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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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A2507016

Joint Application of Charter Communications, Inc., Charter Communications Holdings, LLC, and Cox Enterprises, Inc. for Approval Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 854 of the Indirect Transfer of Control of Cox California Telcom, LLC (U5684C).

Application 25-07-016

ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S SCOPING MEMO AND RULING

This scoping memo and ruling sets forth the issues, need for hearing, schedule, category, and other matters necessary to scope this proceeding pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 1701.1 and Article 7 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules).

1. Procedural Background

On July 30, 2025, Charter Communications, Inc., Charter Communications Holdings, LLC, and Cox Enterprises, Inc. (CEI), (collectively, Joint Applicants), filed the *Joint Application of Charter Communications, Inc., Charter Communications Holdings, LLC, and Cox Enterprises, Inc. for Approval Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 854 of the Indirect Transfer of Control of Cox California Telcom, LLC (U-5684-C)* (Application) with the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission). Joint Applicants requested an indirect transfer of control, under Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code Section 854, of CEI subsidiary Cox's subsidiaries, "that operate its residential cable, voice, mobile, and enterprise businesses, as well as Segra and Unite Private Networks commercial fiber

businesses operating under the Segra brand and the RapidScale managed IT and cloud business.”¹

On September 5, 2025, protests were received from the Public Advocates Office (Cal Advocates), The Utility Reform Network (TURN), and the Center for Accessible Technology (CforAT).² Also on September 5, 2025, the assigned Administrative Law Judges (ALJ) issued a Ruling (First Ruling) directing the filing of additional information.

On September 15, 2025, Joint Applicants responded, filing a Motion for leave to file information under seal. Also on September 15, 2025, Joint Applicants responded to the protests received.

On September 19, 2025, the ALJ issued a ruling setting the time and date of the prehearing conference (PHC), notifying parties of the additional topics requiring discussion at the hearing.

On October 1, 2025, Joint Applicants submitted an amended response to the First Ruling.

On October 3, 2025, a PHC was held to address the issues of law and fact, determine the need for hearing, set the schedule for resolving the matter, and address other matters as necessary. A representative of Media Alliance made a motion for party status.³

On October 7, 2025, the assigned ALJ issued another Ruling (Second Ruling) directing the filing of additional information.

¹ Application at 5 and 8.

² On Wednesday, October 29, 2025, the Commission received TURN's Notice of Intent to Claim Intervenor Compensation. On Friday, October 31, 2025, the Commission received CforAT's Notice of Intent to Claim Intervenor Compensation.

³ PHC Transcript (Transcript) at 11-12. Party status was granted on November 3, 2025.

On October 8, Joint Applicants responded to the assigned ALJ's questions posed at the PHC and proposed potential locations for public participation hearings. On October 13, Cal Advocates and The Utility Reform Network (TURN) responded and proposed additional locations for public participation hearings.

On October 14, Joint Applicants requested an extension of time to respond to the Second Ruling until October 24. On October 15, the assigned ALJ granted that request. On October 24, Joint Applicants submitted a response to the Second Ruling.

On October 31, the California Emerging Technology Fund filed a motion for party status. On November 17, the motion was granted.

Also on November 17, the assigned ALJ issued a third ruling requesting additional information (Third Ruling). On November 24, the assigned ALJ granted the Joint Applicant's motion for an extension of time to respond to the Third Ruling.

After considering the Joint Application, responses to rulings, and the discussion at the prehearing conference, I have determined the issues and initial schedule of the proceeding to be set forth in this scoping memo.

2. Issues

The issues to be determined or otherwise considered are:

1. Whether the Application of Charter Communications, Inc., Charter Communications Holdings, LLC, and Cox Enterprises, Inc., for the transfer of indirect control of Cox California Telecom, LLC (U-5684-C) (Joint Application), meets the requirements of Pub. Util. Code Section 854.
2. Whether granting the Joint Application impacts environmental and social justice communities, including the extent to which the transfer may impact the

achievement of any of the nine goals of the Commission's Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan.

3. Whether granting the Joint Application impacts public safety.

3. Need for Evidentiary Hearing

The issues above may include contested, material issues of fact. The need for evidentiary hearing will be determined by the assigned ALJ. Further instructions for evidentiary hearings, should they be required, will be provided at a later date.

4. Schedule

The following schedule is adopted here and may be modified by the assigned ALJ as required to promote the efficient and fair resolution of the application:

Event	Date
Public Participation Hearings, held	February 4, 2026- February 25, 2026 <i>* Ruling with additional information forthcoming.</i>
Intervenors' prepared direct testimony served	Wednesday, February 11, 2026
Rule 13.9, Deadline to file Joint Case Management Statement, Deadline to Request Evidentiary Hearings	Thursday, February 12, 2026
Applicants' rebuttal testimony served	Wednesday, March 4, 2026
Status conference, if needed	Tuesday, April 7, 2026 1:00pm
Evidentiary hearing	Week of April 20, 2026
Opening briefs	Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Reply briefs	Tuesday, June 30, 2026
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The purpose of the April 7, 2026, status conference is to ascertain whether, pursuant to Rule 13.8(c), the parties stipulate to the receipt of prepared testimony into evidence without direct or cross examination or other need to convene an evidentiary hearing or, in the alternative, the parties' resources, readiness and needs for the effective remote conduct of the evidentiary hearing, including estimates of time requested for cross-examination and identification of anticipated exhibits.

