

STATE OF NEW YORK
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC STATEMENT HEARING ON
TEMPORARY USE OF VOICE LINK ON FIRE ISLAND

CASE 13-C-0197

(Issued August 7, 2013)

The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) invites public comment from customers in western Fire Island and other interested parties regarding their evaluation of the use of Verizon New York Inc.'s (Verizon) Voice Link service during the summer months. In May, the Commission, as an interim measure, authorized Verizon to offer wireless Voice Link service, as an alternative to basic landline service, to certain customers on Fire Island where the copper wire facilities were destroyed by Superstorm Sandy. The Commission's approval of the service was made temporary, pending public comment and a further review of documentation submitted by Verizon justifying its decision not to repair the damaged facilities.

Please take notice that a public information forum and public statement hearing will take place as follows:

Date: Saturday, August 24, 2013

Time: Noon - Public Information Forum
1:00 p.m. - Public Statement Hearing

Location: Ocean Beach Community House
157-164 Bay Walk
Ocean Beach, New York 11770

During the public information forum, the New York State Department of Public Service Staff (Staff) will provide a brief overview of the purpose of the proceeding and next steps. During the public statement hearing, members of the public will

have the opportunity to present comments concerning Verizon's Voice Link Service on western Fire Island during the summer months before an Administrative Law Judge.

It is not necessary to be present at the start of the hearing or to make an appointment in advance in order to speak. Persons interested in speaking will be asked to complete a card requesting time to speak when they arrive at the hearing, and will be called in the order in which the cards are received. Speakers are not required to provide written copies of their comments.

The public statement hearing will be kept open until everyone wishing to speak has been heard or other reasonable arrangements have been made. A verbatim transcript of the hearings will be made for inclusion in the record.

Disabled persons requiring special accommodations should contact the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Management Office at (518) 474-2520 as soon as possible. TDD users may request a sign language interpreter by placing a call through the New York Relay Service at 711 to reach the Department of Public Service's Human Resource Office at the (518) 474-2520 number. Individuals with difficulty understanding or reading English are encouraged to call the Commission at 1-800-342-3377 for free language assistance services regarding this notice.

Other Ways to Comment

For those who cannot attend or prefer not to speak at a public statement hearing, there are several other ways to provide your comments to the Commission. Comments should refer to "Case 13-C-0197 - Voice Link on Fire Island."

Internet: Go to the Web site (www.dps.ny.gov), click on "Search", search using case number "13-C-0197", and then click the "Post Comments" button at the top of the page; or

e-mail comments to the Secretary to the Commission at secretary@dps.ny.gov.

Mail or Delivery: Comments may be mailed or delivered to PSC Secretary, Public Service Commission, Three Empire State Plaza, Albany, New York 12223-1350.

Toll-Free Opinion Line: You may call the Commission's Opinion Line at 1-800-335-2120. This number is set up to take comments about pending cases from in-state callers, 24 hours a day.

Comments submitted via these alternate means are requested by **September 13, 2013**. Comments will become part of the record considered by the Commission. Written comments may be accessed on the Web site by searching Case 13-C-0197 and clicking on the "Public Comments" tab. Many libraries offer free Internet access.

The matters described above are being considered in Case 13-C-0197 - Tariff filing by Verizon New York Inc. to introduce language under which Verizon could discontinue its current wireline service offerings in a specified area and instead offer a wireless service as its sole service offering in the area.

(SIGNED)

JEFFREY C. COHEN
Acting Secretary