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Suite 400 West
Washington, DC 20005

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frederick.moacidieh@verizon.com

June 7, 2013

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

FILED/ACCEPTED

JUN - 7 2013

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Re: Section 63.71 Application of Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc. (collectively, "Verizon") submit the enclosed Application for authority under Section 214(a) of the Communications Act and 47 C.F.R. § 63.71 of the Commission's rules to grandfather and/or discontinue provisions of its interstate wireline telecommunications services, including interstate interexchange and exchange access services in the limited parts of New York and New Jersey where copper wireline facilities were destroyed or rendered inoperable by Superstorm Sandy.

Verizon is discontinuing these services in the western and central region of Fire Island starting at the far western section of Kismet and ending at the far eastern section of Point O' Woods, and portions of the Barrier Island communities of Mantoloking, Brick, and Bay Head. Given the extent of the devastation in the affected areas listed above, and in an effort to provide service as quickly as possible and to provide a reliable alternative, Verizon will make available an alternative voice telephone service to these customers using Verizon Voice Link. Verizon has notified its affected customers and copies of the notifications are attached to the Application.

Verizon is filing an original and five copies of this letter with attachment with the Office of the Secretary.

If you have any questions regarding this Application, please contact me at 202-515-2590.

Very truly yours,

Attachment

cc: Secretary of Defense, Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications
Public Utilities Commission for Each Impacted State
Governor of Each Impacted State

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

| | | |
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| <hr/> | | |
| In the Matter of |) | |
| Section 63.71 Application of |) | |
| Verizon New York Inc. and |) | File no. |
| Verizon New Jersey Inc. |) | |
| |) | |
| For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of |) | |
| the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended |) | |
| To Discontinue the Provision of Service |) | |
| <hr/> |) | |

**SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF VERIZON
NEW YORK INC. AND VERIZON NEW JERSEY INC.**

Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc. (collectively “Verizon”) submit this Application for authority under Section 214(a) of the Communications Act and Section 63.71 of the Commission’s rules to grandfather and discontinue provision of its interstate wireline telecommunications services, including interstate interexchange and exchange access service, in some limited parts of New York and New Jersey where copper facilities were destroyed or rendered inoperable by Superstorm Sandy and where the new deployment of wireline facilities is impractical.¹ Specifically, the areas subject to this discontinuance include western portions of Fire Island, New York, and portions of two wire centers serving the Barrier Islands of New Jersey (“the affected areas”).

The devastation from Superstorm Sandy in the affected areas was unprecedented and unforeseeable, with some areas without commercial power or usable infrastructure for many

¹ To the extent the Commission deems necessary, in conjunction with this application Verizon also seeks a waiver of the timing provisions of sections 63.60(b), 63.63(a), and 63.71 of the Commission’s rules. The extent of the destruction from the storm required substantial effort to ascertain which facilities were no longer working and to identify possible solutions in these storm-vulnerable areas even as Verizon teams focused on getting consumers’ communications service restored as quickly and efficiently as possible.

months following the storm. Indeed, in some portions of the Barrier Islands, residents are only now just starting to return to determine future plans (including deciding whether to rebuild). In other areas, including in parts of western Fire Island, damage varies from house-to-house, with some homes losing all service and others continuing to be able to use the existing copper facilities, at least for the time being.

While Verizon is discontinuing its interstate wireline telecommunications services to customers previously served over copper infrastructure that is no longer usable, it nonetheless will make an alternative service available to these customers. In determining how to provide service to customers following the storm, Verizon looks to all of the platforms it has available. Given the extent of the devastation in the affected areas listed above, and in an effort to provide service as quickly as possible and to provide a reliable alternative in certain areas where the deployment of new wireline facilities is not practical, Verizon will make available an alternative voice telephone service to these customers using Verizon Voice Link. Voice Link is a wireless voice service that, like wireline service, uses regular home telephone handsets and existing wiring and jacks within the customer's home. It also provides address-specific E-911 capability comparable to traditional wireline services. Customers using Voice Link make and receive calls just as they would using a wireline technology, at the same or lower price as their prior wireline service.

