



FILED

07/18/25

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Verizon Communications Inc., Frontier Communications Parent, Inc., Frontier California Inc., Citizens Telecommunications Company of California Inc., Frontier Communications of the Southwest Inc., Frontier Communications Online and Long Distance Inc., and Frontier Communications of America, Inc. for Approval of the Transfer of Control of Frontier California Inc. (U1002C), Citizens Telecommunications Company of California (U1024C), Frontier Communications of the Southwest Inc. (U1026C), Frontier Communications Online and Long Distance Inc. (U7167C), and Frontier Communications of America, Inc. (U5429C), to Verizon Communications Inc. Pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Section 854.

Application 24-10-006

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING NOTICING PARTIES OF INAPPROPRIATE SOLICITATION OF COMMISSION STAFF

This ruling provides notice that an "expert network," VISASQ/COLEMAN, has inappropriately contacted various members of senior leadership at the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) regarding an "an urgent one-hour, paid consulting opportunity regarding Frontier / Verizon" for an unnamed client.

According to VISASQ/COLEMAN, its client would like to understand:

- The different scenarios of how the Commission may interpret California's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)-related laws in deciding to either provide or withhold California approval of the acquisition of Frontier; and
- What Verizon can do to comply with both the Commission and the Federal Communications Commission with respect to DEI.

VISASQ/COLEMAN offered to compensate participants "at the hourly rate of your choice."

This email ruling notices the service list that solicitation of the Commission's staff and its decisionmakers for paid consultation on subject matter on this proceeding is not appropriate and may violate the Commission's ethics rules pursuant to Rule 1.1 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.

IT IS SO RULED.

Dated July 18, 2025, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ELIZABETH FOX

Elizabeth Fox
Administrative Law Judge