



FEATURES |

Michigan Telecommunications Report – a new look

With this edition of the *Michigan Telecommunications Report*, we are pleased to present the MTR in its new format. While we have attempted to modernize the way our publication feels, the contents you have come to expect are still here. Over the next few weeks we hope to add additional features to make the MTR an even more valuable resource to our readers. . . .

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. . . As always, any subscriber can receive the MTR on the day of publication in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format. If you currently receive the MTR and would prefer to receive an electronic copy on the date of publication, please call Haran Rashes at (517) 318-3019.

Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act Out of Committee to the House Floor

House Bill 6456, the Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act, sponsored by Rep. Mike Nofs (R-Battle Creek) was discharged with a favorable recommendation on Wednesday, September 20, 2006, from the House Energy and Technology Committee. The only representative voting against the bill, in committee, was Rep. Ed Clemente (D-Lincoln Park),

However, final consideration on the House floor was delayed until after the November election. This delay was despite the 101 votes the bill received when it moved from second to third reading. According to a press release issued by the Michigan Municipal League (“MML”), “local officials stopped a full House vote on HB 6456 . . . after hundreds of phone calls and letters by local leaders.” MML believes that “local officials were going head-to-head with big phone companies (AT&T and Verizon) and big cable companies (Comcast and Charter)” over this legislation. MML estimates that the bill would cause a loss of revenue to Michigan Municipalities of approximately \$42 million a year.

If passed, HB 6456 would create a state based video service authorization system to replace the current video or cable system franchising on a municipality by municipality basis. New video service providers would file an application for video service authorization with the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”). Within 15 days, the Commission would notify the provider if the application was complete. If complete, the Commission would be required to issue a state video service authorization (“franchise”) within 60 days. If the Commission misses any of these deadlines, the authorization would automatically issue. Existing video service providers would have to obtain state video service authorization after their current franchises expire unless they have sought the new authorizations within 120 days after the bill takes effect.

Under the bill, all holders of state video service authorizations would be required to designate a sufficient amount of capacity on its network to provide for the same number of public, educational, and governmental access channels as are activated and provided within a local unit of government by any existing cable provider under an existing local franchise. All authorization holders would be required to provide its subscribers access to the signals of the local broadcast television licensed by the Federal Communications Commission to serve those subscribers over the air.

To replace the existing franchise fee many municipalities currently collect from franchised cable operators, HB 6456 would require holders of state video service authorizations to pay the lesser of 1) up to five percent of gross revenues, as established by the local unit of government and filed with the Commission; or, 2) The lowest percentage of gross revenues paid to the local unit of government by any incumbent video provider.

If HB 6456 is passed, existing local cable franchise agreements would not be allowed to be renewed or extended. An existing franchised cable operator would be required to seek a state video service authorization in the area designated in the existing franchise (1) when the existing franchise expires, or (2) at its own option within 120 days after the bill takes effect.

HB 6456 defines “video service” as “video programming, cable services, IPTV, or OVS provided through facilities located at least in part in the public rights-of-way without regard to delivery technology, including internet protocol technology. This definition does not include any video programming provided by a commercial mobile service provider defined in 47 USC 332(d) or provided solely as part of, and via, a service that enables users to access content, information, electronic mail, or other services offered over the public internet.” This very broad definition, including video transmitted over the Internet for the first time, potentially could require state video authorization for entities not currently required to have local cable franchises

It is anticipate that the bill will be taken up by the House when it returns following the November election.

PENDING LEGISLATION |

The following is a list of active telecommunications bills that have been introduced during the current legislative session. Copies of bills and public acts referred to in this column may be obtained by contacting your state Senator or Representative, on the Michigan Legislature Web site, <<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/>> or from the Legislative Service Bureau Document Room at (517) 373-0169.

