

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE**

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION )  
OF BELL ATLANTIC-DELAWARE, INC., N/K/A )  
VERIZON DELAWARE LLC, AND SPRINT )  
COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, L.P., FOR ) PSC DOCKET NO. 99-296  
APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT )  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 252(e) OF THE TELE- )  
COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996 )  
(FILED JUNE 25, 1999) )

**ORDER NO. 7345**

**A. BACKGROUND**

1. On June 25, 1999, Sprint Communications Company, L.P. ("Sprint"),<sup>1</sup> and Bell Atlantic-Delaware, Inc., n/k/a Verizon Delaware LLC ("Verizon"), asked the Commission to approve an interconnection agreement negotiated between the two parties. By PSC Order No. 5186 (Sept. 14, 1999), the Commission approved the negotiated agreement under the standards set forth in 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A).<sup>2</sup> That Order required the parties to submit for approval any later changes to the approved agreement.

2. On October 21, 2007, Verizon filed a letter including Amendments Nos. 6 & 7 to the Interconnection Agreement between Verizon and Sprint. Amendment No. 6 details provisions relating to a unitary rate for intercarrier compensation for certain types of traffic, as well

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<sup>1</sup>Sprint Communications Company, L.P., holds a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("CPCN") to provide local exchange telecommunications services within this State. See PSC Order No. 4302 (Sept. 24, 1996).

<sup>2</sup>Amendments Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 to the original Agreement were filed with the Commission on August 28, 2000, May 15, 2001, and June 28, 2001, respectively. These amendments were approved by the Commission by Orders Nos. 5589 (Nov. 21, 2000), 5774 (July 7, 2001), and 5792 (Sept. 4, 2001), respectively. Amendment No. 5 was filed on December 8, 2004 but later withdrawn.

as interconnection architecture arrangements. Amendment No. 7 provides detailed provisions relating to DS0 loop rates and resale discount rates.

3. Pursuant to Guideline 30 of the Commission's "Guidelines for Negotiations, Mediation, Arbitration, and Approval of Agreements Between Local Exchange Telecommunications Carriers" (as revised effective May 10, 2001), notice of the filing of the Amendments was posted on the Commission's website.

4. Only Staff filed comments in response to the notice. Staff reported that there was no reason to reject the proffered Amendments. The Commission considered Amendments Nos. 6 and 7 at its meeting of January 8, 2008.

#### **C. FINDINGS AND OPINION**

5. The Commission has the authority and jurisdiction to review the Amendments to the interconnection agreement under 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1) and 26 Del. C. § 703(4).

6. The Commission determines that there is no reason to reject the Amendments under the review criteria set forth in 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A). The Commission has not received any information to suggest that the terms of these Amendments discriminate against other carriers or that implementation of these Amendments would be inconsistent with the public interest.

7. The approval granted here is given under the terms of 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A). Specifically, the Commission does not make any finding whether the terms and prices set forth in the Amendments meet the substantive requirements of 47 U.S.C. § 251 or the pricing standard under 47 U.S.C. § 252(d). In addition, the Commission does not make any

determination whether the Amendments, standing alone, or the agreement as now amended, meets any of the "checklist" criteria set forth in 47 U.S.C. § 271(c).

**D. ORDERING PARAGRAPHS**

Now, therefore, this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2008, **IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That, the Amendments to the interconnection agreement entitled Amendments Nos. 6 and 7, submitted by Verizon Delaware LLC and Sprint Communications Company, L.P., on October 21, 2007, are hereby approved under 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A).

2. That, the terms and conditions set forth in PSC Orders Nos. 5589 (Nov. 21, 2000), 5774 (July 7, 2001), 5792 (Sept. 4, 2001), and 6535 (Dec. 7, 2004) shall remain in force and effect.

3. That, within ten (10) days of this Order, Verizon Delaware LLC and Sprint Communications Company, L.P., shall file with the Commission a revised, complete interconnection agreement that shall incorporate Amendments Nos. 6 and 7. The revised agreement may substitute the new provisions or attach the amendments to the previously approved interconnection agreement. The revised agreements shall be available for public inspection and copying pursuant to the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 252(h).

4. That, pursuant to the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 252(i), Verizon Delaware LLC shall make available any interconnection, service, or network element provided under the above agreement to any other requesting telecommunications carrier upon the same terms and conditions as provided in the agreement.

5. That the Commission reserves the jurisdiction and authority to enter such further Orders in this matter as may be deemed necessary or proper.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/ Arnetta McRae  
Chair

/s/ Joann T. Conaway  
Commissioner

/s/ Jaymes B. Lester  
Commissioner

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Commissioner

/s/ Jeffrey J. Clark  
Commissioner

ATTEST:

/s/ Karen J. Nickerson  
Secretary