# CHANGE CONTROL ASSURANCE PLAN

## **VERIZON - MASSACHUSETTS**

## **OCTOBER 2000**

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	1
II.	THE CHANGE CONTROL MEASURES AND BILL CREDITS	1
III.	MONTHLY REPORTS	2
IV.	REVIEWS, UPDATES AND AUDITS	3
V.	EXCEPTION PROCESS	3
VI.	TERM OF PLAN FOR THE CHANGE CONTROL PROCESS	4
VII.	FULLY INTEGRATED DOCUMENT	4
	APPENDIX I-A – Change Control Measures	

#### I. INTRODUCTION

To ensure that Verizon Massachusetts ("Verizon-MA"), will execute the Change Control process in an expeditious and non-discriminatory manner, Verizon-MA will undertake the actions set forth in this Change Control Assurance Plan (the "C.C.A.P.") after entry into the long distance market pursuant to Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. A total of \$13.2 million in bill credits will be at risk to CLECs if Verizon-MA provides unsatisfactory service for the four measures in this Plan.

#### II. THE CHANGE CONTROL MEASURES AND BILL CREDITS

The following measures are included in this Plan:

- 1. PO-4-01: % Change Management Notices Sent on Time;
- 2. PO-4-03: Change Management Notice Delay 8 plus Days;
- 3. PO-6-01: % Software Validation; and
- 4. PO-7-04: Delay Hours Failed/Rejected Test Transactions No

#### Workaround.

Attached hereto as Appendix A is a chart that provides the standards that will be applied to each of the above measures and the total amount of bill credits associated with each standard. If a performance measure is missed according to its standards, bill credits will be paid to all CLECs purchasing Unbundled Network Elements ("UNEs") or resold services. CLECs will receive bill credits on a prorated basis of the total credit determined using Appendix A based on their lines in service. This Plan will use the same mechanisms set forth in the Performance Assurance Plan for determining "lines in service." (See P.A.P. Section II (C)(2))

Under this Change Control Assurance Plan, Verizon-MA will retain the right to withdraw any proposed software release prior to the item being put into final production. If Verizon-MA exercises this right, it will not be deemed to have violated the requirements set forth in PO-4-01,

PO-4-03, PO-6-01 or PO-7-04 and will not be subject to the payment of bill credits under those measures.

The initial amount of annual bill credits for all CLECs will be \$5.28 million under this Plan. If, however, the bill credits due to the CLECs under this Plan exceed \$5.28 million in any year, <sup>1</sup> an additional amount of \$7.92 million will be at risk from the bill credit amounts allocated to the Mode of Entry Categories in the Performance Assurance Plan. Thus, a total of \$13.2 million will be available for bill credits for the Change Control measures. Bill credit payments for Change Control measures will be given priority over bill credits for the MOE categories.

The Department will have the authority to reallocate the monthly distribution of bill credits between and among any provisions of the P.A.P. and the C.C.A.P. The Department will give the Company 15 days notice prior to the beginning of the month in which the reallocation will occur. Any reallocation will be done pursuant to Department order.

#### III. MONTHLY REPORTS

Each month Verizon-MA will issue a report on its performance on the above measures to each CLEC providing service in Massachusetts.<sup>2</sup> The reports will be CLEC specific and will indicate the scores on the measures, the aggregate amount of bill credits, if any, that Verizon-MA must provide pursuant to the standards set forth in Appendix I-A, and the specific amount of bill credits that will appear on the individual CLEC's bill. All CLECs with multiple bill accounts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The "year" will be measured from the first day of Verizon-MA's entry into the interLATA market.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Verizon-MA's performance on the other Change Control metrics will be reported in the monthly C2C reports.

must inform Verizon-MA as to which of their accounts should receive any bill credits for the Change Control measures.

#### IV. REVIEWS, UPDATES AND AUDITS

- Annual reviews and updates will occur under this Plan until the Department determines otherwise. However, Verizon-MA, after consulting with Staff, may at any time recommend to the Department modifications, additions, or deletions to the measures in this Plan or the bill credit allocations. CLECs and any other interested parties will be given an opportunity to provide comments on any recommendations. In addition, Staff will have the right from time to time, on 60-days notice to Verizon-MA, to conduct an audit of data reported in the monthly reports.<sup>3</sup>

#### V. EXCEPTION PROCESS

Verizon-MA will have the right to file a petition with the Department seeking to have the standards contained in Appendix I-A waived or modified either for future or past periods. The Department shall grant such a request if it determines that the application of one or more of the standards contained in Appendix I-A would not serve the public interest. The application of one or more parts of Appendix I-A would not serve the public interest if Verizon-MA could not, through any reasonable efforts, prevent results that do not satisfy the standards. Verizon-MA's petition must include all information that demonstrates how the measure was missed. It shall also include a recalculation of the measure with the challenged information excluded from the calculations. CLECs and other interested parties will be given an opportunity to respond to any Verizon-MA petition for an Exception. In the event the Department rules in Verizon-MA's

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Unlike the most of the measures in the P.A.P., the recording of data for each of the measures in this Plan will be done manually.

favor, Verizon-MA will have the right to offset any paid bill credits against any future bill credits that may come due for either the Change Control measures or Performance Assurance Plan measures.

#### VI. TERM OF PLAN FOR THE CHANGE CONTROL PROCESS

The Change Control Assurance Plan will have the same term as the Performance Assurance Plan. It will remain in effect, as modified from time to time by the Department, until the Department rescinds the Performance Assurance Plan or develops a replacement mechanism.

#### VII. FULLY INTEGRATED DOCUMENT

The terms and provisions of this Plan are submitted in their entirety to the Department for approval. This Plan represents a fully integrated statement of the commitments Verizon-MA will undertake, including the payment of bill credits for unsatisfactory performance under the measures. It is not offered to the Department for approval on a piecemeal basis.

### APPENDIX I-A PAGE 1

### **Change Control Performance Assurance Plan Measures**

PO-4-01	% Change Management Notices Sent on Time					
	Performance Range (Notification and	? 95%	90 to 94.9%	< 90%		
	Confirmation for Types 3, 4 and 5 only)					
	Performance Credit	\$0	\$132,000	\$264,000		
PO-4-03	Change Management Notice Delay 8 plus Days (Notification and Confirmation for Type 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5)					
	Performance Credit	\$13,200 per day				
PO-6-01	% Software Validation (See Note 1)					
	Performance Range	? 5%	5.1 to 10%	> 10%		
	Performance Credit	\$0	\$52,800	\$528,000		
PO-7-04	Delay Hours - Failed/Rejected Test Transactions - No Workaround (See Note 2)					
	Performance Credit	\$26,400 per day				
		Per Release				

Note 1: Measured against releases pursuant to Change Notice Types 3, 4

and 5.

Note 2: PO-7-04 applies to failed Test Deck items executed by Verizon-MA

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PO-6-01 and applies until all errors reported in PO-6-01 are fixed.