



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
**Two Gateway Center**  
**Newark, NJ 07102**  
**[www.nj.gov/bpu/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)**

**CABLE TELEVISION**

IN THE MATTER OF VERIZON OF NEW JERSEY, INC. –  
REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE RESOLVING  
INTERCONNECTION NEGOTIATIONS WITH US CABLE )  
OF PARAMUS/HILLSDALE, TIME WARNER CABLE,  
CABLEVISION AND COMCAST )

ORDER

BPU DOCKET NOS.  
CO07070521, CO07070522,  
CO07070524, CO07070525

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On December 15, 2006, in Docket No. CE06110768, Verizon New Jersey ("Verizon") was granted a system-wide cable franchise by the Board, pursuant to L. 2006, c. 83 ("System-wide Cable Television Franchise Act" or "Act"). The new law modified the state's Cable Television Act, N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq., by allowing for competitive system-wide franchises for certain providers of cable television service. System-wide cable franchise holders are required to provide certain services to each municipality which they serve, including two public, educational and governmental access ("PEG") channels. N.J.S.A. 48:5A-28(i). In addition, under the Act, cable operators (sometimes referred to as "CATV companies") are required to interconnect with each other for the purpose of providing content for the PEG channels to their respective customers. N.J.S.A. 48:5A-28(i) provides that "[a]ny and all CATV companies operating in a municipality shall provide interconnection to all other CATV companies on reasonable terms and conditions, and the Board shall adopt regulations for procedures by which disputes between such CATV companies shall be determined and expeditiously resolved."

Following the passage of the Systemwide Cable Television Franchise Act, the Board adopted regulations to establish the procedures for resolution of disputes referenced above:

"If a cable television company is unable to interconnect with another cable television company because it believes the terms and conditions are not reasonable, it may petition the Board for assistance in resolution of the dispute. The Board may utilize the procedures set forth in N.J.A.C. 14:17-8" known as "Settlement Conferences."  
N.J.A.C. 14:18-15.4(d)(2).

On July 12, 2007, Verizon filed letters with the Board requesting assistance in resolving its interconnection negotiations with each of the incumbent cable operators currently operating in

Verizon's expanding service territory (Cablevision, Comcast, Patriot<sup>1</sup>, Time Warner Cable and U.S. Cable of Paramus/ Hillsdale). Responses to Verizon's requests were filed by each of the incumbent cable operators, and shortly thereafter, the Office of Cable Television ("OCTV") held individual settlement conferences with Verizon and each of the incumbent cable operators, which were also attended by the Division of Rate Counsel.

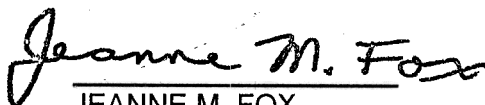
Since the parties have been unsuccessful in reaching mutual settlements, the Board finds it necessary to conduct hearings on the issues remaining in dispute. Accordingly, the Board HEREBY SETS the procedural schedule as described on Attachment A.

The Board retains the right to modify this schedule as necessary and appropriate in the interests of economy and justice. Furthermore, the Board HEREBY DESIGNATES Commissioner Joseph L. Fiordaliso as the presiding officer who is authorized to rule on all motions that arise during the proceeding and modify the schedule as necessary.

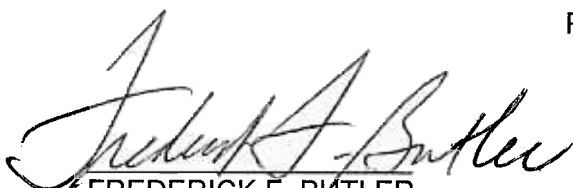
Finally, the Board HEREBY DIRECTS Staff to publish notice of the procedural schedule in newspapers of general circulation, and to post this Order on the Board's website.

DATED: 12/21/07

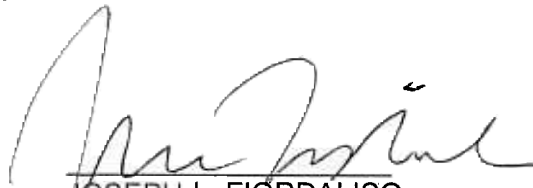
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:

  
JEANNE M. FOX

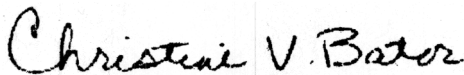
PRESIDENT

  
FREDERICK F. BUTLER

COMMISSIONER

  
JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

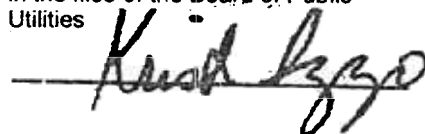
COMMISSIONER

  
CHRISTINE V. BATOR

COMMISSIONER  
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within  
document is a true copy of the original  
in the files of the Board of Public  
Utilities

ATTEST:

  
KRISTI IZZO  
SECRETARY



<sup>1</sup> Verizon filed for assistance with its interconnection negotiations with Patriot Media & Communications in Docket No. CO07070523. Since Verizon's filing, the Board approved the transfer of control of Patriot Holdings to Comcast Holdings in Docket No. CM07040250 by Order dated August 24, 2007. Therefore, since Comcast is now the operator of the former Patriot system (now known as Comcast of Central New Jersey II, LLC), any interconnection issues regarding Patriot have been discussed within the settlement conferences between Comcast and Verizon.

## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities is proposing action in the following matters.

**Verizon of New Jersey, Inc. - Request for Assistance Resolving Interconnection Negotiations with US Cable of Paramus/Hillsdale, Time Warner Cable, Cablevision and Comcast**

**Docket Nos. CO07070521, C007070522, CO07070524, CO07070525**

### **PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

Board Releases Procedural Schedule	12/19/2007
Requests for Intervention Due	1/11/2008
Initial Testimony of Parties on Interconnection	1/31/2008
Public Hearings	2/7/2008
Last Date for Discovery Requests on Initial Testimony	2/8/2008
Last Date for Responses to Discovery Requests on Initial Testimony	2/25/2008
Rebuttal Testimony	3/17/2008
Last Date for Discovery Requests on Rebuttal Testimony	3/31/2008
Last Date for Responses to Discovery Requests on Rebuttal Testimony	4/14/2008
Evidentiary Hearings	4/28/08 --5/2/08
Initial Briefs	5/22/2008
Reply Briefs	6/6/2008
Anticipated Board Action	7/30/2008

Dates subject to modification. Please check BPU website ([www.nj.gov/bpu](http://www.nj.gov/bpu)) or contact the Office of the Secretary at (973) 648-3426.

Verizon of New Jersey, Inc. - Request for Assistance Resolving Interconnection Negotiations  
with US Cable of Paramus/Hillsdale, Time Warner Cable, Cablevision and Comcast

Docket Nos. CO07070521, CO07070522, CO07070524, CO07070525

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