



## New Jersey Board of Public Utilities

### PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**  
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### **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES ANNOUNCES PUBLIC HEARINGS ON 'EFFECTS OF SYSTEMWIDE FRANCHISE' ON NJ CABLE TELEVISION MARKET**

(NEWARK, NJ) – The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) today announced a series of three public hearings throughout the State to assess the effects of the system-wide franchise on NJ cable television market.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25.2(d), the BPU is required to convene proceedings within 36 months after the entry of the system-wide franchisees to examine the effects on New Jersey's cable television market and report back to the legislature within six months of the proceedings.

Verizon of New Jersey, Inc. was granted the first system-wide franchise on December 18, 2006. The BPU is therefore required to commence hearings by December 19, 2009 and a report will be due to the Governor, Senate and General Assemble no later than June 2, 2010.

Three hearings will be held in three areas of the State:

#### **Central**

Date: December 2, 2009  
Time: 4:00 PM  
Location: Middlesex County Administration Building  
Freeholders' Meeting Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
John F. Kennedy Square  
New Brunswick, New Jersey

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**South**

Date: December 8, 2009  
Time: 4:00 PM  
Location: Cherry Hill Municipal Building  
Council Chambers, Room 2008  
820 Mercer Street  
Cherry Hill, New Jersey

**North**

Date: December 10, 2009  
Time: 4:00p  
Location: Board of Public Utilities  
Board Hearing Room, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Two Gateway Center  
Newark, New Jersey

A public comment period will be open from December 2, 2009 through January 10, 2010. Written comments may be submitted to Celeste M. Fasone, Director, Office of Cable Television, 2 Gateway Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07102. Comments may also be submitted via e-mail to [swfcomments@bpu.state.nj.us](mailto:swfcomments@bpu.state.nj.us). Comments will only be accepted during the comment period.

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**About the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU):**

*The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is a state agency and regulatory authority mandated to ensure safe, adequate, and proper utility services at reasonable rates for New Jersey customers. Critical services regulated by the NJBPU include natural gas, electricity, water, wastewater, telecommunications and cable television. The Board has general oversight responsibility for monitoring utility service, responding to consumer complaints, and investigating utility accidents. To find out more about the NJBPU, visit our web site at [www.nj.gov/bpu](http://www.nj.gov/bpu).*