Senate Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
SB 48 Johnson	1/25/05	State; authorities; issuance of bonds for equipment associated with telecommunications on the campuses of Michigan institutions of higher education with lease options back to the institutions and the state; provide for. Amends sec. 7 of 1964 PA 183 (MCL 830.417).	9/6/06 reported out of House Committee on Appropriations without amendment; 7/26/06 passed by the Senate.
SB 58 Cherry	1/25/05	Communications; telecommunications; 9-1-1 system to pinpoint caller location; provide for. Amends 1986 PA 32 (MCL 484.1101 – 484.1717) by adding sec. 408a.	To Senate Committee on Technology and Energy
SB 127 Hardiman	2/1/05	Communications; cellular telephone; customer consent to list numbers in a cell phone directory; require. Amends 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2101 - 484.2701) by adding sec. 360a.	3/1/06 passed roll call #100, yeas 37, Nays 0, excused 0, not voting 0; referred to House Committee on Energy and Technology
SB 221 McManus	2/17/05	Income tax; credit; tax credit for placement of a cell phone tower on an individual's property located in an underserved area; provide for. Amends 1967 PA 281 (MCL 206.1 - 206.532) by adding sec. 262.	5/25/05 passed Senate with Sub S-2, yeas 27, nays 9, excused 2, not voting 0; referred to House Committee on Tax Policy
SB 222 Barcia	2/17/05	Single business tax; credit; tax credit for companies that construct cell phone towers in rural areas; establish. Amends 1975 PA 228 (MCL 208.1 – 208.145) by adding sec. 35c.	5/25/05 passed Senate with Sub S-1, yeas 28, nays 9, excused 1, not voting 0; referred to House Committee on Tax Policy
SB 224 Van Woerkom	2/17/05	Communications; telecommunications; broadband development authority; require to designate a certain amount of financial assistance to rural underserved areas. Amends sec. 7 of 2002 PA 49 (MCL 484.3207).	6/7/05 passed, yeas 32, nays 2, excused 4, not voting 0; referred to House Committee on Energy and Technology
SB 528 Johnson	5/24/05	Communications; telecommunications; regulation of telecommunications industry; eliminate. Creates new act.	5/24/06 referred to Senate Committee on Technology and Energy
SB 595 Switalski	6/16/05	Use tax; rate; certain telecommunication services and motion picture films; include in taxable items. Amends sec. 3a of 1937 PA 94 (MCL 205.93a).	To Senate Committee on Appropriations
SB 737 Thomas III	9/6/05	Traffic control; violations; use of cellular telephone while operating a vehicle driving in a left lane of a highway; prohibit and provide penalties. Amends 1949 PA 300 (MCL 257.1 – 257.923) by adding sec. 682c.	To Senate Committee on Transportation; 11/9/05 reported favorably with recommendation for referral to Senate Committee on Technology and Energy; referred to Senate Committee on Technology and Energy

Senate Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
SB 754 Brown	9/13/05	Communications; telecommunications; general amendments; provide for. Amends secs. 102, 202, 208 & 304 of 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2102 et seq.) & repeals sec. 304b of 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2304b).	10/11/05 Passed roll call –Yeas 38 Nays 0 Excused 0 not voting 0; 10/12/05 referred to House Committee on Energy and Technology
SB 806 Patterson	10/11/05	Public utilities; public service commission; regulation of public service commission; establish.	To Senate Committee on Technology and Energy
SB 814 Patterson	10/18/05	Traffic control; civil infraction procedures; points added to driver license record when determined that use of cellular telephone contributed to cause of traffic violation; provide for, and prohibit novice drivers from using handheld cellular telephones while operating a motor vehicle.	10/19/05 reassigned to Senate Committee on Technology and Energy
SB 885 Hardiman	11/10/05	Crimes; other; damaging, destroying, or preventing access to telecommunication device to prevent report of domestic violence or to summon assistance required as a result of domestic violence; prohibit and provide penalties. Amends 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.1 - 750.568) by adding sec. 411u.	11/10/05 referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary
SB 1211 Basham	4/19/06	Communications; telecommunications; eligibility date to opt into METRO funds; revise. Amends sec. 13 of 2002 PA 48 (MCL 484.3113).	4/19/06 referred to Senate Committee on Technology and Energy
SB 1291 Jacobs	6/07/06	Communications; cellular telephone; cell phone users bill of rights; establish.	To Senate Committee on Technology and Energy
SB 1311 Schauer	6/15/06	Corrections; state facilities; furnishing cellular telephones or other wireless communication devices to prisoners; prohibit. Amends title of 1909 PA 17 (MCL 800.281 - 800.285) & adds sec. 3a.	To Senate Committee on Judiciary
SB 1312 Switalski	6/15/06	Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; guidelines for crime of furnishing cell phones or similar devices to prisoners; create. Amends sec. 17g, ch. XVII of 1927 PA 175 (MCL 777.17g)	To Senate Committee on Judiciary
SB 1458 Jacobs	9/19/06	Consumer protection; privacy; information privacy and protection act. Creates new act.	To Senate Committee on Judiciary
SB 1478 Patterson	9/20/06	Income tax; credit; tax credit for purchase of certain computer software to filter or monitor internet activity; provide for. Amends 1967 PA 281 (MCL 206.1 - 206.532) by adding sec. 277.	To Senate Committee on Finance

