

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application of Frontier)
North Inc. for a Temporary Waiver of Rule) Case No. 11-2571-TP-WVR
4901:1-6-19(Q), Ohio Administrative Code.)

ENTRY

The Commission finds:

- (1) On April 19, 2011, Frontier North Inc. (Frontier or company) filed an application seeking a temporary waiver from the provisions of Rule 4901:1-6-19(Q), Ohio Administrative Code (O.A.C.), which provides that an incumbent local exchange carrier eligible telecommunications carrier establishing a customer billing surcharge to recover its lifeline expenses may not include the surcharge on the bill in a section reserved for taxes and government-mandated charges. Frontier asserts that the company's current billing system, which was replicated from the Verizon North Inc. (Verizon) billing system in conjunction with Frontier's acquisition of Verizon,¹ cannot accommodate the requirements of Rule 4901:1-6-19(Q), O.A.C., and thereby include the lifeline surcharge in a section of the bill other than the section reserved for taxes and government-mandated surcharges, without the expenditure of significant time and expense to make the necessary system modifications. Further, Frontier maintains that, in calendar year 2012, Frontier will be migrating customers in Ohio from the Verizon-replicated billing system to Frontier's existing system which will then allow Frontier to comply with the requirements of Rule 4901:10-6-19(Q), O.A.C. Under these circumstances, Frontier asserts that it makes little sense to require Frontier to incur expenditures and make significant changes to a billing system that Frontier does not control and which will only be used for a limited period of time until Frontier implements the planned system conversion in 2012.
- (2) Rule 4901:1-6-02(E), O.A.C., authorizes the Commission to waive any requirement of Chapter 4901:1-6, O.A.C., for good cause shown other than a requirement mandated by statute from which no waiver is permitted. Section 4927.13(D),

¹ *In the Matter of the Joint Application of Frontier Communications Corporation, New Communications Holdings, Inc. and Verizon Communications Inc. for Consent and Approval of a Change in Control*, Case No. 09-454-TP-ACO (Opinion and Order, February 11, 2010).

Revised Code, explicitly gives the Commission the discretion to determine how a Lifeline surcharge may appear on customer bills.

- (3) The Commission determines that Frontier's request for a temporary waiver is reasonable and should be approved. In granting Frontier's request, we determine that it is unreasonable to require the modification of a billing system that will only be used for a limited period of time. Consequently, Frontier's request for a temporary waiver of Rule 4901:1-6-19(Q), O.A.C., is granted until December 31, 2012. Until such time as Frontier migrates the involved customers off of the Verizon-replicated billing system, Frontier shall list the Lifeline surcharge on its bill as the "Frontier Lifeline Cost Recovery Surcharge."

It is, therefore,

ORDERED, That Frontier's request for a temporary waiver be granted in accordance with finding 3. It is, further,

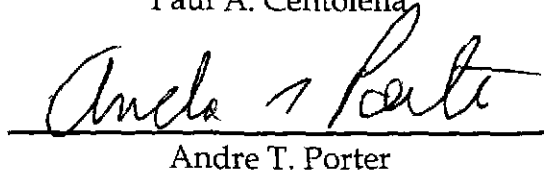
ORDERED, That a copy of this entry be served upon Frontier, its counsel, and any other interested person of record.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO


Todd A. Snitchler, Chairman


Paul A. Centolella

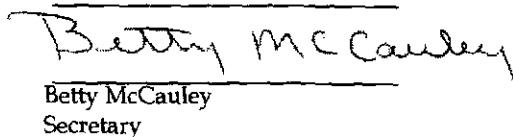

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Betty McCauley
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