

September 12, 2011

**NOTICE OF BENCH REQUEST NO. 3
(Due by Monday, September 19, 2011)**

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 Verizon Northwest Inc., Docket UT-090842*

TO ALL PARTIES:

The following bench request is directed to Frontier Communications Northwest, Inc.

Bench Request No. 3: On August 18, 2011, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) received from Frontier Communications Northwest, Inc., (Company or Frontier NW) a second petition for approval of release of funds from broadband escrow account (Petition). The Company seeks reimbursement of funds expended from February 1, 2011, through July 31, 2011. Frontier requests expedited consideration of its request.

The Commission Staff (Staff) is in the process of reviewing the Petition requesting \$4,070,905 in reimbursement of funds from the escrow account. However, the Petition does not contain sufficient information for Staff to complete its review. To complete its review, Commission Staff needs the following additional information. Expedious and complete responses to the following questions will facilitate that review.

1. With respect to Attachment B appended to the Petition (Attachment B), please provide the engineering documents (bearing the Company title "TEO Summary") and the actual expense summary associated with each of the following line item numbers:
 - a. Line Nos. 1, 7, 24, 61, 76, 81, 91, 101, 102, 116, 121, 126, 160, 168, 174, 177, 180, and 182.¹
2. Please provide a complete explanation of Frontier NW's overall budget revision process. That explanation must include, but is not limited to, responses to the following questions:

¹ Frontier requested that the information contained in Attachment B be designated as "highly confidential" so the sole means for designating the needed information is through the use of non-confidential line item numbers.

- a. Is a budget revision triggered by an increase (or decrease) of a specific amount?
 - b. Is a budget revision triggered by adding or subtracting major units to a job?
 - c. What other factors, if any, initiate a budget revision?
3. With respect to Attachment B, Column 6 entitled “Total Actuals” and Column 7 entitled “Completion Date,” please explain the request for additional reimbursement for projects that have a listed completion date prior to February 1, 2011.
 4. With respect to Attachment B, Column 8 entitled “Total Household Availability to Date,” please explain:
 - a. the data source and method used to derive the numbers in this column; and
 - b. the month and year defining the term “date” in the title of this column.
 5. Frontier committed to providing 50 percent broadband service to each “un-served” and “under-served” wire center by December 31, 2011.² For each “un-served” and “under-served” wire center, please provide a detailed update with verifiable data and an explanation of method of Frontier’s progress toward meeting this commitment.
 6. Frontier must make available retail broadband internet access service with a download speed to 1.5 Mbps or higher and an upload speed of 381 kbps or higher to 75 percent of the households in its service area by the end of 2011.³ Please provide information and verifiable data to demonstrate Frontier’s progress toward meeting this commitment.

Please provide an original and three copies of this information by the due date above.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. DANNER
Executive Director and Secretary

cc: All Parties

²*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 Verizon Northwest Inc., Docket UT-090842, Order 06, Appendix A, ¶ 15 (April 16, 2010).*

³ *Id.* at ¶ 16.