Senate Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
SB 1479	9/20/06	Crimes; criminal sexual conduct; access to social websites by certain sex offenders; prohibit. Amends 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.1 - 750.568) by adding sec. 411u.	To Senate Committee on Judiciary
SCR 0021 Patterson	5/18/05	A concurrent resolution to urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to use its authority posthaste to require that Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) service providers make enhanced 9-1-1 emergency call services available to all customers..	To Senate Committee on Technology and Energy

House Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HB 4050 Lemmons III	1/27/05	Corrections; state facilities; telephone system for state correctional facilities; impose requirements. Amends 1953 PA 232, entitled "Corrections code of 1953," (MCL 791.201 to 791.283) by adding section 69b.	9/21/06 Notice given to discharge House Committee on Judiciary
HB 4052 Lemmons III	1/27/05	Trade; consumer goods and services; sale of cellular telephones and pagers to a minor; require written parental consent. A bill to prohibit the sale of cellular telephones and pagers to certain minors without written parental consent; and to prescribe civil sanctions.	9/21/06 Notice given to discharge House Committee on Judiciary
HB 4067 Schuitmaker	1/27/05	Communications; telecommunications; requirement for timely transfer of customers from one provider to another; provide for. A bill to amend 1991 PA 179, entitled "Michigan Telecommunications Act," (MCL 484.2101 to 484.2701) by adding section 364.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 4397 Sak	2/23/05	Communications; telecommunications; cell phone numbers listed with directory assistance; provide for. Amends sec. 309 of 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2309).	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 4563 Garfield	3/24/05	A bill to repeal 2002 PA 49, entitled "Michigan broadband development authority act," (MCL 484.3201 to 484.3225).	To House Committee on Energy and Technology

House Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HB 4600 Drolet	4/13/05	Communications; telecommunications; regulation of telecommunications industry; eliminate. Creates new act entitled the "communications act" to be effective 01/01/06. A bill to promote deployment of and investment in communications services in this state; and to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state agencies and officials.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 4952 Miller	6/16/05	Use tax; rate; certain telecommunication services and motion picture films; include in taxable items. Amends sec. 3a of 1937 PA 94 (MCL 205.93a).	To House Committee on Tax Policy
HB 5053 Stewart	7/13/05	Traffic control; violations; use of a handheld cellular device while driving; prohibit in most circumstances. Amends 1949 PA 300 (MCL 257.1 - 257.923) by adding sec. 677b.	To House Committee on Transportation
HB 5115 Bieda	9/6/05	Environmental protection; recycling; collection for recycling or disposal of used cellular telephones by retailers; require. Amends 1994 PA 451 (MCL 324.101 - 324.90106) by adding pt. 175.	To House Committee on Natural Resources, Great Lakes, Land Use, and Environment
HB 5122 Vander Veen	9/6/05	Trade; antitrust; refusals to deal by providers of electronic data interchange and value added network services; prohibit. Amends title & sec. 1 of 1984 PA 274 (MCL 445.771) & adds sec. 3a.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 5133 Law	9/7/05	Traffic control; violations; use of cell phone while operating a vehicle by an individual in the graduated licensing program; prohibit and establish penalties. Amends sec. 907 of 1949 PA 300 (MCL 257.907) & adds sec. 602b.	10/20/05 passed House; Yeas 78, Nays 27; 10/25/05 given immediate effect; referred to Senate Committee on Technology and Energy
HB 5272 Elsenheimer	10/06/05	Communications; telecommunications; disclosure of early termination fees or penalties; require.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 5392 Kolb	11/1/05	Disabilities; accessible electronic information service; establish and provide funding source. Creates new act.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 5483 Pearce	12/6/05	Traffic control; civil infraction procedures; points added to driver license record when determined that use of cellular telephone contributed to cause of traffic violation; provide for, and prohibit novice drivers from using handheld cellular telephones while operating a motor vehicle. Amends secs. 320a & 907 of 1949 PA 300 (MCL 257.320a & 257.907) & adds sec. 602b.	To House Committee on Judiciary

House Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HB 5488 Farhat	12/7/05	Public utilities; other; pole attachment authority; establish. Amends sec. 6g of 1939 PA 3 (MCL 460.6g).	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 5895 Hoogendyk	3/21/06	Communications; cable; regulation of competitive cable service providers; provide for.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 5917 Nofs	3/28/06	Communications; telecommunications; Provide amendments to the Emergency Telephone Service Enabling Act. Amends secs. 401, 407, 408, 412 & 717 of 1986 PA 32 (MCL 484.1401 et seq.).	5/10/06 Sub S-1 passed by the House, 100 yeas, 5 nays. Referred to Senate Committee on Technology and Energy.
HB 5999 Condino	4/26/06	Corrections; state facilities; furnishing cellular telephones or other wireless communication devices to prisoners; prohibit. Amends title of 1909 PA 17 (MCL 800.281 - 800.285) & adds sec. 3a.	To House Committee on Judiciary
HB 6000 Condino	4/26/06	Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; guidelines for crime of furnishing cell phones or similar devices to prisoners; create. Amends sec. 17g, ch. XVII of 1927 PA 175 (MCL 777.17g). TIE BAR WITH: HB 5999'06.	To House Committee on Judiciary
HB 6136 Gosselin	06/06/06	Communications; cellular telephone; assessment of fees and interest during a dispute between consumers and wireless companies; prohibit. Amends 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2101 - 484.2604) by adding sec. 381.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 6189 Cushingberry	6/13/06	Communications; telecommunications; amendments to the emergency telephone service enabling act; provide for. Amends sec. 102 of 1986 PA 32 (MCL 484.1102) & adds sec. 408a.	To Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 6198 Gosselin	6/14/06	Communications; cellular telephone; minimum rate assessed on charge for default of payment; establish. Amends 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2101 - 484.2604) by adding sec. 381.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 6248 Hune	6/21/06	Insurance; other; waiver of customer liability agreement; clarify as not being insurance. Amends 1956 PA 218 (MCL 500.100 - 500.8302) by adding sec. 126.	9/19/06 Reported with recommendation by Senate Committee on Banking and Financial Institutions
HB 6277 Sheen	6/28/06	Sales tax; exemptions; provision regarding review process for telecommunication equipment exemption; revise.	9/14/06 Sub H-1 Reported with recommendation by House Committee on Tax Policy
HB 6278 Sheen	6/28/06	Use tax; exemptions; provision regarding review process for telecommunication equipment exemption; revise.	9/14/06 Sub H-1 Reported with recommendation by House Committee on Tax Policy

