
State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held March 19, 2007

Attendees: Chairman Elia Germani, Commissioner Robert Holbrook, Commissioner Mary Bray, Steve Frias, Patricia Lucarelli, Alan Nault, Douglas Hartley and Luly Massaro.

Chairman Germani called the open meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission. A quorum was present.

3828 – Verizon Rhode Island: Verizon filed notice to introduce three residential promotional programs. Two of the promotional programs begin March 19, 2007 and ends June 16, 2007. Customers who subscribe to the promotion will receive a monthly bill credit for twelve months. Cox RI Telcom filed a request to suspend the two promotions noting that Verizon is in violation of the rules in that the benefits offered by Verizon's promotion extends beyond the six-month period allowed in the rules. The Division filed a recommendation noting that customers will not be harmed as a result of the Verizon's promotions, and therefore, does not oppose that it goes into effect.

The Commissioners were in agreement that the six-month rule applies to the term of the promotional offering and not the term of the benefit. The term of benefit offered in a promotional program is not elaborated in prior orders. After review, Chairman Germani moved to deny Cox's request and allowed Verizon's promotional offerings to go into effect today. Commissioner Holbrook seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.** The parties may request further clarification on the policy governing promotional programs in a separate proceeding.

The open meeting adjourned at 10:10 A.M.