The proceeding will stand submitted upon the filing of reply briefs unless the ALJ requires further evidence or argument. Based on this schedule, the proceeding will be resolved within 18 months as required by Pub. Util. Code Section 1701.5.

5. Category of Proceeding and Ex Parte Restrictions

This ruling confirms the Commission's preliminary determination⁴ that this is a ratesetting proceeding. Accordingly, ex parte communications are restricted and must be reported pursuant to Article 8 of the Rules.

6. Public Outreach

Pursuant to Pub. Util. Code Section 1711(a), where feasible and appropriate, before determining the scope of the proceeding, the Commission sought the participation of those likely to be affected, including those likely to derive benefit from, and those potentially subject to, a decision in this proceeding. This matter was noticed on the Commission's daily calendar. Where feasible and appropriate, this matter was incorporated into engagements

⁴ Resolution ALJ 176-3567

conducted by the Commission's External Affairs Division with local governments and other interested parties.

7. Intervenor Compensation

Pursuant to Pub. Util. Code Section 1804(a)(1), a customer who intends to seek an award of compensation must have filed and served a notice of intent to claim compensation by November 2, 2025, 30 days after the PHC.

8. Response to Public Comments

Parties may, but are not required to, respond to written comments received from the public. Parties may do so by posting such response using the "Add Public Comment" button on the "Public Comment" tab of the online docket card for the proceeding.

9. Public Advisor

Any person interested in participating in this proceeding who is unfamiliar with the Commission's procedures or has questions about the electronic filing procedures is encouraged to obtain more information at <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/about-cpuc/divisions/news-and-public-information-office/public-advisors-office> or contact the Commission's Public Advisor at 866-849-8390 or 866-836-7825 (TTY), or send an email to public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov.

10. Filing, Service, and Service List

The official service list has been created and is on the Commission's website. Parties should confirm that their information on the service list is correct and serve notice of any errors on the Commission's Process office, the service list, and the ALJ. Persons may become a party pursuant to Rule 1.4.⁵

⁵ The form to request additions and changes to the Service list may be found at <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/-/media/cpuc-website/divisions/administrative-law-judge-division/documents/additiontoservicelisttranscriptordercompliant.pdf>

When serving any document, each party must ensure that it is using the current official service list on the Commission's website.

This proceeding will follow the electronic service protocol set forth in Rule 1.10. All parties to this proceeding shall serve documents and pleadings using electronic mail, whenever possible, transmitted no later than 5:00 p.m., on the date scheduled for service to occur. Rule 1.10 requires service on the ALJ of electronic copies of filed and served documents.

When serving documents on Commissioners or their personal advisors, whether or not they are on the official service list, parties must only provide electronic service. Parties must not send hard copies of documents to Commissioners or their personal advisors unless specifically instructed to do so.

Persons who are not parties but wish to receive electronic service of documents filed in the proceeding may contact the Process Office at process_office@cpuc.ca.gov to request addition to the "Information Only" category of the official service list pursuant to Rule 1.9(f).

The Commission encourages those who seek information-only status on the service list to consider the Commission's subscription service as an alternative. The subscription service sends individual notifications to each subscriber of formal e-filings tendered and accepted by the Commission. Notices sent through subscription service are less likely to be flagged by spam or other filters. Notifications can be for a specific proceeding, a range of documents and daily or weekly digests.

11. Receiving Electronic Service from the Commission

Parties and other persons on the service list are advised that it is the responsibility of each person or entity on the service list for Commission

proceedings to ensure their ability to receive emails from the Commission. Please add “@cpuc.ca.gov” to your email safe sender list and update your email screening practices, settings and filters to ensure receipt of emails from the Commission.

12. Assignment of Proceeding

Matthew Baker is the assigned Commissioner and Jamie Ormond is the assigned ALJ and presiding officer for the proceeding.

IT IS RULED that:

1. The scope of this proceeding is described above and is adopted.
2. The schedule of this proceeding is set forth above and is adopted.
3. Evidentiary hearing is not needed currently but parties are provided an opportunity to make a motion for evidentiary hearing in the proceeding schedule.
4. The presiding officer is Administrative Law Judge Jamie Ormond.
5. The category of the proceeding is ratesetting.

Dated December 9, 2025, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MATTHEW BAKER

Matthew Baker
Assigned Commissioner