

JAN 11 2008



THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor
January 4, 2008

Ivan Seidenberg, Chairman and CEO
Verizon Communications
140 West Street
New York, NY 1007

Dear Mr. Seidenberg:

I believe it is imperative for state government to patronize and work with companies that adhere to a high standard of corporate citizenship.

State governments around the country are significant institutional customers and have both the ability and the responsibility to choose to do business with high-quality, reliable companies that respect workers' rights. I am aware that working families in this state would appreciate their government recognizing the importance of doing business with companies that treat their workers fairly and with dignity.

I am supportive of companies that adopt a worker-friendly posture as they tend to enjoy a relationship that benefits both management and employees. Employees, if they choose, should have a contract that includes greater potential for job growth, a fair grievance procedure, enhanced job security, and scheduled wage progression and annual increases.

As in every state, the working men and women of Oregon are an integral part of their communities. As such, companies that support these workers in the ways described above, in turn, help support Oregon communities.

I have long believed that the right to form and join a union is something that we must protect for everyone. As your employees look to their futures, I encourage you to work with them and respect your workers' right to organize. I believe such a stance is in the interest of all of Oregon's working men and women. One of the factors I will continue to monitor is the employee-management relations of companies doing business within the state and with the State.

Sincerely,

THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

*Thanks for
all your help on
this early December
Storm - Ted*