

Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta
Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

RE: Docket number: L-2018-3002672

Dear Ms. Chiavetta,

I am writing today in support of MAW Communications. I have been their customer for about 18 months and I am extremely pleased with their product and service. They provide my wife and me with a fast, reliable internet connection so that we can communicate with our children and grandchildren who live all over the world, as far away as Shanghai, China.

Verizon does not provide fiber-optic cable in our location and their DSL service, for nearly 16 years, did not once provide the promised speeds, much less the necessary speeds to maintain a reliable connection overseas. Comcast provides an adequate service, but only comes bundled with their television service which I do not even want, much less be forced to pay for it. Only MAW Communications provides the type of service I need and want (primary components of a free market system).

PP&L is a private company, but they are also a public utility. As such they are granted special rights to do business within the State of Pennsylvania. They are given access to both public and private lands in order to provide a service for which they are more than adequately compensated. (PP&L is one of the top performing utility stocks on the NYSE). Their poles, however, are not to be considered their private property which they can appropriate as an additional profit center. Their poles are not on their land. They are not required to lease the land from the State of Pennsylvania or the private land owners because it has been determined previously that the poles provide a public service. As such, it is my belief that the rates and regulations for attachments and related maintenance costs should be set by the Public Utility Commission in order to ensure free and fair competition for other services that require the use of utility poles. If private companies are permitted to set their own rates for attachments and maintenance, it is possible to envision a future landscape littered with utility poles for each company wanting to do business. I imagine that this is not the legacy you would wish for the PUC.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter of great public importance.

Sincerely yours,
David B. Hommel