

**Minnesota Public Utilities Commission**  
***Revised Recommendations***

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Meeting Date: **October 2, 2014** .....\*Agenda Item #

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Company: Frontier Communications of Minnesota, Inc.

Docket No. P405/AR-14-735

In the Matter of a Petition by Frontier Communications of Minnesota, Inc. for Approval of its Revised Alternative Regulation (AFOR) Plan

- Issues:
- 1) What procedures shall the Commission adopt to review Frontier’s petition?
  - 2) What procedures shall the Commission adopt for the settlement process?

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The attached materials are workpapers of the Commission Staff. They are intended for use by the Public Utilities Commission and are based upon information already in the record unless noted otherwise.

**This document can be made available in alternative formats (i.e., large print or audio tape) by calling (651) 296-0406 (voice). Persons with hearing or speech difficulties may call us through their preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.**

October 2, 2014

***Staff Recommendations on the Proposed Procedures for Review of Frontier's Third Revised AFOR Plan***

- A. Require the Company to, ~~within 5 days of the Order,~~ post its petition, any public meetings determined by the Commission, and the case timetable and any other pertinent information at its website by October 13, 2014.
- B. Require the Company to, ~~within 10 days of the Order, provide~~ post notice on the public portion of its website as well as in the area where normal communications occur with all telecommunications carriers with which it has an interconnection agreement, and file a list of all persons served.
- C. Require the Company to, ~~within 10 day of the Order,~~ serve notice on all retail customers within 45 days after the notice is approved by the Executive Secretary. The customer notice must be ~~1)~~ developed with the Department and Staff, and ~~approved by the Executive Secretary, and 2)~~ contain information about the availability of the Plan details and the ability to post comments and questions through the Commission's website.
- D. Require any interested person wishing to be on the service list to file a Declaration of Interest form ~~within 20 days of the Order~~ by October 22, 2014.
- E. Require any interested person wishing to intervene as a party to file a petition to intervene ~~within 20 days of the Order~~ by October 22, 2014.
- F. Require that any proposed protective orders be filed ~~within 20 days of the Order~~ by October 22, 2014.
- G. Designate a lead commissioner to approve any protective order.
- H. Require Frontier and all parties to answer any information requests within 10 days of receipt, to serve a copy of each information request and answer on the service list, and on non-party participants upon request.
- I. Require comments on the adequacy of the filings to be filed by November 10, 2014.
- J. Require comments on the Merits to be filed by December 5, 2014, and replies to be filed by December 19, 2014.
- K. Solicit public comments through one or a combination of the following methods:
  - 1. Direct Frontier to arrange public meetings to be conducted by an ALJ, and to submit a proposed schedule within 20 days of the Commission Order. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to approve necessary logistics for the public meetings.
  - 2. Direct Frontier to prominently include in its customer notices instructions on how to post comments regarding the proposed plan using the Company's website. File received comments in the case record.

3. Direct Frontier to include a link to the Commission's website in its customer notices ~~the following directions~~ for solicitation of public comments:

~~Go to [mn.gov/puc](http://mn.gov/puc), select *Comment on an Issue*, find this docket **14-735**, and add your comments to the discussion.~~

~~Persons without internet access may send Comments by U.S. mail to Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7<sup>th</sup> Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul MN 55101-2147. Commenters should include the Commission's docket number **14-735** in all communications.~~

- L. Parties filing Comments or participating in Settlement discussions are directed to formally address the public interest aspects of the Company's proposal, and the proposal's compliance with all relevant statutes. Parties are specifically directed to address, at a minimum, the 11 issues in substantial detail ~~identified above~~ in their Comments or any Settlement.
- M. Delegate authority to the Executive Secretary to handle further procedural issues.
- N. Convene a settlement conference and direct the parties to conduct initial discussions within 10 days of the Order. Direct parties to submit any resulting settlement agreement by December 19, 2014.
- O. Direct Frontier to submit a written progress report regarding the status of settlement discussions on November 10 and November 28, 2014.

Attachment A – Staff’s Proposed Case Timeline, **October 2, 2014 Revision**  
 Frontier’s Proposed AFOR Plan  
 Docket P405/AR-14-735

<b>Action</b>	<b>Staff’s Initial Proposal</b>	<b>Revised Proposal</b>
Frontier filing	August 29, 2014	
Commission proceeding on Procedures	October 2, 2014	
Commission Order on Procedures	<i>TBD</i>	same
Frontier posting on website	5 days after Order	October 13, 2014
Frontier notice to telcos – through web postings Frontier notice to customers	10 days after Order	October 13, 2014  Completed within 45 days from approval by Exec. Secretary
Deadline for declaration of interest, intervention , any proposed protective order	20 days from Order	By October 22, 2014
Comments on adequacy of filing	November 10, 2014	same
Comments and Replies on Merits	December 5, 2014 December 19, 2014	same
Settlement Progress Reports  Final Report	November 10 and November 28, 2014 December 19, 2014	same  same
Commission proceeding on merit of proposal	<i>February 5, 2015 or TBD</i>	same
Commission Order	February 24, 2015 or TBD	March 2, 2015 Or TBD
Current AFOR expires	March 1, 2015	