



**HOUSE OF DELEGATES
WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

BUILDING 1, ROOM 204-E
1900 KANAWHA BLVD., EAST
CHARLESTON, WV 25305-0470
PHONE (304) 340-3146

WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

09 OCT 28 AM 11:50

RECEIVED



STAN SHAVER
RT. 1, BOX 47B
TUNNELTON, WV 26444
PHONE: (304) 568-2696
EMAIL: sshaver@mail.wvnet.edu

09-0871-T-PC

2 **Protest Original (s)**

Committees:
Vice-Chair of Energy,
Industry & Labor
Education
Natural Resources
Banking & Insurance

October 26, 2009

Ms. Sandra Squire, Executive Secretary
Public Service Commission of West Virginia
201 Brooks Street
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Executive Secretary Squire,

This is a letter urging the Public Service Commission of West Virginia to reject Verizon's proposed transfer of its local exchange and long distance business in West Virginia to Frontier Communications.

As an elected official, I am especially concerned that whatever company owns and operates the telecommunications assets of our state has sufficient resources, both human and financial, to invest in modernizing the network at a pace that will meet the rapidly evolving needs of residents, businesses and institutions throughout West Virginia.

There are serious concerns regarding the risks associated with the transactions, in particular the large amount of debt that frontier will incur to pay Verizon while it simultaneously plans to cut operating expenses by \$500 million a year.

Is this transaction really in the best interest of the citizens of West Virginia? Verizon sold its landlines in northern New England in a similar deal to FairPoint Communications. Despite many promises for an improved network, FairPoint is now teetering on the brink of bankruptcy and service quality there has deteriorated.

As the delegate representing the 46th district the citizens of my district are concerned and I urge the Commission not to approve the sale.

Sincerely,

Delegate Stan Shaver
46th District

RS
M