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January 7, 2016

Ms. Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission
89 Jefferson Boulevard
Warwick, Rhode Island 02888

Dear Ms. Massaro:

We are filing, herewith, for effect February 9, 2016, tariff material consisting of:

PUC RI No. 15

Part/Section	Revision of Page(s)	Original of Page(s)
TOC	1	N/A
A/1	25	N/A

PUC RI No. 22

Part/Section	Revision of Page(s)	Original of Page(s)
5	1 and 2	N/A

With this filing, Verizon Rhode Island (“Verizon RI”) will discontinue the of resale of Lifeline and Link Up discounted retail services pursuant to the FCCs rulings in Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, et al., WC Docket No. 11-42 et al., Second Report and Order, FCC15-71, released June 22, 2015 (the Lifeline Second Report and Order) (effective August 13, 2015). Accordingly, Verizon will cease providing resold Lifeline and Link Up services in all jurisdictions effective February 9, 2016. In addition, Verizon will eliminate the Lifeline discount on all existing resold Lifeline services effective February 9, 2016.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at 617-743-4649. Enclosed are originals and nine copies of the tariff pages. Please return a copy of this letter with your stamp of receipt.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Eagen CB

Senior Consultant – Regulatory – MA/RI

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Verizon New England Inc.

1. Tariff Information and General Regulations
1.6 Customer Assistance Programs

1.6.1 Lifeline	
E.	The service of an eligible customer receiving the Lifeline credit may not be disconnected for non-payment of toll charges unless a waiver of this provision is granted by the PUC.
F.	A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals living together at the same address as one economic unit.

1.6.2 Link-Up America – Effective June 1, 2012, the Link-Up America Program is available only to Native Americans living on tribal lands.	
A.	Link-Up America is a connection assistance plan that provides reduced connection charges for low income households, for one telephone line per household at the principal place of residence. The applicant must satisfy certain income tests established by the Federal Government for low-income customers residing on tribal lands.
B.	In order to qualify for connection assistance unless the applicant is more than 60 years old, the applicant must not be a dependent for federal income tax purposes.
C.	The reduction in connection charges provided by this program is applicable only to the service and equipment charge to install a network access line. The reduction is equal to one-half of such amount, not to exceed thirty dollars.

1.6.3 Enhanced Lifeline	
A.	In addition to the reduction provided for under Lifeline (refer to Section 1.6.1), qualifying low-income individuals living on tribal lands are eligible to receive an additional basic monthly service rate reduction such that a minimum basic monthly service rate of one dollar, per month, per primary residential connection will apply.

1.6.4 Expanded Link-Up America	
A.	In addition to the reduction provided for under Link-Up America (refer to Section 1.6.2), qualifying low income individuals living on tribal lands are eligible to receive an additional reduction on their service connection charges, not to exceed \$70.00, such that the combined reductions do not exceed one-hundred dollars per qualifying low income subscriber.
1.	The combined reduction is intended to cover any standard charges imposed as a condition of initiating service, including both line extension and initial connection charges up to the maximum amount of one hundred dollars. This reduction is not applicable to CPE, customer premises wiring (i.e., inside wiring), or other costs incurred on the customer side of the network interface/demarcation point.

1.6.5 Resale and Sharing	
A.	As of February 9, 2016 the following programs will no longer be available for resale: Lifeline, Link-Up America, Enhanced Lifeline and Expanded Link Up America Program.

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Verizon New England Inc.

5. Resale and Sharing
5.1 Description

Rates and charges for services explained herein are contained in Section 10.5.

