

Pennsylvania Carrier Working Group's Statement of Purpose and Guidelines for Participation¹

Statement of Purpose

The undersigned recognizes on behalf of the Participant:

That reviewing and revising the Pennsylvania Carrier-to-Carrier Guidelines (C2C Guidelines) for performance metrics and the Pennsylvania Performance Assurance Plan (PAP) for remedies are the primary purposes of Pennsylvania's Carrier Working Group (PA CWG) and that, accordingly, the PA CWG may choose to address only those issues that pertain to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or are common to the Commonwealth and other states.

That Primary Participation in the PA CWG is limited to ILECs, CLECs, PA Public Utility Commission (PUC) staff, and PA statutory advocates, as well as consultants sponsored by any of the preceding entities, having a nexus to the Commonwealth. Secondary Participation is open to such entities from other jurisdictions. All Participants are requested to acknowledge their understanding of the PA CWG Statement of Purpose and Guidelines for Participation by providing their signatures at the bottom of this document, which may be executed electronically or in hard copy. Primary Participants are additionally requested to sign the PA CWG AGREEMENT.²

That while Participants understand that consensus does not mean unanimous approval, Participants recognize that the CWG process operates most effectively by seeking consensus resolution of issues, thereby minimizing the number of issues left for litigated resolution and/or PUC decision.³

That consistency in metrics and remedies across the Verizon footprint⁴ may be encouraged; however, Participants in the PA CWG process recognize that the various CLECs operating in the individual states throughout the Verizon footprint do not all operate in every state. Furthermore, not all products are available in all states throughout

¹ This document is to be signed by all PA CWG Participants. It may be signed in hard copy or electronically.

² www.puc.pa.gov/telecom/pdf/PACWG_Agreement.pdf

³ A "consensus" decision is a decision the Participants are willing to live with (or choose not to oppose).

⁴ "Verizon footprint" refers to the former Bell Atlantic incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) service areas in Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Virginia.

the Verizon footprint. Additionally, not all states experience the same operational problems or are on the same timelines.

Therefore, the undersigned Participant intends to participate in the PA CWG pursuant to the following provisions:

General Guidelines for Participation

- Persons interested in participating in the PA CWG may find information about the PA CWG at the PUC and/or Verizon websites.
- Notice of the PA CWG, subgroups, and committees meetings and conference calls will generally be posted on the PUC and/or Verizon websites; however, the call-in numbers will be circulated only to Participants.
- Participants on PA CWG, subgroup, or committee conference calls must announce themselves.
- PA CWG, subgroup, and committee discussions are confidential; agendas are not.
- Discussions conducted via email are also confidential and only to be distributed among Participants.
- All public documents and discussions of PA CWG, subgroup, and committee activities shall contain no attribution; *i.e.*, individual carriers' positions will not be disclosed.
- The Scope & Schedule List and Meeting Agendas shall be posted on the PUC and/or Verizon websites. Participants requesting Scope and Schedule items should email the information to the Chair.
- Participants agree to complete assigned action items and committee and subgroup work in a timely manner. Assignments, if any, to Secondary Participants will be based upon interest and experience with the problem.
- While discussions are open to all, Secondary Participants in the PA CWG cannot block consensus as it pertains to PA operations. Only Primary Participants may participate in the PA consensus determination process. If, however, the PA CWG attempts to facilitate resolution of an issue on a Verizon-footprint-wide basis, the prohibition on "non-resident" participation in the consensus determination process is inapplicable.
- The PA CWG may decide that an issue raised is not pertinent to PA operations and choose not to address the issue.

- While uniformity across the Verizon footprint is encouraged, no state, or Participant as to its operations in another state, is under any obligation to automatically adopt the work product of the PA CWG or to follow the actions of the PA PUC.
- The PA CWG will endeavor to facilitate reciprocal participation by other state CWGs in the PA CWG process.
- “Participants” are those entities which have signed this document regardless of whether they attend all of the PA CWG sessions.

In signing this Statement of Purpose & Guidelines for Participation, on behalf of _____ (“Participant”), I hereby certify that I am authorized to sign on its behalf and to bind it to the provisions contained herein.

Signature

Printed Name

Title

Date

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

FAX: _____