

Chu, Thomas

From: John Ruhl <jhn_ruhl@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2014 11:19 AM
To: Secretary, Board
Subject: Tell Verizon to Live Up to the Opportunity New Jersey Agreement

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
Attn: Ms. Kristi Izzo, Secretary
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
P.O. Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Re: In the Matter of Verizon New Jersey, Inc. (Docket# TO12020155)

Dear Ms. Izzo:

Under the 1993 "Opportunity New Jersey" regulatory agreement, Verizon is obligated to upgrade New Jersey's copper wire network. To fund this expansion, which was supposed to be completed in 2010, Verizon was permitted to collect excess charges from their customers. These charges, which began more than 20 years ago, are still being collected today.

However, Verizon failed to meet its timeframe requirements to New Jersey residents under Opportunity New Jersey. As a result of Verizon's failures, on March 12, 2012, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities initiated a legal action against Verizon. The Board and Verizon have now entered into a proposed settlement agreement which I believe is inadequate and not in the best interests of myself and other New Jersey consumers who have paid for a service that has not been fully delivered.

I oppose the Board's proposed settlement agreement and ask that the Board of Public Utilities hold Verizon to the requirements of Opportunity New Jersey by expanding broadband service to every customer in the state. The proposed settlement has the potential to cost me and other residents even more money than we have already paid over the last 21 years. The Board of Public Utilities should not allow Verizon to flagrantly disregard the stipulations which are the framework for the charges and tax breaks that the company has enjoyed.

I am asking the Board of Public Utilities to be my advocate and not only require Verizon to give me what I was originally promised under Opportunity New Jersey, but to also investigate where my dollars were spent.

Very Truly Yours,

John Ruhl
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