



**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Board of Public Utilities**  
**44 South Clinton Avenue, 3rd Floor, Suite 314**  
**Post Office Box 350**  
**Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350**  
**www.nj.gov/bpu/**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF VERIZON )  
NEW JERSEY INC. FOR APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL ) ORDER  
CONSENTS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 48:2-14 ) DOCKET NOS. TE17020113  
) THROUGH TE17020133

**Parties of Record:**

**Sidney D. Weiss, Esq.**, on behalf of Verizon New Jersey Inc., Petitioner  
**Stefanie A. Brand, Esq.**, Director on behalf of the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:<sup>1</sup>

By verified petition filed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-14 on February 13, 2017 ("Petition"), Verizon New Jersey Inc. ("Verizon" or "Petitioner") requested Board of Public Utilities ("Board") approval of consent ordinances adopted by: (1) the City of Absecon<sup>2</sup> in Atlantic County (Docket No. TE17020113); (2) the Borough of Alfa in Warren County (Docket No. TE17020114); (3) the Township of Barnegat in Ocean County (Docket No. TE17020115); (4) the Borough of Beach Haven in Ocean County (Docket No. TE17020116); (5) the Township of Berlin in Camden County (Docket No. TE17020117); (6) the Borough of Cape May Point in Cape May County (Docket No. TE17020118); (7) the Township of East Amwell in Hunterdon County (Docket No. TE17020119); (8) the Township of Elsinboro in Salem County (Docket No. TE17020120); (9) the Borough of Harvey Cedars in Ocean County (Docket No. TE17020121); (10) the Township of Jefferson in Morris County (Docket No. TE17020122); (11) the Borough of Mendham in Morris County (Docket No. TE17020123); (12) the Borough of Monmouth Beach in Monmouth County (Docket No. TE17020124); (13) the Borough of Northvale in Bergen County (Docket No. TE17020125); (14) Ocean County (Docket No. TE17020126); (15) the City of Secaucus in Hudson County (Docket No. TE17020127); (16) the Township of Upper in Cape May County (Docket No. TE17020128); (17) the Township of Vernon in Sussex County (Docket No. TE17020129); (18) the Borough of West Long Branch in Monmouth County (Docket No. TE17020130); (19) the Borough of Westwood in Bergen County (Docket No. TE17020131); (20) the Borough of Woodbine in Cape May County (Docket No. TE17020132); and (21) the Borough of Woodbury Heights in Gloucester County (Docket No. TE17020133)(collectively, the

<sup>1</sup> Commissioner Upendra J. Chivukula did not participate.

<sup>2</sup> The City of Absecon was originally named as the Borough of Absecon and its name was corrected by an amended filing at the hearing on April 20, 2017.

"consents" or "ordinances"). These 21 consents grant Verizon the continued right to install, maintain and operate its facilities in local rights-of-way in order to provide customers within the affected municipalities with telecommunications services.

Verizon is a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the Board pursuant to the applicable provisions of Title 48 of the New Jersey statutes, and is authorized to provide telecommunications services in the State of New Jersey, including in the municipalities noted above.

After appropriate notice, a hearing in these matters was held on April 20, 2017, at the Board's offices in Trenton before William P. Agee, Esq., the Board's duly designated Hearing Examiner.

At the hearing, Verizon entered into the record a Stipulation dated April 20, 2017 between Petitioner and the New Jersey Division of Rate Counsel ("Rate Counsel")(collectively, the "parties"). By the Stipulation, the parties agreed that all 21 ordinances referred to in the petition were properly and lawfully adopted by the municipalities and county (the "municipalities"). It was further stipulated that the terms of duration for the consents vary from 10 to 50 years, with no ordinance extending for an indefinite or perpetual term of years.

According to the Stipulation, the ordinances are essentially similar in substance to the ordinances adopted by other municipalities and counties throughout the State that have been accepted by the Petitioner and approved by the Board in prior proceedings similar to this in which Rate Counsel has participated. It was also stipulated that the referenced ordinances do not confer any exclusive rights to Petitioner for use of the public rights-of-way and that the approval of the ordinances will not result in any increase in rates or charges for the services performed by the Petitioner.

At the hearing, Verizon relied on the testimony of Mark Bocchieri, its Director of External Affairs for Verizon New Jersey. Mr. Bocchieri testified that he is responsible for maintaining municipal, county and State government affairs and his duties include monitoring, updating and negotiating municipal consents. He testified that the provisions of the ordinances are reasonably necessary for Petitioner to provide telecommunication services to residents and businesses in the 21 subject municipalities and that approval of the Petitions would serve and promote the public interest.

Based on a review of the entire record, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** that said record reflects that Verizon complies with all pertinent local ordinances, including those that pertain to street openings and restorations, and provides indemnification for damages arising from any work performed by the utility. The record further reflects that Verizon pays real estate tax (RET) and personal property tax (PPT) to municipalities as well as all reasonable fees charged by governmental entities for related work, such as engineering reviews, associated with Verizon's activities.

The Board **FURTHER FINDS** that the consents granted to Verizon New Jersey by (1) the City of Absecon in Atlantic County (Docket No. TE17020113); (2) the Borough of Alfa in Warren County (Docket No. TE117020114); (3) the Township of Barnegat in Ocean County (Docket No. TE17020115); (4) the Borough of Beach Haven in Ocean County (Docket No. TE17020116); (5) the Township of Berlin in Camden County (Docket No. TE17020117); (6) the Borough of Cape May Point in Cape May County (Docket No. TE17020118); (7) the Township of East Amwell in Hunterdon County (Docket No. TE17020119); (8) the Township of Elsinboro in Salem County (Docket No. TE17020120); (9) the Borough of Harvey Cedars in Ocean

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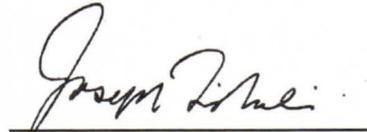
Therefore, the Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:2-14, **HEREBY APPROVES** the above-referenced municipal consents granted to Verizon New Jersey by the 21 municipalities.

This order shall be effective August 5, 2017.

DATED: 7/26/17

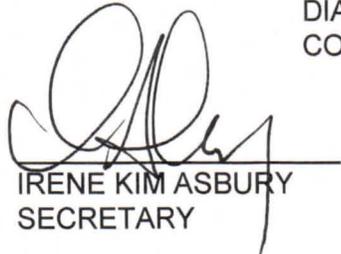
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ATTEST:  
  
IRENE KIM ASBURY  
SECRETARY

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


IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF VERIZON NEW JERSEY INC. FOR APPROVAL OF  
MUNICIPAL CONSENTS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 48:2-14  
DOCKET NOS. TE17020113 THROUGH TE17020133

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