5.1.1 General	
A.	Resale is the sale to another person of telecommunications services purchased from the Telephone Company. A customer purchases for resale when such customer purchases a service for the purpose of reselling it to another (rather than the purpose of using the service itself).
1.	A purchasing agent who orders services for its principal, and who does not itself agree to assume the obligations of a reseller under this tariff, is not purchasing for resale within the meaning of this tariff.
2.	The purchase of telecommunications services under terms of this tariff for the purpose of provisioning a different service (such as the purchase of the Telephone Company's switched carrier access service for the purpose of provisioning an interexchange carrier's toll service) is not resale within the meaning of this tariff.
3.	A person purchasing a service for shared use by that person and others is purchasing for resale within the meaning of this tariff if such person agrees to assume all the obligations of a reseller under this tariff.
B.	Where a reseller purchases Telephone Company exchange service from the Telephone Company and resells it to an end user, such reseller's end user will be able to access any and all services that a Telephone Company end user would be able to access on a Telephone Company exchange service line. Such services to the extent provided by the Telephone Company will be deemed to have been sold to the reseller by the Telephone Company as they are utilized by the reseller's end user, and the reseller will be responsible to the Telephone Company for payment of such services.

5.1.2 Services Offered for Resale	
A.	The services offered under this tariff are those that are offered by the Telephone Company to end users under the regulations, terms and conditions of the RI Product Guide and the PUC RI No. 15, except for public telephone service, Lifeline and Link Up America programs, and in accordance with the following limitations. (T) (C)
1.	Services in the RI Product Guide and PUC RI No. 15 that have been designated as no longer available for new installations or no longer offered are not offered for resale except that such services are only available for resale to the embedded base of end users who were permitted to retain such service(s) in accordance with the regulations contained in the RI Product Guide and PUC RI No. 15. (T)
2.	Promotional programs (e.g., discounts, waivers, credits, certificates, premiums, discounted product trials or other inducements) made available to end users for a period of 90 days or less, and that are offered in order to promote the sale of a service) are offered for resale, however they are not subject to the resale discount specified in Section 5.3. (T)

Verizon New England Inc.

5. Resale and Sharing
5.1 Description

5.1.2 Services Offered for Resale	
B.	Services that are sold to Telephone Company end users only in conjunction with the purchase of basic dial tone service will be available for resale only in conjunction with the resale of basic dial tone service and not on a stand alone basis.
C.	Lifeline — The resale of Lifeline is discontinued effective February 9, 2016.
1.	
D.	Link Up America — The resale of Lifeline is discontinued effective February 9, 2016.
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E.	Blocking — Resellers are allowed to purchase blocking services to restrict end user access to particular capabilities to the extent such services are available under and on the same terms and conditions as set forth in the RI Product Guide and PUC RI No. 15.

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November 09 , 2015

Audience: Resellers

**Subject : Verizon Partner Solutions Industry Letter: Verizon Industry Letter:
Discontinuation of Resale of Lifeline and Link Up Discounted Retail Services**

This notice concerns discontinuation of resale of Lifeline and Link Up discounted retail services pursuant to the FCC's rulings in *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, et al.*, WC Docket No. 11-42 et al., Second Report and Order, FCC 15-71, released June 22, 2015 (the Lifeline Second Report and Order) (effective August 13, 2015).

Under the Lifeline Second Report and Order, the FCC eliminated: (i) any obligation Verizon had under Section 251(c)(4) of the Act to offer for resale its Lifeline and/or Link Up discounted retail offerings, and (ii) any reimbursement to Verizon for any resold Lifeline and/or Link Up services. The Second Report and Order established a transition period of 180 days before the above-referenced changes become effective. Accordingly, Verizon will cease providing resold Lifeline and Link Up service in all jurisdictions effective February 9, 2016. In addition, Verizon will eliminate the Lifeline discount on all existing resold Lifeline services effective February 9, 2016.

Resellers that currently purchase Lifeline discounted services from Verizon for resale purposes will receive an additional notice regarding this matter pursuant to the terms of their interconnection agreement with Verizon.

If your company does not currently purchase Lifeline discounted services from Verizon for resale purposes and believes in good faith that your interconnection agreement with Verizon requires an amendment regarding the above actions, please provide written support for your position to your Verizon Account Manager within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact your Account Manager.

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