PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17105-3265

RULEMAKING RE: PROVISION OF BASIC SERVICE PACKAGES PLANS BY LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS PUBLIC MEETING December 17, 2009 1200232-LAW Docket No. L-00060179

STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER KIM PIZZINGRILLI

The Commission adopted final-form regulations relating to bundled service packages by an Order entered March 27, 2009. Verizon Pennsylvania, Inc. and the Broadband Cable Association of Pennsylvania both filed petitions for reconsideration and clarification. I dissented from the majority in the March Order finding that the adopted regulations failed to address concerns raised by the Independent Regulatory Review Commission and other commenters; imposed unduly burdensome requirements on Local Exchange Carriers (LECs); and inhibited the LECs ability to effectively compete against unregulated telecommunications carriers in a highly competitive marketplace.

Upon review of the matters raised in the petitions for reconsideration, the Commission, today, grants the petitions, in part and adopts a revised final rulemaking. In my view, the amendments proposed by Staff accurately reflect the scope of the rulemaking and codify the waivers currently granted to LECs that offer bundled service packages to customers. Additionally, the amendments provide for flexibility in the billing and application of payments for bundled service packages and therefore, are consistent with the statutory mandates of Chapter 30.

The recommendation before us today resolves the concerns discussed in my prior dissent and I fully support the revised final rulemaking. I commend Staff for its efforts in working with interested parties to develop amended regulations that will permit LECs to effectively compete in the ever-changing telecommunications market while ensuring that consumers will continue to have access to protected telephone services.

December 17, 2009	
Date	KIM PIZZINGRILLI, COMMISSIONER