Customers in these areas whose copper facilities are still working will be permitted to keep using them while the copper works, but their services on these facilities will be grandfathered given the impracticality of repairing these copper facilities in the future should they give out.

Consistent with 63.71(a) and (b) of the Commission's rules, Verizon provides the following information:

1. Name and Address of Carrier (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71 (a)(1), (b)(2)):

Verizon New York Inc.
140 West Street
New York, NY 10007

Verizon New Jersey Inc.
540 Broad Street
Newark, New Jersey 07102

2. Date of Planned Service Discontinuance (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(2), (b)(2)):

The copper wireline facilities in the affected areas were rendered inoperable due to the destruction of copper facilities by Superstorm Sandy on or after October 29, 2012.

3. Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(3), (b)(2)):

Verizon will grandfather and/or discontinue these services in the affected areas. These are the western and central region of Fire Island starting at the far western section of Kismet and ending at the far eastern section of Point O' Woods, and portions of the Barrier Island communities of Mantoloking, Brick, and Bay Head.

4. Brief Description of Type of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(4), (b)(2)):

As discussed above, Superstorm Sandy wreaked havoc on substantial portions of New York and New Jersey and in the process, damaged large swaths of Verizon's copper telecommunications infrastructure beyond reasonable repair. In the affected areas, repairing or replacing damaged facilities would require significant work that would only exacerbate existing infrastructure issues, and would delay the restoration of service for many customers for several months. For example, due to the extent of the damage to copper facilities on Fire Island, replacing those facilities would require digging up the island's main road at repeated intervals

causing additional inconvenience to customers. Additionally, given the prevalence of storms and the ongoing possibility of continued ground and seawater contamination in the affected areas, it is likely that any restoration would be temporary.

Thus, in these limited areas, Verizon is discontinuing its interstate wireline telecommunications services, including interstate interexchange and exchange access service, previously provided over copper infrastructure that is no longer usable. As an alternative, however, Verizon is offering its Voice Link product to customers for voice service. Voice Link is uniquely suited to restoring service to those households in the affected areas that are most vulnerable to heavy damage in the face of major storms. Voice Link will be provided to customers by Verizon's wireline operating companies and will be installed by Verizon union workers, but Voice Link is a service that uses wireless technology, rather than copper facilities, using the same telephone number previously used by the customer. Voice Link works seamlessly with a customer's current telephone (or an off-the-shelf handset). Voice Link is enabled by a small device, provided free of charge, that plugs into an existing telephone jack. It is powered by a standard home electrical outlet, and includes a built-in battery backup option with 36 hours of standby and two hours of talk life; customers may use off the shelf batteries to extend this backup time. The service also provides customers with fully enabled E-911 capability, nationwide calling, assistance services, telecommunications relay services, and directory listings. Customers of the service will be able to obtain non-published service. Depending on a customer's plan, Voice Link also offers a variety of additional features, including Call Waiting, Call Forwarding (includes no answer/busy transfer), 3-way Calling, Voice Mail, 411, Caller ID (with Return Call), and Caller ID Block. Total charges for Voice Link will be comparable to the total price previously paid by the customer for voice service, and

there will be no installation charges. For data customers, Verizon will refer customers to a Verizon Wireless specialist for 4G LTE broadband services in Voice Link areas.

The Voice Link service offers consumers a voice communications capability that is comparable to what they had before. However, because Voice Link uses wireless service from Verizon Wireless that the wireline telephone companies will resell in order to provide service to customers, certain interstate wireline telecommunications services, such as interstate interexchange and exchange access service, will no longer be available. Additionally, some functionalities that are not telecommunications services – such as alarm systems or facsimile machines – may not work over Voice Link. Verizon also is working cooperatively with its customers and with other entities to help identify additional options for those functionalities that may not work over a Voice Link product.

In addition to the alternatives provided by Voice Link, consumers in some areas, including the Barrier Islands, have the option of alternative services from cable and/or from wireless providers. Given the extent of the destruction from the storm and the difficulties and delay inherent in rebuilding, the public convenience and necessity will not be impaired by this discontinuance.²

5. Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers (47 C.F.R. § 63.71 (b)(3)):

Verizon provided notice via U.S. mail on June 6 and 7, 2013, to all retail wireline customers within the affected areas. Additionally, Verizon provided notice on June 7, 2013, to All Users of Access, via email and by posting on its website, in accordance with established procedures for notifications to these entities. Copies of the notices are attached at Exhibit A.

² Indeed, Verizon's tariff indicates that services are offered only to the extent facilities are available. *See* FCC Tariff Number 11, Section 2.1.4. The facilities previously existing here were rendered not-available by Sandy.

Verizon is sending copies of this Application by first class U.S. Mail to the governor and public utilities commission for each affected state as well as to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications to the Secretary of Defense, as required by Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's rules.

6. Regulatory Classification of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(b)(4)):

Verizon is classified for regulatory purposes under the Commission's rules as dominant with respect to the services to be discontinued.

CONCLUSION

Verizon respectfully requests that the Commission approve this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Katharine R. Saunders

William H. Johnson

Katharine R. Saunders

Verizon

1320 N. Courthouse Rd.

9th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201

(703) 351-3097

Michael E. Glover
Of Counsel

June 7, 2013

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 7th day of June, 2013, I served a copy of the foregoing Section 63.71 Application by U.S. Mail postage prepaid to the following parties on the attached service list.

/s/ Katharine R. Saunders
Katharine R. Saunders

SERVICE LIST

NEW JERSEY

Robert M. Hanna
President
New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
44 S. Clinton Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08625

The Honorable Chris Christie
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

NEW YORK

Garry A. Brown
Chairman
New York State Public Service
Commission
Office of Consumer Service
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, NY 12223-1350

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Asst. for
Telecommunications
Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

EXHIBIT A

PO Box 31315
Salt Lake City UT 84131-0315



June 7, 2013

VER5923
Customer Name
Billing Address
Billing City, State Zip
USPS Barcode

Dear Customer Name,

As you know, Superstorm Sandy was a storm of historic proportions that destroyed or damaged large portions of the telecommunications infrastructure of Verizon New York Inc. in parts of New York. In particular, on or around October 29, 2012, Sandy destroyed much of Verizon's traditional copper wireline network on the western end of New York's Fire Island.

Given the extent of the devastation and in order to provide more reliable long term service, we are discontinuing our wireline telephone services in these affected areas. However, to provide service and a reliable alternative in these areas, Verizon has developed a service restoration plan that utilizes the resilient wireless network to offer an alternative voice telephone service. Customers previously served by copper that has been destroyed, or that deteriorates in the future, will be served via Verizon Voice Link, a voice service that uses a wireless connection to the premises but, like wireline service, uses regular telephone handsets and existing wiring and jacks. It also provides address-specific E-911 capability comparable to traditional wireline services. Customers using Voice Link make and receive calls just as they would using a wireline technology. Voice Link also provides nationwide calling, all at the same or lower price as their prior wireline service. Your total charges for Voice Link will be equal to or less than what you previously paid, and there will be no installation charges. Some functionalities may change between Voice Link and the prior copper facilities, such as certain alarm systems or facsimile machines that may not work over Voice Link. For data service, we will refer you to a Verizon Wireless specialist for 4G LTE broadband services in Voice Link areas. Additionally, in some areas you may have the option of obtaining wireless or cable service from an alternate provider.

If you are a customer in an area with copper facilities that are still working, your service will be grandfathered, meaning you can continue receiving service over those facilities while the copper still works. But, given the impracticality of repairing those copper facilities in the future, your services will be moved to Voice Link once the copper gives out. Which alternative is best for you depends upon how you were using the services, and we can help you investigate service options that may meet your unique needs. Please contact us if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Verizon New York Inc.

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Continued from reverse side

FCC Required Notice: The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

This notice is provided on behalf of the following Verizon operating telephone companies:

Verizon New York Inc.
140 West Street
New York, NY 10007

PO Box 31315
Salt Lake City UT 84131-0315



June 7, 2013

VER5923
Customer Name
Billing Address
Billing City, State Zip
USPS Barcode

Dear Customer Name,

As you know, Superstorm Sandy was a storm of historic proportions that destroyed or damaged large portions of the telecommunications infrastructure of Verizon New Jersey Inc. in parts of the New Jersey coast. In particular, on or around October 29, 2012, Sandy destroyed much of Verizon's traditional copper wireline network on portions of the New Jersey Barrier Island communities of Mantoloking, Brick, and Bay Head.

Given the extent of the devastation and in order to provide more reliable long term service, we are discontinuing our wireline telephone services in these affected areas. However, to provide service and a reliable alternative in these areas, Verizon has developed a service restoration plan that utilizes the resilient wireless network to offer an alternative voice telephone service. Customers previously served by copper that has been destroyed, or that deteriorates in the future, will be served via Verizon Voice Link, a voice service that uses a wireless connection to the premises but, like wireline service, uses regular telephone handsets and existing wiring and jacks. It also provides address-specific E-911 capability comparable to traditional wireline services. Customers using Voice Link make and receive calls just as they would using a wireline technology. Voice Link also provides nationwide calling, all at the same or lower price as their prior wireline service. Your total charges for Voice Link will be equal to or less than what you previously paid, and there will be no installation charges. Some functionalities may change between Voice Link and the prior copper facilities, such as certain alarm systems or facsimile machines that may not work over Voice Link. For data service, we will refer you to a Verizon Wireless specialist for 4G LTE broadband services in Voice Link areas. Additionally, in some areas you may have the option of obtaining wireless or cable service from an alternate provider.

If you are a customer in an area with copper facilities that are still working, your service will be grandfathered, meaning you can continue receiving service over those facilities while the copper still works. But, given the impracticality of repairing those copper facilities in the future, your services will be moved to Voice Link once the copper gives out. Which alternative is best for you depends upon how you were using the services, and we can help you investigate service options that may meet your unique needs. Please contact us if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Verizon New Jersey Inc.

Continued on reverse side

Continued from reverse side

FCC Required Notice: The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

This notice is provided on behalf of the following Verizon operating telephone companies:

Verizon New Jersey Inc.
540 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102

June 7, 2013

Audience: CLEC, CMRS, ISP, IXC, Resellers

Subject: Verizon Industry Letter: Grandfathering and Discontinuance of Interstate Wireline Telecommunications Services, including Interstate Interexchange and Exchange Access Service In Portions of Fire Island and the Barrier Islands

As you know, Superstorm Sandy was a storm of historic proportions that destroyed or damaged large portions of the telecommunications infrastructure of Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc. (collectively "Verizon") in parts of New York and the New Jersey coast. In particular, on or around October 29, 2012, Sandy destroyed much of Verizon's traditional copper wireline facilities on the western end of New York's Fire Island, and in portions of the New Jersey Barrier Island communities of Mantoloking, Brick, and Bay Head.

In light of the substantial damage to much of Verizon's outside plant facilities on the western end of New York's Fire Island and in portions of the New Jersey Barrier Island communities of Mantoloking, Brick, and Bay Head, Verizon is grandfathering and discontinuing provision of its interstate wireline telecommunications services, including interstate interexchange and exchange access service in these affected areas.

Where existing copper pairs are still functional in these areas, Verizon will continue to use them to provide service on a grandfathered basis to the extent possible in accordance with applicable tariffs and agreements. However, Verizon will discontinue interstate interexchange and exchange access service where outside plant facilities were rendered inoperable by Hurricane Sandy and/or where surviving copper facilities become inoperable in the future. (Verizon will deploy and repair copper facilities to provide landline service on an as-needed basis to firehouses, police stations, and other government buildings.)

For inquiries related to this change, please contact your Verizon Account Manager.

Verizon Global Wholesale, on behalf of:

Verizon New York Inc.
140 West Street
New York, NY 10007
and

Verizon New Jersey Inc.
540 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102

FCC Required Notice: The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service (or reduction or impairment) unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than 30 days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC, 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the § 63.71 Application of Verizon New York Inc. and Verizon New Jersey Inc. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance (or reduction or impairment) upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.