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COMMITTEES:  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

OVERSIGHT AND  
GOVERNMENT REFORM

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE



# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3214

August 4, 2011

Lowell McAdam  
President and CEO  
Verizon Communications  
140 West Street  
New York, NY 10007

Ivan Seidenberg  
Chairman  
Verizon Communications  
140 West Street  
New York, NY 10007

Dear President McAdam and Chairman Seidenberg:

I write to you with concerns about Verizon's bargaining demands in your current negotiations with Communications Workers of America (CWA) and the International Brotherhood of Workers (IBEW) for a new contract.

It is my understanding that the most recent Verizon proposals would severely reduce the standard of living of thousands of middle-class Verizon employees who live in New York State and potentially lead to the elimination of thousands of these jobs. These proposals include: sweeping demands for the elimination of job security; the elimination of any limits on low-wage contracting and overseas outsourcing; freezing current pensions and eliminating future pensions; and replacing the current high quality health care plan with plans requiring workers to pay thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket expenses and premium sharing.

I am aware of the changes that have taken place in the telecommunications industry and I understand the continued need to preserve a robust landline network maintained and serviced by skilled technicians. Despite the worst economic situation in 75 years, Verizon made \$19 billion in profits over the last four years and should consider the fair treatment of its employees as an investment in its most valuable asset.

As a strong supporter of collective bargaining, both as a way to reduce worker-management conflict, and as a way of achieving fair wages and working conditions for working men and women, I urge Verizon to work cooperatively with its unions to protect middle class jobs and provide high quality service to the public. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Carolyn B. Maloney in black ink.

CAROLYN B. MALONEY  
Member of Congress

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