House Bill # Primary Sponsor	Date Introduced	Description	Status (revisions in bold)
HB 6355 Green	8/16/06	Communications; cellular telephone; requirement for vendors of prepaid cellular telephones to obtain and retain certain information from purchaser. Amends 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2101 - 484.2604) by adding Part J, sec. 325.	To House Committee on Energy and Technology
HB 6430 Law	9/13/06	Crimes; criminal sexual conduct; access to social websites by certain sex offenders; prohibit. Amends 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.1 to 750.568) by adding section 411u.	9/19/06 Sub H-3 Reported with recommendation by House Committee on Judiciary; 9/20/06 passed House; Yeas 107, Nays 0; referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary
HB 6456 Nofs	9/12/2006	Communications; cable; regulation of competitive cable service providers; provide for. Creates new act.	9/20/06 Sub H-2 Reported with recommendation by House Committee on Energy and Technology; Sub H-2 adopted and amended by House; placed on third reading
HB 6480 Kolb	9/14/06	Labor; fair employment practices; employer monitoring of employee communications; prohibit unless the employer establishes an employee monitoring policy and discloses that policy to employees. Creates new act.	Referred to House Committee on Employment Relations, Training, and Safety
HB 6522 Angerer	9/14/06	Consumer protection; privacy; information privacy and protection act. Creates new act.	Referred to House Committee on Judiciary

PUBLIC ACTS OF 2005 AND 2006

Listed below are Public Acts related to telecommunications that have been passed during the current legislative session (2005-2006). Copies of public acts may be obtained by contacting your state senator or representative, on the Michigan Legislature Web site, <<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/>> or from the Legislative Service Bureau Document Room at (517) 373-0169.

Public Act No.	Effective Date	Description	Enrolled Bill No. and Sponsor
2005 PA 58	6/30/05	Communications; telecommunications; rule making and eliminate sunset of the Michigan telecommunications act; provide for. Repeals enacting section 1 of 2004 PA 591.	Enrolled SB 551 Patterson
2005 PA 103	07/22/05	Public utilities, other; use of highway by public utilities; provide for under certain conditions. Amends sec. 13 of 1925 PA 368 (MCL 247.183).	Enrolled SB 522 McManus

Public Act No.	Effective Date	Description	Enrolled Bill No. and Sponsor
2005 PA 235	11/22/05	Communications; telecommunications; general amendments; provide for. Amends secs. 101, 102, 103, 201, 202, 203, 203a, 204, 205, 210, 213, 214, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 309, 309a, 310, 312, 314a, 315, 316, 316a, 317, 321, 352, 353, 355, 357, 358, 359, 401, 502, 503, 504, 505 & 604 of 1991 PA 179 (MCL 484.2101 et seq.); adds secs. 211a, 252, 301a, 305a, 305b, 310a, 314b & 353a & repeals (See bill).	Enrolled HB 5237 Nofs
2006 PA 60	03/21/06	Crimes; other; damaging, destroying, or preventing access to telecommunication device to prevent report of domestic violence, report of crime, or report of illness or injury; prohibit and provide penalties. Amends sec. 540 of 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.540). TIE BAR WITH: HB 5043'05 HB 5044'05.	Enrolled SB 1024 Hardiman
2006 PA 61	03/21/06	Crimes; malicious destruction; damaging, destroying, or using telephone or computer equipment without authorization; prohibit and provide a penalty. Amends sec. 540 of 1931 PA 328 (MCL 750.540).	Enrolled HB 5043 Schuitmaker
2006 PA 62	03/21/06	Criminal procedure; sentencing guidelines; sentencing guidelines for crime of damaging, destroying, or using telephone or computer equipment without authorization; enact. Amends sec. 16z, ch. XVII of 1927 PA 175 (MCL 777.16z). TIE BAR WITH: HB 5043'05.	Enrolled HB 5044 Schuitmaker
2006 PA 74	03/20/06	Communications; telecommunications; transfer of funds from the CMRS emergency telephone fund to the general fund; provide for. Amends sec. 408 of 1986 PA 32 (MCL 484.1408).	Enrolled SB 960 Switalski
2006 PA 133	05/16/06	Consumer protection; home solicitation sales; telemarketers; prohibit leaving certain messages requesting consumers to return call. Amends sec. 1c of 1971 PA 227 (MCL 445.111c).	Enrolled HB 4423 Wojno
2006 PA 246	06/27/06	Consumer protection; other; sale of cellular telephone records; prohibit. Amends sec. 5 of 2004 PA 452 (MCL 445.65) & adds sec. 5a.	Enrolled SB 1202 Patterson
2006 PA 249	06/21/06	Communications; telecommunications; sunset on 9-1-1 emergency service district; extend.	Enrolled SB 1172 Brown

