



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

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Patrick C. Lynch, Attorney General

February 27, 2008

Luly E. Massaro, Clerk
Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02888

Re: Docket No. 3917

Dear Ms. Massaro,

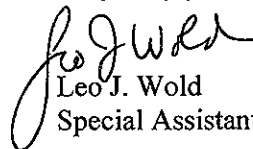
I am writing on behalf of the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers ("Division"). On January 30, 2008, Verizon Rhode Island ("Verizon") filed a tariff with the Commission seeking to introduce a new pricing discount option to customers who *"are in the process of disconnecting their dial tone service and agree to retain the service."* See Proposed PUC RI No. 15.13.2(F)(ii) and PUC RI No. 15.14.2(E)(ii) (emphasis added).

On February 25, 2008, the Division received a copy of a letter from Alan M. Shoer, Esq. representing Cox Rhode Island Telcom, LLC ("Cox Telcom"). In the letter, Cox Telcom expresses concern that Verizon Rhode Island, through its proposed tariff, may be seeking to apply the discount, and retention marketing efforts, when "Verizon learns of a customer's request to disconnect through a carrier-to-carrier port request." If this is the case, then according to Cox Telcom, Verizon may be in violation of section 222 of the Communications Act and FCC Rules.

Due to the seriousness of the allegations, the Division recommends that the Commission strike the above quoted language contained in the proposed tariff. (The Division does not oppose the balance of the proposed tariff.) Should the FCC resolve the complaint that is annexed to Cox Telcom's February 25, 2008 letter in a manner that would permit Verizon to engage in the putatively prohibited conduct, Verizon may always seek to re-include the stricken language in an amended tariff.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,



Leo J. Wold

Special Assistant Attorney General

cc: Service List