

STATE OF MICHIGAN

BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter, on the Commission's own motion, to )  
commence a collaborative proceeding to monitor and )  
facilitate implementation of Accessible Letters issued )  
by **SBC MICHIGAN** and **VERIZON**. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Case No. U-14447

At the December 20, 2005 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing,  
Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. J. Peter Lark, Chairman  
Hon. Laura Chappelle, Commissioner  
Hon. Monica Martinez, Commissioner

**ORDER**

On September 20, 2005, the Commission issued an order in this case, in which it resolved issues related to amending interconnection agreements between AT&T Michigan, f/k/a SBC Michigan, and competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) in order to conform to the requirements in the *Triennial Review Remand Order (TRRO)*<sup>1</sup> and implementing rules. The Commission directed AT&T Michigan and the CLECs to file the amendments for approval within 30 days of the order.

On October 20, 2005, AT&T Michigan and the CLECs having interconnection agreements with the incumbent filed a joint request for an extension of time to file the conforming agreements. The Commission grants that request.

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<sup>1</sup>*In the Matter of Unbundled Access to Network Elements, WC Docket No. 04-313 and Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, CC Docket No. 01-338*, rel'd February 4, 2005.

In the September 20 order, the Commission also found that Verizon North Inc. and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems (collectively, Verizon) should be permitted to negotiate with affected CLECs to reach an agreement on the appropriate amendment to their interconnection agreements to comply with the *TRRO*. Among other things, the Commission set out a procedure for participation in an abbreviated collaborative process for Verizon and all CLECs that have interconnection agreements with Verizon to pursue an appropriate amendment to those agreements.

On November 18, 2005, Verizon and the CLECs that participated in the collaborative process filed a joint petition to terminate the abbreviated collaborative process and modify the September 20 order to permit any interested carrier to negotiate with Verizon separately for an appropriate amendment, unrestricted to the dates and timeframes set forth in the September 20 order. The joint petition explains that after many hours of fruitful discussion, all but two of the parties to the collaborative process opted to either forgo negotiation for an amendment at this time, or to negotiate with Verizon separately. For those two remaining carriers, Verizon agreed to negotiate outside the collaborative process also.

The joint petition requests that the Commission: (1) terminate the abbreviated collaborative process explained in the September 20 order; (2) find that collaborative participants are free to negotiate separately and independently for a *TRRO* amendment; (3) direct that if the two remaining carriers and Verizon have unresolved issues on January 9, 2006, they may submit those issues on that date along with all supporting documentation and arguments to support their positions to the Commission for resolution under 47 USC 251 *et seq.*; (4) direct that responses to any issues may be filed by February 6, 2006; (5) find that any of these three parties may request that the Commission Staff mediate any issue during negotiations; and (6) find that one or more

collaborative participants may jointly request the Commission to initiate a new collaborative process such as the one established in the Commission's September 20 order at a later time to assist these parties in negotiating an appropriate amendment.

After a review of the joint petition filed by Verizon and the affected CLECs, the Commission finds that the joint petition should be granted.

The Commission FINDS that:

a. Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1991 PA 179, as amended, MCL 484.2101 *et seq.*; the Communications Act of 1934, as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, 47 USC 151 *et seq.*; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 *et seq.*; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1999 AC, R 460.17101 *et seq.*

b. The joint request for an extension of time to file conforming amendments required by the September 20 order with respect to AT&T Michigan's interconnection agreements should be granted.

c. The procedures adopted with respect to Verizon in the September 20 order should be modified to terminate the abbreviated collaborative process and implement in its stead the jointly proposed process for negotiating these amendments.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. The joint request for an extension of time to file conforming amendments required by the September 20, 2005 order with respect to AT&T Michigan's interconnection agreements is granted.

B. The procedures adopted with respect to amending the interconnection agreements of Verizon North Inc. and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems, are hereby

modified to terminate the abbreviated collaborative process established in the September 20, 2005 order and to implement, in its stead, the jointly proposed process for negotiation.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

/s/ J. Peter Lark

Chairman

( S E A L )

/s/ Laura Chappelle

Commissioner

/s/ Monica Martinez

Commissioner

By its action of December 20, 2005.

/s/ Mary Jo Kunkle

Its Executive Secretary

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MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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Chairman

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

By its action of December 20, 2005.

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Its Executive Secretary