

Dated: August 8, 2001.

Geoffrey H. Grubbs,

Director, Office of Science and Technology.

[FR Doc. 01-23753 Filed 9-25-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

Farm Credit Administration Board; Special Meeting

AGENCY: Farm Credit Administration.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the Government in the Sunshine Act (5 U.S.C. 552b(e)(3)), of the forthcoming special meeting of the Farm Credit Administration Board (Board).

DATE AND TIME: The special meeting of the Board will be held at the offices of the Farm Credit Administration in McLean, Virginia, on September 27, 2001, from 9 a.m. until such time as the Board concludes its business.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kelly Mikel Williams, Secretary to the Farm Credit Administration Board, (703) 883-4025, TDD (703) 883-4444.

ADDRESS: Farm Credit Administration, 1501 Farm Credit Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102-5090.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting of the Board will be open to the public (limited space available). In order to increase the accessibility to Board meetings, persons requiring assistance should make arrangements in advance. The matters to be considered at the meeting are:

Open Session

New Business—Other

—FY 2002 Revised Budget and FY 2003 Proposed Budget

Dated: September 24, 2001.

Kelly Mikel Williams,

Secretary, Farm Credit Administration Board.

[FR Doc. 01-24259 Filed 9-24-01; 2:55 pm]

BILLING CODE 6705-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket No. 01-138; FCC 01-269]

Application by Verizon Pennsylvania Inc., Verizon Long Distance, Verizon Enterprise Solutions, Verizon Global Networks Inc., and Verizon Select Services Inc., Pursuant to Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, for Authorization To Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in Pennsylvania

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this document the Federal Communications Commission grants the section 271 application of Verizon Pennsylvania Inc., *et al.* (Verizon) for authority to enter the interLATA telecommunications market in the state of Pennsylvania. The Commission grants Verizon's application based on our conclusion that Verizon has satisfied all of the statutory requirements for entry, and opened its local exchange markets to full competition.

DATES: Effective date September 26, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Tanner, Attorney-Advisor, Policy and Program Planning Division, Common Carrier Bureau, (202) 418-1580.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's *Memorandum Opinion and Order* in CC Docket No. 01-138, FCC 01-269, released September 19, 2001. The complete text of this document is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Information Center, Courtyard Level, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC, and also may be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554. It is also available on the Commission's website at <http://www.fcc.gov/ccb/ppp/2001ord.html>.

Synopsis of the Order

1. On June 21, 2001, Verizon filed an application, pursuant to section 271 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, for authority to provide in-region, interLATA service in the state of Pennsylvania.

2. *The State Commission's Evaluation.* The Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission (Pennsylvania Commission) advised the Commission,

following months of extensive review, that Verizon met the checklist requirements of section 271(c) and has taken the statutorily required steps to open its local markets to competition. Consequently, the Pennsylvania Commission recommended that the Commission approve Verizon's in-region, interLATA entry in its June 25, 2001 evaluation of the application.

3. *The Department of Justice's Evaluation.* The Department of Justice does not oppose Verizon's section 271 application for Pennsylvania, but states that it is unable fully to endorse it due to concerns about Verizon's wholesale billing systems. The Department of Justice also states, however, that local markets in Pennsylvania show a substantial amount of competitive entry, and does not foreclose the possibility that the Commission may be able to approve Verizon's application.

Primary Issues in Dispute

4. *Checklist Item 2—Unbundled Network Elements.* Based on the record, the Commission finds that Verizon has provided "[n]ondiscriminatory access to network elements in accordance with the requirements of sections 251(c)(3) and 252(d)(1)" of the Act in compliance with checklist item 2. The Commission addresses herein those aspects of this checklist item that raised significant issues concerning whether Verizon's performance demonstrated compliance with the Act: (1) Operations Support Systems (OSS), particularly billing; (2) UNE pricing; and (3) provisioning of UNE combinations.

5. *Access to Operations Support Systems (OSS).* The Commission concludes that Verizon provides nondiscriminatory access to its OSS. Our decision focuses only on issues of controversy, particularly Verizon's wholesale billing functions. The Commission finds that, despite some historical problems in producing a readable, auditable and accurate wholesale bill, Verizon provides a wholesale bill that gives competitive LECs a meaningful opportunity to compete. Verizon demonstrates that recent data show significantly improved performance in delivering timely and accurate bills. Similarly, performance data indicate that any delay associated with BOS BDT bills was temporary, associated with on-going improvements to the billing process and not indicative of a larger, systemic problem with delivering timely bills. In addition, the Commission finds that third-party studies of Verizon's billing systems, processes and performance support Verizon's recent commercial data both for retail-formatted bills and BOS BDT