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November 1, 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 December 1, 2016, tariff material consisting of:

PUC RI No. 15

Part/Section	Revision of Pages	Original of Pages
A/1	24	N/A

With this filing, Verizon Rhode Island (“Verizon RI”) proposes to update the list of qualifying lifeline programs in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) Lifeline Order in WC Docket No. 11-42.

Enclosed are an original and nine copies of the tariff pages. Please return a copy of this letter with your stamp of receipt.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher Bean

Attachment

Verizon New England Inc.

1. Tariff Information and General Regulations
1.6 Customer Assistance Programs

1.6.1 Lifeline	
A.	Lifeline provides for a reduction in the monthly rate for one exchange service line per household for eligible residence customers. The Telephone Company will provide through Lifeline, rate payer funded assistance to eligible customers. Eligible customers include the following.
1.	Recipients of Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
2.	
3.	
4.	Participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
5.	
6.	Recipients of Medicaid
7.	
8.	Recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
9.	
10.	
11.	Customers whose annual income is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guideline
12.	Veterans Pension Benefit
13.	Veterans Survivors Pension Benefit
14.	Individuals who live on Tribal Lands and participate in one of the following programs:
a.	The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) General Assistance
b.	Head Start (income eligible)
c.	Tribally Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Tribal TANF)
d.	The Food Distribution Program
B.	Eligibility will be determined by the relevant government agency in accordance with guidelines on file with the agency. Upon receipt by the Telephone Company of eligibility certification by said agency or its designee, the Telephone Company will provide a reduction as specified as follows.
1.	A reduction applies to the monthly rate for one residence exchange service line furnished to an eligible residence exchange service customer. This reduction may be applied to the monthly rate for the following services.
a.	One- or two-party exchange service.
C.	A monthly local usage allowance applies to Lifeline customers who subscribe to measured service.
D.	A Lifeline service customer may voluntarily choose to block toll calls and access to interexchange carriers. Blocking is provided to Lifeline customers without charge.
1.	An eligible customer who elects toll blocking shall not be required to provide a service deposit to initiate Lifeline credit.

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