Agenda Date: 7/14/21 Agenda Item: IVA

TELECOMMUNICATIONS



### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

		TELECOMMUNICATIONS
IN THE MATTER OF VERIZON NEW JERSEY'S LETTER FILING FOR TARIFF REVISIONS THAT WOULD DISCONTINUE CERTAIN INTRASTATE SWITCHED AND SPECIAL ACCESS PRIVATE LINE DSO SERVICES AS WELL AS CERTAIN INTRALATA DSO SERVICES IN THE MENDHAM AND PATERSON WIRE CENTERS	) ) ) ) )	ORDER  DOCKET NO. TT20100690

#### Parties of Record:

Sylvia Del Vecchio, Manager, State Government Relations, on behalf of Petitioners Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

#### BY THE BOARD:

On October 30, 2020, Verizon New Jersey, Inc. ("Verizon") filed a letter with the Board of Public Utilities (the "Board") to discontinue certain Intrastate Switched and Special Access private line DSO services as well as certain IntraLATA DSO services in the Mendham and Paterson wire centers. Attached to the letter was a copy of the proposed revision to Verizon's Tariff B.P.U.-N.J.-No. 6 – Access Services - Page 2.2. The letter states that the discontinuance of these services supports Verizon's initiative to update selective centers to the next-generation platforms and all-fiber facilities.

On November 29, 2017, the FCC released an Order, "In the Matter of Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment", WC Docket No. 17-84. It stated that access to high-speed broadband is an essential component of modern life that provides unconstrained access to information and entertainment, unprecedented economic opportunities and offers an open channel of communication to friends and relatives that are far away. The report indicated that technological innovation and private investment have revolutionized American communications networks in recent years, making possible new and better service offerings, and bringing the promise of the digital revolution to more Americans than ever before. As part of this transformation, consumers are increasingly moving away from traditional telephone services provided over copper wires and towards next-generation technologies using a variety of transmission means, including copper, fiber, and wireless spectrum-based services.

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Verizon has indicated that there are no customers currently purchasing DSO services in the Paterson and Mendham wire centers. As the services that Verizon plans to discontinue are deemed non-competitive, Board approval of the tariff revision is required.

The New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel") submitted comments by letter dated February 11, 2021 and stated that it does not oppose the noticed discontinuance of Intrastate Switched and Special Access private line DSO services in the Mendham or Paterson wire centers to effectuate the fiber upgrade of the wire centers and changes to Verizon's Tariff B.P.U.-N.J.-No. 6.

Accordingly, the Board FINDS that the proposed tariff changes are consistent with applicable law and in the public interest. Therefore, after investigation, having considered the record and exhibits submitted by Verizon, the Board HEREBY AUTHORIZES Petitioners to effectuate the tariff changes that would discontinue certain Intrastate Switched and Special Access private line DSO services as well as certain IntraLATA DSO services in the Mendham and Paterson wire centers.

This order shall be effective July 24, 2021.

DATED: 7/14/21

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES** 

JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

**PRESIDENT** 

COMMISSIONER

UPENØRA J. CHIVUKULA

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

ROBERT M. GORDON

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

**SECRETARY** 

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# IN THE MATTER OF VERIZON NEW JERSEY'S LETTER FILING FOR TARIFF REVISIONS THAT WOULD DISCONTINUE CERTAIN INTRASTATE SWITCHED AND SPECIAL ACCESS PRIVATE LINE DSO SERVICES AS WELL AS CERTAIN INTRALATA DSO SERVICES IN THE MENDHAM AND PATERSON WIRE CENTERS

#### **DOCKET NO. TT20100690**

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## **Board of Public Utilities**

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