

TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

RON JONES
CHAIRMAN



460 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0505

October 28, 2005

Mr. Richard Tettelbaum
Citizens Communications
1400 16th Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Mr. Tettelbaum:

On October 26, 2005, NuVox Communications, Inc. ("NuVox") filed the *Complaint of Nuvox Against Frontier Communications for Blocking Calls and Request for Immediate Interim Relief*. In the complaint, NuVox alleges that Citizens Telecommunications Company of the Volunteer State, LLC d/b/a Frontier Communications of the Volunteer State ("Frontier") is blocking calls originated by Frontier customers and intended for NuVox customers. As an example, NuVox explains that employees of Southern Solutions, a NuVox customer, are unable to call their employer from home because their home local exchange service is provided by Frontier. NuVox further alleges that Frontier is using its practice of blocking calls to NuVox customers as leverage to force NuVox to enter into an interconnection agreement with terms that are contrary to the Authority's decision in Docket No. 03-00585. NuVox requests immediate relief in the form of an order directing Frontier to discontinue this practice pending a final ruling on this complaint.

NuVox will, of course, eventually bear the burden of proving each of its allegations consistent with the requirements of due process. I do not, at this time, make any factual judgment as to who should prevail in this cause; but, I am particularly sensitive to this apparent market failure that has allegedly resulted in certain consumers' service going dark in particular instances due to no fault of their own. Accordingly, I write solely on my behalf to express my acute concern with the decision of Frontier to take unilateral self-help measures such as blocking calls to NuVox customers.

During the time before the panel meets, I encourage the parties to work diligently to rectify this situation by negotiating an interim solution that restores full service to consumers and preserves the respective rights of the parties to fully adjudicate this matter. I would hope that by November 7, 2005, the parties will be able to report to this agency that the customers of both Frontier and NuVox are able to fully enjoy the benefits of competition by completing calls to one another.

Ron Jones
Chairman, Tennessee Regulatory Authority

Cc: Mr. Guilford Thornton
Mr. Henry Walker
Docket File