

Dear Bob, I apologize as well for being a bit late in responding to your e-mail. From the standpoint of Verizon Northwest Inc. the Company thinks the most important threshold issue is whether separate, new ETC requirements should be imposed on ILEC's such as Verizon when such ILEC's are already subject to extensive regulation at the state level and when Verizon receives no high cost loop support.

Thanks , Judy Endejan