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UTAH PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION

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April 29, 2013

RECEIVED

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Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Docket No. 13-999-03

Re: MCI Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Business Services

Dear Ms. Dortch:

MCI Communications Services Inc. submits the enclosed Application for authority under Section 214(a) of the Communications Act and Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, to discontinue its MCI 900 Service.

MCI intends to discontinue this service in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. MCI has notified its affected customers in writing of its planned discontinuance. A copy of the written notification is attached.

MCI is filing an original and five copies of this letter (with attachment) with the Office of the Secretary.

If you have questions about this matter, please contact me at 202-515-2590.

Very truly yours,

Attachment

cc: Secretary of Defense, Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications
Public Utilities Commission for Each Impacted State
Governor of Each Impacted State

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
Section 63.71 Application of)	
MCI Communications Services, Inc.)	
d/b/a Verizon Business Services Inc.)	File no.
For Authority Pursuant to Section 214 of)	
the Communications Act of 1934, As Amended)	
To Discontinue the Provision of Service)	

SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION OF MCI COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC. D/B/A VERIZON BUSINESS SERVICES INC.

MCI Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Business Services (collectively "MCI") submits this Application for authority under Section 214(a) of the Communications Act and Section 63.71 of the Commission's rules to discontinue provision of its "MCI 900 Service," a transport service for 900 numbers. Consistent with Sections 63.71(a) and (b) of the Commission's rules, MCI provides the following information:

1. Name and Address of Carrier (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71 (a)(1), (b)(2)):

MCI Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Business Services
One Verizon Way
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

2. Date of Planned Service Discontinuance (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(2), (b)(2)):

MCI plans to discontinue its provisioning of 900 number transport service on or after June 30, 2013.

3. Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(3), (b)(2)):

MCI will discontinue these services in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

4. Brief Description of Type of Service Affected (47 C.F.R. §§ 63.71(a)(4), (b)(2)):

MCI 900 Service is an inbound, long distance transport service used to support third-party pay-per-call services.¹ The service allows a customer to charge end-users on a per-call basis when they call a pre-determined 900 number. The customer's charges to the third parties may be per-minute, flat-fee, or both. The MCI 900 Service is offered on a non-dominant basis.

Though once popularly used to obtain information (*e.g.*, winning lottery numbers) or for entertainment (*e.g.*, fan clubs and horoscopes) as well as other uses, 900 number usage has dropped substantially over time. In recent years, call volume and the number of unique numbers called have both dropped substantially. Currently, only two customers are purchasing this service from MCI. Overall call volumes have dropped by more than 80% in the past year. Moreover, there are now less than fifteen unique 900 numbers billed under this service that report more than 100 calls per month (down from more than ninety a year ago).

Increased use of mobile phones and access over the Internet to information once found via 900 numbers may be significant factors for the decline. Since mobile phones cannot be used to place 900 number calls, consumers who have either cut the cord or who primarily use cellular phones often now seek other options. Providers may offer mobile users information similar to that accessible over a 900 number using pay-per-use pound codes, in which a user dials the pound (#) sign plus a short number. Additionally, much of the same type of information previously accessed by 900 numbers is now obtainable over the internet or via social media. Other providers may offer information using an 800 number, with services billed to the user at the time of a call via the caller's credit card.

Due to the decline in usage of these services and the ready alternatives available, MCI plans to discontinue its provision of 900 number transport service on or after June 30, 2013.

¹ MCI no longer provides billing or collections services for 900 numbers.

Customers will face no impairment from this change. As noted above, the number of users has dropped dramatically, as end-users shift to alternate services or providers. Additionally, other entities have been assigned 900 number blocks, including entities such as North County Communications, Fastrack Global Billing Networks, Inc., PrimeTel Communications, and ACI Communications Holdings. Consequently, the public convenience and necessity will not be impaired by this discontinuance.

5. Brief Description of the Dates and Methods of Notice to All Affected Customers (47 C.F.R. § 63.71 (b)(3)):

MCI sent notices to the two affected customers by overnight delivery on or before April 29, 2013. A copy of the notice sent to the affected customers is attached as Exhibit A.

MCI is sending copies of this Application by first class U.S. Mail to the governor and public utilities commission for each affected state and U.S. territory as well as to the Special Assistant for Telecommunications to the Secretary of Defense, as required by Section 63.71(a) of the Commission's rules.

6. Regulatory Classification of Carrier (47 C.F.R. § 63.71(b)(4)):

MCI is considered non-dominant with respect to the services to be discontinued.

CONCLUSION

MCI respectfully requests that the Commission approve this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Katharine R. Saunders

William H. Johnson

Katharine R. Saunders

Verizon

1320 N. Courthouse Rd.

9th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201

(703) 351-3097

Michael E. Glover
Of Counsel

April 29, 2013

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 29 day of April, 2013, I served a copy of the foregoing Section 63.71 Application by overnight delivery postage prepaid to the following parties on the attached service list.

/s/ Katharine R. Saunders
Katharine R. Saunders

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Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Asst. for
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EXHIBIT A



MCI Communications Services, Inc.
d/b/a Verizon Business Services
One Verizon Way
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

April 29, 2013



Re: Discontinuance of 900 Number Transport Service

Dear

MCI Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Business Services ("MCI") values your wholesale business and prides itself on developing and offering new and innovative products and services that will help you compete in a constantly changing and evolving market. In order to better serve you, MCI has embarked on a project to review and update its portfolio of wholesale services and focus its energies on those services and technologies that influence the way businesses operate.

In connection with that project, MCI has determined it is necessary to discontinue a particular service MCI offers. Specifically, on or after June 30, 2013, MCI will discontinue its provisioning of 900 number transport service (i.e., "MCI 900 Service") within the United States and its territories (including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands). This discontinuance does not impact any other services you are purchasing from MCI. Further, MCI will continue to provide you the service under your existing terms and conditions (including rates) until MCI discontinues this service completely. Following the date of discontinuance, you will receive a bill reflecting any final 900 transport usage charges.

The FCC will normally authorize this proposed discontinuance of service unless it is shown that customers would be unable to receive services or a reasonable substitute from another carrier or that the public convenience and necessity is otherwise adversely affected. If you wish to object, you should file your comments as soon as possible, but no later than fifteen (15) days after the Commission releases public notice of the proposed discontinuance. Address them to the Federal Communications Commission, Wireline Competition Bureau, Competition Policy Division, Washington, DC 20554, and include in your comments a reference to the §63.71 Application of MCI Communications Services, Inc. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance upon you or your company, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service.

Again, MCI apologizes for any inconvenience you may experience due to this discontinuance.

Your business remains important to MCI and MCI looks forward to addressing and serving your future telecommunications needs.

Sincerely,
MCI Communications Services, Inc

David J. Goldhirsch
Director - Verizon Global Wholesale