

FairPoint Communications, Inc.
State of New Hampshire
Docket No. DT 07-011

Respondent: Michael L. Harrington
Title: Vice President, Network
Engineering Services

REQUEST: Office of Consumer Advocate
Group II

DATED: April 13, 2007

ITEM: OCA 2-60 Re page 10, lines 8-12. Mr. Harrington testifies: "The latest data I have reviewed shows that Verizon has 63% of its lines in New Hampshire qualified to provide DSL. This metric tells us how many of Verizon 's New Hampshire customers can have DSL service ready within a short time after requesting the service. In contrast, 92% of FairPoint's lines in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont are qualified to provide DSL." Please respond to the following:

- a. Please provide a copy of the data used to determine that 63% of Verizon's lines are DSL qualified.
- b. What are FairPoint's specific criteria for determining that a line is DSL qualified?
- c. On the FairPoint network, what is the maximum allowable loop length for a DSL service?
- d. To increase Verizon's embedded 63% DSL qualified loops to 73%, what specific actions need to be taken and what is the resulting capital and maintenance dollars required to accomplish this objective?
- e. Based on your investigation, how many loops in Verizon's New Hampshire outside plant can economically support DSL service? Please state the answer as a percent of total loops.
- f. How much additional capital and maintenance dollars are estimated to be required to increase the availability of DSL qualified loops from 73% to the maximum identified in the previous response?
- g. What additional human resources will be required by FairPoint to engineer and enable the build out of Verizon's New Hampshire outside plant to achieve the maximum

economically efficient increase in DSL qualified loops?

- h. What are FairPoint's committed DSL transmission speed objectives? Do the minimum/maximum transmission speeds differ from urban, suburban or rural areas or by loop length?
- i. Provide in detail FairPoint's method for vendor selection of DSL equipment including the RFP process and the equipment evaluation criteria.

REPLY:

OBJECTION: FairPoint objects to Data Request 2-60 on the grounds that it is vague. Subject to and without waiving these objections, FairPoint will provide information responsive to Data Request 2-60. [Objection served April 20, 2007.]

- a. Total Access Lines as of 12/31/05 = 610,338; Total Access Lines, DSL Qualified = 384,549. Resulting calculation yields 63%. Data provided by Verizon.
- b. In general, FairPoint currently qualifies a customer line as DSL addressable if within 15kft of a DSL port.
- c. The maximum allowable loop length for DSL service is entirely dependent upon the gauge of the copper loop, its make-up over the length of the facility, type of DSL utilized and sustainable data speeds expected.
- d. FairPoint has not yet conducted detailed broadband engineering that would be required to respond to this question.
- e. FairPoint has not yet conducted detailed broadband engineering that would be required to respond to this question.
- f. FairPoint has not yet conducted detailed broadband engineering that would be required to respond to this question.
- g. FairPoint has not yet conducted detailed broadband engineering that would be required to respond to this question.
- h. DSL transmission speeds are determined by Marketing in accordance with service and application demand, and competition. As it relates to urban, suburban or rural areas, it is not FairPoint's current practice to differentiate "speed objectives" based upon "area criteria." However, attainable transmission speeds may be impacted by loop length which can vary.
- i. How FairPoint selects any vendor is a highly proprietary, and sensitive process. However, in general, FairPoint assesses vendor financial viability, platform capabilities and capacities, protocol flexibility, compliance with industry standards, product development "road maps," initial costs, ongoing

maintenance costs, and support fee structures. In addition, FairPoint assesses the ability of proposed vendor solutions to act in a truly multi-service/application environment that enables lowest cost/most efficient delivery methodologies for the Company and its customers.