



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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**DA 08-822**  
**April 4, 2008**

**WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU GRANTS EXTENSION OF TIME  
TO FILE REPLY COMMENTS ON VERIZON RHODE ISLAND  
PETITION FOR FORBEARANCE**

**WC Docket No. 08-24**

**Reply Comments Due: May 12, 2008**

On February 14, 2008, Verizon New England (Verizon) filed a petition pursuant to section 10 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,<sup>1</sup> requesting that the Commission forbear from applying to Verizon certain obligations in most of its incumbent local service territory in Rhode Island.<sup>2</sup> The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) released a public notice seeking comment on the Verizon Rhode Island Petition on February 27, 2008.<sup>3</sup> On March 17, 2008, several parties jointly filed a motion seeking the dismissal or denial of the Verizon Rhode Island Petition,<sup>4</sup> as well as a separate motion seeking to extend the comment cycle in the underlying proceeding.<sup>5</sup> The Bureau released a public notice seeking comment on the CLEC Motion to Dismiss on March 21, 2008.<sup>6</sup> Comments on the CLEC Motion to

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<sup>1</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 160.

<sup>2</sup> See Petition of Verizon New England for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) in Rhode Island, WC Docket No. 08-24 (filed Feb. 14, 2008) (Verizon Rhode Island Petition).

<sup>3</sup> See *Pleading Cycle Established for Comments on Verizon New England's Petition for Forbearance in Rhode Island*, WC Docket No. 08-24, Public Notice, DA 08-469 (WCB rel. Feb. 27, 2008) (*Verizon Rhode Island Public Notice*).

<sup>4</sup> See Letter from Andrew D. Lipman *et al.*, Counsel for Access Point Inc. *et al.*, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 08-24 (filed Mar. 17, 2008) (CLEC Motion to Dismiss).

<sup>5</sup> See Letter from Andrew D. Lipman *et al.*, Counsel for Access Point Inc. *et al.*, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 08-24 (filed Mar. 17, 2008) (CLEC Motion for Extension of Time).

<sup>6</sup> See *Pleading Cycle Established for Comments on Motion to Dismiss or Deny Verizon Rhode Island Petition for Forbearance*, WC Docket No. 08-24, Public Notice, DA 08-651 (WCB rel. Mar. 21, 2008) (*CLEC Motion to Dismiss Initial Public Notice*).

Dismiss are due by April 7, 2008 and replies are due by April 14, 2008.<sup>7</sup> The current deadline for filing reply comments in the underlying proceeding is April 28, 2008.<sup>8</sup>

In the interest of developing a thorough and complete record in this proceeding, the Bureau hereby extends the reply comment filing deadline in this proceeding. Parties therefore have until **May 12, 2008** to file reply comments on the Verizon Rhode Island Petition in this docket. This will allow adequate time to ensure that interested parties can create a complete record, and should help minimize the piecemeal submission of arguments and analysis in the form of *ex parte* submissions after the reply comment deadline. All other filing requirements set forth in the Public Notice establishing the initial pleading cycle remain in effect.<sup>9</sup>

For further information regarding this proceeding, contact Tim Stelzig, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-0942, or Adam Kirschenbaum, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-7280.

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<sup>7</sup> See *CLEC Motion to Dismiss Initial Public Notice* at 1.

<sup>8</sup> See *Verizon Rhode Island Public Notice* at 1.

<sup>9</sup> See *id.* at 2-3.