

Agenda Date: 01/18/12 Agenda Item: IVC-1

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

		TELECOMMONICATIONS
IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION OF VERIZON NEW JERSEY INC. AND NET TALK.COM, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT UNDER SECTION 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996	) ) ) )	ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT DOCKET NO. TO11110796

#### Parties of Record:

Gregory M. Romano, Esq., for Verizon New Jersey Inc., Newark, New Jersey Kenneth Hosfeld, for Net Talk.com, Miami, Florida Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, Division of Rate Counsel

#### BY THE BOARD:

By letter dated November 4, 2011, Verizon New Jersey, Inc. ("Verizon"), a New Jersey corporation, and Net Talk.com, Inc. ("Net Talk.com") (individually, "a Party," and jointly, "the Parties"), pursuant to Section 252(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, P.L. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (codified in scattered sections of 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> § 151 <u>et seq.</u>) ("the Act"), submitted to the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") a joint application for approval of a certain negotiated interconnection agreement dated August 10, 2011 ("the Agreement").

The Agreement sets forth the terms, conditions, and prices under which Verizon will offer and provide access to unbundled network elements, ancillary services, and wholesale telecommunications services available for resale to Net Talk.com. The Agreement is in effect until August 9, 2013 and thereafter, as noted in the Agreement, continues in full force and effect unless terminated as provided in the Agreement.

### DISCUSSION

Pursuant to 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> § 252(a)(1), an incumbent LEC may negotiate and enter into a binding interconnection agreement with a carrier requesting interconnection, service, or network elements. In addition, 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> § 252(e)(1) requires approval by the Board of any interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation or arbitration, and further requires the Board to approve or reject the Agreement, with written findings as to any deficiencies. The Act provides that the Board may reject a negotiated agreement or any portion thereof only if it finds

that: (i) the agreement (or portion thereof discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement; or (ii) the implementation of such agreement or portion thereof is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> § 252(e)(2)(A). The Board's review of the Agreement and the record in this matter indicate that the Agreement is consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity, and that the Agreement does not discriminate against telecommunications carriers not parties to the Agreement.

Therefore, the Board <u>FINDS</u> that the Agreement meets the standards set forth in the Act, and <u>HEREBY APPROVES</u> the Agreement as presented by the Parties. This approval should not be construed as preapproval of any future petitions for rate recovery of costs incurred pursuant to the Agreement, nor shall the Board be bound by any provisions within the Agreement regarding the confidentiality of information.

The Board notes that amendments or modifications to Board-approved interconnection agreements are subject to Board review and approval. No agreement shall be read, nor does the Board believe the Parties to the Agreement intend that it be read, to limit the authority of the Board under Section 252(e) of the Act to review interconnection agreements. Accordingly, until and unless otherwise provided by the Board, subsequent amendments or modifications to the Agreement approved herein shall be subject to review and approval by the Board. Additionally, pursuant to 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> § 252(h), a copy of the Agreement will be made available for public inspection and copying within ten days of the issuance of this Order.

DATED: 1/18/12

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

ROBERT M. HANNA PRESIDENT

JEANNE M. FOX COMMISSIONER

NICHOLAS ASSELTA COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY

OSEPH L. FIORDALISO COMMISSIONER

yacy Ana

/ARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public

Utilities

# IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT APPLICATION OF VERIZON NEW JERSEY INC. AND NET TALK.COM, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF AN INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT UNDER SECTION 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996 DOCKET NO. TO11110796

## **SERVICE LIST**

Gregory M. Romano, Esq. General Counsel Mid Atlantic Region One Verizon Way, VC54S204 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920-109

Jimarli Figueiredo
Board of Public Utilities
Division of Telecommunications
44 South Clinton Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director Division of Rate Counsel Christopher White, Esq. Maria Novas-Ruiz, Esq. 31 Clinton Street, 11th Floor P.O. Box 46005 Newark, NJ 07101

Alex Moreau, Deputy Attorney General Department of Law & Public Safety Division of Law 124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor P.O. Box 45029 Newark, NJ 07101

Kenneth Hosfeld, Vice President Net Talk.com, Inc. 1100 NW 163<sup>rd</sup> Drive Miami, Florida 33169