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Building Strong Businesses That Build Strong Communities

NJ BPU
CASE MANAGEMENT

New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
C/O Ms. Kristi Izzo, Secretary
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, N.J. 08625-0350

February 19, 2014
RE: Verizon New Jersey, Docket No. TO12020155

Dear Board Members:

The Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce represents over 1100 companies totaling approximately 100,000 employees in the greater Meadowlands and Northern New Jersey. On behalf of our Board of Directors and those 1100 members I urge the Board of Public Utilities to approve the proposed stipulation between Verizon and Board Staff.

The MRC, like other business service organizations, is fully committed to promoting sustainable economic development in the Meadowlands and this proposed stipulation will provide needed confidence that capital investment in communications infrastructure will continue, benefitting businesses of all size in our region. Through the past two decades, Verizon has more than fulfilled the requirements of Opportunity New Jersey. Investment in the form of billions of dollars has made New Jersey the most wired state in the nation and a better place to live and work. Because of its long record of success in the state, we are confident that Verizon will continue to answer the bell and bring high-speed Internet access to New Jerseyans.

Broadband access is no small matter to the New Jersey business community. In today's mobile and tablet world businesses depend on high-speed access to manage their business and serve their customers. There is no doubt that fast, reliable broadband increases productivity and revenue; in turn, businesses will grow, hire more employees and be more attractive to out-of-state investors. This proposed stipulation is a critical step in that process.

We fully understand the role of the BPU and we appreciate your dedication to the business community. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Jim Kirkos
President
Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce

JK/sm