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## BY HAND DELIVERY

December 20, 2007

Honorable Eddie Roberson, Chairman c/o Sharla Dillon, Docket & Records Manager Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243-0505

RE: <u>Docket No. 07-00253</u>: In Re: Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee's ("Citizens") Proposed Tariff No. 20070432 to General Customer Services Tariff Regarding Charges for Wireless/VoIP Enhanced 911 Service

Answer of Citizens to Complaint and Petition for Leave to Intervene of Verizon Wireless

Dear Chairman Roberson:

Enclosed for filing please find the Answer of Citizens to Complaint and Petition for Leave to Intervene of Verizon Wireless in the above-referenced case.

Sincerely,

Multon Guilford F. Thornson, Jr.

GFT/abp Encl.

cc: All parties of record

## BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

IN RE:	)	
CITIZENS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY	)	Docket No. 07-00253
OF TENNESSEE'S PROPOSED TARIFF NO.	)	
20070432 TO GENERAL CUSTOMER SERVICES	)	
TARIFF REGARDING CHARGES FOR	)	
WIRELESS/VoIP ENHANCED 911 SERVICE	)	

Citizens Telecommunications Company of Tennessee L.L.C. ("Citizens") hereby responds to Verizon Wireless' Complaint and Petition to Intervene. In summary, Verizon Wireless lacks standing to challenge the charges of which it complains, because the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board ("Board") stands ready to reimburse Verizon Wireless for these charges, just as the Board already reimburses every other wireless carrier paying Citizens' pseudo Automatic Number Identification ("pANI") charges. Hence, Verizon Wireless' Petition to Intervene should be denied and the Complaint should be rejected. However, Citizens is willing to attempt to address Verizon Wireless' concerns by seeking the Board's approval to pay Citizens directly, and Citizens is filing such a request with the Board. Citizens therefore respectfully moves the Authority to hold the pending Complaints and Petitions to Intervene in abeyance while Citizens addresses this issue with the Board.

In specific response to Verizon Wireless' Complaint and Petition to Intervene, Citizens admits, denies and alleges as follows. Any allegations in the Complaint and Petition to Intervene that are not specifically admitted herein are denied.

1. Citizens admits the allegations of paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 except that Citizens denies the allegations in footnote 1. Citizens has filed to postpone the effective date of its tariff to

January 14, 2008, and any issue of the minimum period between the filing and effective date of Citizens' tariff is therefore moot.

- 2. Citizens denies the allegations of paragraph 5. Verizon Wireless has been recently paying Citizens' bills for pANI charges and is being reimbursed for these charges by the Board, as more fully discussed below.
  - 3. Citizens denies the allegations of paragraph 6.
- 4. In response to paragraphs 7 and 8, Citizens admits that the Public Safety Answering Point ("PSAP") is, and should be, ultimately responsible for Citizens' pANI charges but otherwise denies the allegations in paragraphs 7 and 8. In further response, Citizens wishes to bring to the Authority's attention the essential fact, not mentioned by Verizon Wireless, that the Board on behalf of the PSAPs in Citizens' territory routinely approves reimbursement of Citizens pANI charges paid by wireless carriers such as Verizon Wireless, and that Verizon Wireless does not and will not ultimately bear the costs in question. Hence, Verizon Wireless lacks standing to complain about Citizens' charges because it need only file a simple request with the Board for reimbursement of these charges, just as every other wireless carrier using pANIs in Citizens' territory is already doing. Notwithstanding Verizon Wireless' complaint, Verizon Wireless is currently following the accepted industry practice of paying Frontier's pANI charges and obtaining recovery of these charges from the Board. Frontier believes that Verizon Wireless' actions speak louder than its words. The existing process is working well, and Verizon Wireless in its Complaint raises no legal interest or factual basis that warrants the overturning of the existing process.
- 5. Citizens denies the allegations of paragraphs 9 through 19 and all remaining allegations of the Complaint (other than paragraph 20, to which no response is required), except

as to the provisions of the Tennessee Code, the Authority's rules and Federal Communications Commission decisions, which speak for themselves.

6. Citizens requests the Authority to deny Verizon Wireless' Petition to Intervene, because Verizon Wireless has it in its power to be fully reimbursed for the tariffed charges of which it complains. Hence Verizon Wireless does not have a direct or cognizable interest in the subject matter of its Complaint. There is no justiciable controversy between Citizens and Verizon Wireless with respect to Citizens' proposed charges, because Verizon Wireless through a simple application process will be and, on information and belief is being, fully reimbursed for these charges by the Board. Therefore Verizon Wireless is not the true party in interest with respect to Citizens' tariffed charges.

## Motion to Hold in Abeyance

Citizens respectfully requests that the Authority hold the pending Complaints and

Petitions to Intervene in abeyance while Citizens attempts to arrange for direct payment by the

Board to Citizens of the charges in question, as opposed to the existing process that Verizon

Wireless and all other carriers except for Sprint Nextel are following, pursuant to which Citizens

bills the carriers and the carriers obtain reimbursement from the Board.

WHEREFORE, Citizens respectfully requests that the Authority:

(A) Hold the pending Complaints and Petitions to Intervene in abeyance while

Citizens works with the Board to attempt to arrange for direct payment of the charges in question, which would render the complaints moot;

- (B) Deny Verizon Wireless' Petition to Intervene on the ground that Verizon

  Wireless lacks standing to complain about charges that are ultimately paid by
  the Board; and
- (C) Deny Verizon Wireless' Complaint on the ground that there is no legal or factual reason to disturb the existing process by which the Board ultimately pays Citizens' pANI charges.

Respectfully submitted,

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the <u>Zoll</u>day of December, 2007, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Answer of Citizens to Complaint and Petition for Leave to Intervene of Verizon Wireless has been served on the parties set forth below, via U.S. Mail:

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