

Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIAOrder Instituting Investigation to Address
Intrastate Rural Call Completion Issues.Investigation 14-05-012
(Filed May 15, 2014)**ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE****Summary**

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to January 5, 2017.

1. Background

Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a) provides that quasi-legislative cases must be resolved within 18 months of the date the scoping memo is issued unless the Commission makes findings why that statutory deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending the 18-month deadline for a period not exceeding 60 days. In this proceeding, the statutory deadline is November 4, 2016.

On May 15, 2014, the Commission instituted this order to investigate the call completion, access, and 9-1-1 issues and outages that occurred following the transfer of Verizon California's wireline facilities to Frontier Communications. The proceeding has also investigated the impacts of these outages on local residents and business, as well as emergency services. With this information, the Commission intends to propose additional rules to promote safe and reliable service.

As part of this investigation, the assigned Commissioner has conducted a series of workshops and public participation hearings on the following dates

in 2016: June 1 (Long Beach), June 27 (San Francisco), July 6 (San Andreas), July 15 (Ukiah), July 16 (Happy Camp), July 17 (Eureka), August 23 (Guerneville), September 8 (Visalia), September 9 (Middletown), and September 20 (Felton).

The information learned at these events has caused the assigned Commissioner and Commission staff to conduct further investigations into, among other things, the root causes of the systems failure following the transfer of Verizon's wireline facilities to Frontier, and to require the telephone utilities to file and serve written reports regards service problems identified by the residents in a specific service territory.

In addition, the assigned Commissioner's Ruling (ACR) filed September 8, 2016 instructed certain telephone utilities to file and serve their investigative reports regarding service outages by September 23, 2016, and all other parties and member of the public were invited to file and serve their responses to the questions contained in the ACR by October 4, 2016.

With this information, the assigned Commissioner intends to prepare a proposed decision in October 2016, with a vote by the Commission at the December 1, 2016 or the December 15, 2016 Commission voting meetings.

Therefore, a 60-day extension of the statutory deadline until January 5, 2017 is appropriate.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment of proposed decisions extending the deadline for resolving quasi-legislative proceedings. Accordingly, the otherwise applicable period for public review and comment is being waived.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Catherine J.K. Sandoval is the assigned Commissioner and Robert M. Mason III is the assigned Administrative Law Judge in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. The statutory deadline for resolving this quasi-legislative proceeding is November 4, 2016.
2. A 60-day extension of the statutory deadline is necessary to provide sufficient time for the assigned Commissioner to prepare, and for the Commission to vote on, the proposed decision.

Conclusions of Law

1. Pursuant to the authority granted to the Commission under Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a), the statutory deadline should be extended to January 5, 2017.
2. In accordance with Rule 14.6(c)(4), the comment period is waived.

Therefore, **IT IS ORDERED** that the statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended to January 5, 2017.

This order is effective today.

Dated _____, at San Francisco, California.