

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)
VERIZON HAWAII INC.)
For Approval of Changes to its)
Tariff. Transmittal No. 02-50.)
_____)

DOCKET NO. 02-0399

ORDER NO. 19767

Filed Nov. 13, 2002
At 11:00 o'clock A .M.

Karen Higashi
Chief Clerk of the Commission

DIV. OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY
DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF HAWAII

2002 NOV 13 P 4: 08

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ATTEST: A True Copy
KAREN HIGASHI
Chief Clerk, Public Utilities
Commission, State of Hawaii.

K. Higashi

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of))	
VERIZON HAWAII INC.)	Docket No. 02-0399
)	
For Approval of Changes to its)	Order No. 19767
Tariff. Transmittal No. 02-50.)	
_____)	

ORDER

I.

By transmittal number 02-50, filed on August 23, 2002, VERIZON HAWAII INC. seeks commission approval of certain changes to section 24 of its tariff. The proposed effective date of the tariff changes is November 25, 2002.

Copies of the transmittal were served on the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy (Consumer Advocate). On September 19, 2002, Verizon Hawaii Inc. submitted its responses to the Consumer Advocate's information requests, issued on September 10, 2002.

II.

Three service features are the subject of the instant transmittal: (1) automatic busy redial (*66); (2) automatic call return (*69); and (3) three-way calling. Under Verizon Hawaii Inc.'s tariff, customers have the option of subscribing to these three service features in one of two manners: (1) per line; or (2) on a per usage within a single month basis, aka

per occurrence.¹ Verizon Hawaii Inc. does not propose any changes to the monthly per line charge for these service features.

The current charge on a per occurrence basis for each of these separate service features is \$0.75, with a "maximum number of chargeable occurrences" at 12 per month, thereby effectively capping the monthly charge for 12 or more uses within a single month at \$9.00. The maximum number of chargeable occurrences applies separately to each different service feature. Thus, a customer's use of two or more service features is not combined to reach the maximum number of chargeable occurrences.

By its transmittal, Verizon Hawaii Inc. seeks to increase the "maximum number of chargeable occurrences" from 12 to 19 per month, for each of the three service features. It does not propose any changes to the existing charge of \$0.75 per occurrence. Accordingly, under Verizon Hawaii Inc.'s proposal, the cap on the monthly charge for 19 or more uses within a single month will increase from \$9.00 to \$14.25.²

As justification for its proposed tariff changes, Verizon Hawaii Inc. states:

Since less than 1% of customers currently exceed the existing twelve occurrences per month maximum, the impact of this change on customers should be minimal. Verizon has already obtained approval to increase the maximum number of occurrences in Texas, Florida, and Michigan.

Verizon Hawaii Inc.'s application, at 2.

¹This second manner is described in Verizon Hawaii Inc.'s tariff as "per occurrence."

²\$0.75 x 19 = \$14.25.

III.

Upon careful review, the commission finds it prudent to provide further opportunity to review and determine the justness and reasonableness of transmittal number 02-50. Among other things, the commission intends to review and consider the recommendations set forth in the Consumer Advocate's position statement.³ Accordingly, the commission will suspend Verizon Hawaii Inc.'s transmittal number 02-50, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes § 269-16(b) and Hawaii Administrative Rules § 6-80-40.

IV.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

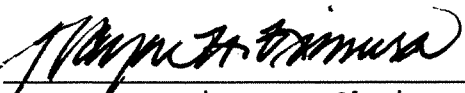
1. The tariff changes sought by Verizon Hawaii Inc. in transmittal number 02-50, filed on August 23, 2002, are suspended pending review and order of the commission.

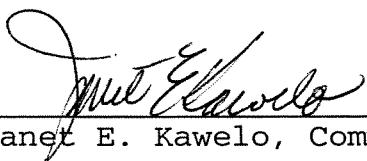
2. Unless ordered or directed otherwise, the Consumer Advocate shall file its position statement by December 5, 2002.

³In the cover letter transmitting the information requests, the Consumer Advocate makes clear that it intends to file its final recommendations and position statement.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 13th day of November,
2002.

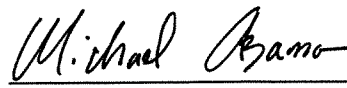
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By 
Wayne H. Kimura, Chairman

By 
Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

By (RECUSED)
Gregg J. Kinkley, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Michael Azama
Commission Counsel

02.500s.sl

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 19767 upon the following parties, by causing a copy hereof to be mailed, postage prepaid, and properly addressed to each such party.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY
P. O. Box 541
Honolulu, HI 96809

JOEL K. MATSUNAGA
VICE PRESIDENT-EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
VERIZON HAWAII INC.
P. O. Box 2200, A-17
Honolulu, HI 96841



Karen Higashi

DATED: November 13, 2002