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March 22, 2012

Honorable Jaclyn A. Brillling, Secretary
New York State Public Service Commission
- and -
Honorable Howard A. Jack, Administrative Law Judge
New York State Department of Public Service
Three Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223

***Re: Case 09-M-0527: Proceeding to Examine Issues Related to a Universal Service Fund.
Request for Further Modification of Briefing Schedule***

Dear Secretary Brillling and Judge Jack:

On March 2, 2012, Verizon New York Inc. (“Verizon”) and various parties requested that the deadline for filing exceptions to the January 4, 2012 Recommended Decision (“RD”) in this proceeding be further extended in view of the impending settlement discussions between the parties. By Notice dated March 6, 2012, the request was granted and the Secretary extended the due date for Briefs on Exceptions to March 28, 2012. In addition, on March 16, 2012, the Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued an order increasing the cap on the Temporary Transition Fund Extension (“TTFE”) by \$350,000.¹

The parties have had a number of conferences since our initial requests, and several more are anticipated over the next month. Various proposals have been presented and discussed by the parties. The Cable Telecommunications Association of New York, Inc. strongly believes that progress is being made, and that there is a significant possibility that an agreement can be reached if the parties’ efforts continue. The Commission’s March 16, 2012 Order increasing the TTFE cap ensures that there will be sufficient funds available to facilitate this schedule. Accordingly, the undersigned parties respectfully request a further one month extension of the deadlines for exceptions to April 30, 2012 and briefs opposing exceptions to May 21, 2012. We are authorized to state that Department of Public Service Staff, Verizon, The NYSTA Smaller ILECs, the Cable Telecommunications Association of New York, Inc., Mr. Allan Flacks, The Department of State’s Utility Intervention Unit, Sprint/Nextel, LLP, tw telecom of new york l.p. and Level 3 Communications LLC support this request.

¹ CASE 09-M-0527 - *Proceeding to Examine Issues Related to a Universal Service Fund*, Order Increasing Cap on Temporary Transition Fund Extension, (March 16, 2012)

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Maureen O. Helmer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "M".

Maureen O. Helmer

cc: Service List