section 10(a). The Bureau thus finds that a 90-day extension is warranted under section 10.

4. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to section 10 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 160, and authority delegated under sections 0.91 and 0.291

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 160(c).

² Petition for Forbearance of the Verizon Telephone Companies Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c), CC Docket No. 01-338 (filed July 29, 2002).

³ See, e.g., *Petition of Ameritech Corporation for Forbearance from Enforcement of Section 275(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended*, CC Docket No. 98-65, Order, 14 FCC Rcd 6415 (Com. Car. Bur. 1999).

of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91 and 0.291, that the date on which the petition seeking forbearance filed by Verizon shall be deemed granted, in the absence of a Commission denial of the petition for failure to meet the statutory standards for forbearance, is extended to October 27, 2003.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

William F. Maher, Jr.
Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau