

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: VERIZON RHODE ISLAND : Docket No. 3692  
ALTERNATE FORM OF :  
REGULATION PLAN :

**MOTION OF THE GEORGE WILEY CENTER TO  
COMPEL ANSWERS TO DATA REQUESTS**

The George Wiley Center (Wiley Center or Center) moves that the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) compel Verizon Rhode Island (Verizon) to answer questions 1-1 and 1-3 in the *First Set of Data Requests of the George Wiley Center to Verizon*.

Verizon has objected to providing this information to the Wiley Center on the ground that the information sought is “proprietary and competitively sensitive in nature,” and on the ground that the request was untimely and the information is not likely to lead to the discovery of admissible information and *Verizon’s Reply to the First Data Request of the Wiley Center*. None of these objections is meritorious for the following reasons:

1. The information sought concerns the number of customer’s terminated for non-payment in 2005 (Request 1-1) and the average balance due of such terminated customers (Request 1-3)
2. This information is not “proprietary or competitively sensitive.” Under Rhode Island law, information is proprietary and therefore confidential only if it would “cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the person from whom the information was obtained.” *In re New England Gas Co.*, 842 A.2d 545, 555 (R.I. 2004).
3. This kind of information is routinely provided by other utilities, and, on information and belief, has been provided in the past by Verizon in public proceedings.

4. Verizon offers no reason whatever for concluding that this information is proprietary or competitively sensitive.
5. Nothing about the number of terminations, or the average balance due on such terminations, would place Verizon at a competitive disadvantage in relation to its competitors. FIX
6. These requests were not late. They were made on December 9, 2005, shortly after the Wiley Center first learned of the pendency of these proceedings in late November.
7. The timing of this discovery by the Wiley Center was the result of the failure of Verizon to inform either the Wiley Center, or the public at large, of the pendency of these proceedings. Public notice did not occur until November 25, 2005.
8. The requests are likely to lead not just to admissible information, but to information critical to any reasoned consideration of Verizon's proposal to reduce the Lifeline subsidy. The number of terminations due to non-payment, and the amount due on such accounts, are important measures of the extent of the need for the Lifeline subsidy.

Respectfully submitted,  
The George Wiley Center  
By its attorney,

---

B. Jean Rosiello #2886  
340 Olney Street  
Providence, RI 02906  
Tel.: 401-751-5090  
Fax: 401-751-5096  
Email: [jeanrosiello@cox.net](mailto:jeanrosiello@cox.net)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2005, I caused a copy of this document to be e-mailed to each of the following:

[Theresa.obrien@verizon.com](mailto:Theresa.obrien@verizon.com)

[Alexander.w.moore@verizon.com](mailto:Alexander.w.moore@verizon.com)

[Lwold@riag.state.ri.us](mailto:Lwold@riag.state.ri.us)

[sscialabba@ripuc.state.ri.us](mailto:sscialabba@ripuc.state.ri.us)

[bkent@ripuc.state.ri.us](mailto:bkent@ripuc.state.ri.us)

[jlanni@ripuc.state.ri.us](mailto:jlanni@ripuc.state.ri.us)

[mbotelho@riag.state.ri.us](mailto:mbotelho@riag.state.ri.us)

[wlueker@riag.state.ri.us](mailto:wlueker@riag.state.ri.us)

[Tweiss1@nc.rr.com](mailto:Tweiss1@nc.rr.com)

[jose.jimenez@cox.com](mailto:jose.jimenez@cox.com)

[robert.howley@cox.com](mailto:robert.howley@cox.com)

[wayne.lafferty@comcast.net](mailto:wayne.lafferty@comcast.net)

[Ceaton@apslaw.com](mailto:Ceaton@apslaw.com)

[Ashoer@conversent.com](mailto:Ashoer@conversent.com)

---