



California Public Utilities Commission  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

Docket #: A.24-10-006

## **CPUC Approves Verizon–Frontier Acquisition with Strong Consumer Protections and Oversight**

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 15, 2026 – The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) today approved the transfer of control of Frontier Communications’ California operations to Verizon Communications Inc., subject to enforceable conditions, ongoing monitoring, and consumer protections.

The decision authorizes Verizon to acquire Frontier Communications and its California subsidiaries while requiring safeguards designed to protect customers, preserve service quality, and advance the public interest. The approval follows extensive public participation, testimony from multiple parties, and negotiated settlement agreements with consumer advocates and labor organizations.

The decision includes requirements intended to:

- Expand affordable voice and broadband options, including protections for low-income customers and [California LifeLine](#) participants.
- Support continued broadband investment and network reliability, particularly in communities currently served by Frontier.
- Establish comprehensive tribal engagement requirements.
- Further California’s public policy goals of diverse supply chains and workforces, including a \$10 million partnership with the California State University system.
- Protect rural and copper customers through enforceable performance standards, resilience requirements, and oversight.
- Maintain strong enforcement and monitoring, including reporting requirements and compliance mechanisms.

The decision also adopts multiple settlement agreements that include additional commitments related to affordability, service quality, labor protections, infrastructure deployment, and \$500 million in spending with California small businesses.

CPUC Commissioner John Reynolds, the Assigned Commissioner on the proceeding, said, “California isn’t just approving a merger, we’re securing real commitments that will connect communities, lower costs for families who need it most, and strengthen workforce and supplier diversity protections. With robust conditions and independent oversight, we’re ensuring these commitments translate into real improvements for California families and standing up for California values to support our diverse communities.”

### **Extensive Public Review**

The CPUC’s review included Public Forums held across California, written public comments, and testimony from consumer advocates, labor representatives, and other stakeholders. The conditions adopted by the CPUC reflect issues raised during this public process and are designed to ensure that customers are not harmed as a result of the transaction.

### **Next Steps**

Verizon must comply with all conditions required by the CPUC. CPUC staff will monitor implementation and enforce the decision as necessary to protect California customers and ensure commitments are met.

### **More Information**

- [Proposal Approved](#)
- [Docket Card](#)

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### **About the California Public Utilities Commission**

The CPUC regulates services and utilities, protects consumers, safeguards the environment, and assures Californians access to safe and reliable utility infrastructure and services. Visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov) for more information.