

[Service Date September 15, 2010]

September 15, 2010

**NOTICE OF PROCEDURE TO PREVENT CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND/OR
APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY**

RE: *In the Matter of the Joint Application of VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,
AND FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION For an Order Declining
to Assert Jurisdiction Over, or, in the Alternative, Approving the Indirect Transfer
of Control of Verizon Northwest Inc., Docket UT-090842*

TO ALL PARTIES:

On September 16, 2010, Gregory J. Kopta will commence employment with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) as the Director of the Administrative Law Division. The Director of the Administrative Law Division supervises the administrative law judges and ordinarily has access to the same documents and communications as the administrative law judge assigned to a particular case. However, in the above-mentioned proceeding, Mr. Kopta formerly served as counsel for a party, Comcast Phone of Washington.

To avoid any conflict of interest or appearance of impropriety, Mr. Kopta will not supervise the work of the administrative law judge assigned to this matter. Senior Review Judge, Dennis Moss, will perform any supervisory tasks associated with this case. Moreover, the Commission prohibits the Commissioners, administrative law judges, policy staff, Commission Staff, or assistant attorneys general assigned to this case from communicating with Mr. Kopta regarding this matter. Further, Mr. Kopta will not have access to any non-public electronic or paper documents related to this case.

If you have any questions, please contact me by e-mail at pclark@utc.wa.gov, or by phone at 360-664-1136.

Sincerely,

PATRICIA CLARK
Administrative Law Judge