## BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF OREGON

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS HOLDING COMPANY, LLC, FALCON TELECABLE, L.P.,	)
FALCON CABLE SYSTEMS COMPANY II, L.P., and FALCON COMMUNITY VENTURES I, L.P.,	UM 1241
Complainants, )	) )
CENTRAL LINCOLN PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT,	) )
Defendant.	) 

## **VERIZON NORTHWEST INC.'S PETITION TO INTERVENE**

Verizon Northwest Inc. ("Verizon") petitions to intervene in this proceeding pursuant to Oregon Administrative Rule 860-012-0001. In support of this petition, Verizon states as follows:

a) The name and address of the petitioner is:

Verizon Northwest Inc. 1800 41<sup>st</sup> Street Everett, Washington 98201

b) The names and addresses of petitioner's attorneys are:

Richard G. Stewart, Jr.
Verizon
600 Hidden Ridge
Mailcode: HQEO3J28
Irving, Texas 75038
richard.stewart@verizon.com

Christopher S. Huther
Preston Gates Ellis & Rouvelas Meeds LLP
1735 New York Avenue, Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20006
<a href="mailto:chuther@prestongates.com">chuther@prestongates.com</a>

c) If the petitioner is an organization, the number of members in and the purpose of the organization:

Not applicable.

d) The nature and extent of the petitioner's interest in the proceeding:

Verizon's interest in this proceeding stems from the fact that Charter Communications Holding Company's ("Charter") Complaint is predicated explicitly on the Commission's rulings in UM 1087 and the facts underlying that dispute between Central Lincoln Public Utility District ("CLPUD") and Verizon. Indeed, Verizon's joint use agreement with CLPUD is referenced no fewer than twelve times in Charter's Complaint, and UM 1087 is mentioned nearly as often.

The Commission's Order in UM 1087 established, among other things, the amount CLPUD can justly and reasonably charge for approved attachments to its poles. 

In its Complaint, Charter alleges that CLPUD is failing to comply with the terms of UM 1087 by charging Charter "more than double the lawful annual rate that the Commission established in its January 2005 Order," notwithstanding the fact that its joint use agreement with CLPUD is "[o]n information and belief...substantively identical to" the agreement in existence between Verizon and CLPUD. Furthermore, Charter states that "the terms and conditions of the [new proposed] Agreement are more burdensome and less favorable for Charter than those in the agreement established by the Commission between Central Lincoln and Verizon." Verizon should be permitted to intervene in this proceeding to ensure that the facts underlying the dispute adjudicated in UM 1087 and

<sup>3</sup> *Id*. at ¶ 101.

Before the Public Utility Commission, UM 1087, Order No. 05-042 (Jan. 19, 2005).

Before the Public Utility Commission, UM 1241, Complaint (Feb. 1, 2005). ¶ 37 and 24.

the implementation of the Commission's resulting Order are fairly presented. Moreover, as an attacher to CLPUD's poles, Verizon has an interest in ensuring the consistent and fair application of the Commission's pole attachment rules and precedent among similarly situated parties.

e) The issues petitioner intends to raise at the proceeding:

Verizon intends, as necessary and appropriate, to provide testimony regarding the UM 1087 proceeding, the facts underlying that dispute, and the parties' implementation of the Commission's Order. Verizon does not intend to raise any issues outside those encompassed by the Complaint, nor does it seek to burden the record or delay the proceeding.

f) Any special knowledge or expertise of the petitioner that would assist the Commission in resolving the issues in the proceeding:

Verizon is uniquely situated to provide the Commission with important information regarding its joint use agreement with CLPUD, its previous litigation with CLPUD (before this Commission), and the implementation of the Commission's Order in UM 1087.

For the forgoing reasons, Verizon's Petition to Intervene should be granted.

Christopher S. Huther
Preston Gates Ellis &
Rouvelas Meeds LLP
1735 New York Avenue, Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20006
chuther@prestongates.com

Richard G. Stewart
Verizon
600 Hidden Ridge
Mailcode: HQEO3J28
Irving, Texas 75038
richard.stewart@verizon.com

DATED: February 22, 2006

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Rachael Cotner, certify that on February 22, 2006, I caused a copy of Verizon's Petition to Intervene successfully served by electronic and U.S. mail, to each of the persons listed below.

Rachael L. Cotner

Central Lincoln PUD
Paul Davies, Manager
P.O. Box 1126
Newport, Oregon 97365-0090
pdavies@cencoast.com

Department of Justice
Michael T. Weirich
Assistant Attorney General
Regulated Utility & Business Section
1162 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301-4096
Michael.weirich@state.or.us

Miller Nash LLP
Brooks Harlow, Esq.
601 Union Street Ste. 44001
Seattle, Washington 98101-2352
brooks.harlow@millernash.com

Public Utility Commission
Bob Sipler
P.O. Box 2148
Salem, Oregon 97308-2148
bob.sipler@state.or.us

Cole Raywid & Braverman LLP
Scott Thompson, Esq.
1919 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Ste. 200
Washington, D.C. 20006
<a href="mailto:sthompson@crblaw.com">sthompson@crblaw.com</a>

Macpherson, Ginter, Gordan & Diaz Peter Gintner P.O. Box 1270 Newport, Oregon 97365 ginter@mggdlaw.com

Portland General Electric
Barbara Halle
Rates & Regulatory Affairs
121 SW Salmon Street
Mailcode: 1WTC0702
Portland, Oregon 97204
Barbara.halle@pgn.com