ORDERS ISSUED BY MPSC |

The Michigan Public Service Commission issued the following Orders at the regularly scheduled Commission meeting held on September 12, 2006 at 1:30 p.m.:

Case No. U-12927 Interconnection Agreement
AT&T Michigan and DIECA Communications, Inc., d/b/a Covad Communications Co.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=12927>
Application filed August 25, 2006 for approval of a sixteenth amendment to an interconnection agreement (methodology for charging for collocation DC Power).

Case No. U-14993 Interconnection Agreement
Verizon North Inc. and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems, and KMC Data LLC
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=14993>
Application filed August 24, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement and first amendment (TRO).

Case No. U-14994 Interconnection Agreement
Verizon North Inc. and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems, and Ymax Communications Corp.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=14993>
Application filed August 24, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement and first amendment (pricing attachment).

Case No. U-14995 Interconnection Agreement
Verizon North Inc. and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems, and United States Cellular Operating Company of Chicago, LLC
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=14995>
Application filed August 24, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement and the first two amendments (adoption, pursuant to 47 USC 252(i), of the agreement approved on December 6, 1999 in U-12178).

Case No. U-14997 Interconnection Agreement
AT&T Michigan and United States Cellular Operating Company of Chicago, LLC
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=14997>
Application filed August 14, 2006 for approval of a wireless interconnection agreement and first amendment (rates, terms, and conditions of FCC's interim ISP terminating compensation plan).

Case No. U-15017 Interconnection Agreement
Blanchard Telephone Association, Inc., and Dobson Cellular Systems, Inc.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15017>
Application filed August 15, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement.

Case No. U-15018 Interconnection Agreement
Barry County Telephone Company and Dobson Cellular Systems, Inc.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15018>
Application filed August 15, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement.

Case No. U-15019 Interconnection Agreement
Lennon Telephone Company and Dobson Cellular Systems, Inc.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15019>
Application filed August 15, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement.

Case No. U-15020 Interconnection Agreement
Ace Telephone Company of Michigan, Inc., and Dobson Cellular Systems, Inc.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15020>
Application filed August 15, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement.

Case No. U-15021 Interconnection Agreement
The Deerfield Farmers Telephone Company and Dobson Cellular Systems, Inc.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15021>
Application filed August 15, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement.

Case No. U-15027 Interconnection Agreement
AT&T Michigan and TelCove Operations, Inc.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15027>
Application filed August 23, 2006 for approval of an interconnection agreement (replacing agreement authorized in U-12962 on July 11, 2001).

On September 12, 2006, the Michigan Public Service Commission issued an order approving the interconnection agreements and amendments listed above.

Case No. U-14463 Hot Cuts Collaborative
Commission's Own Motion

On September 12, 2006, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued an order closing the docket based on the recommendations in a Mediator’s Report issued by the Director of the Commission’s Telecommunications Division (the “Mediator”). The docket was initiated by the Commission on March 29, 2005 to address issues related to the process by which groups of customers are moved from having access to the unbundled network element platform (UNE-P) provided by incumbent local exchange carriers to service on local exchange switches operated by the CLECs (UNE-L). The Commission had directed the Mediator to conduct collaborative discussions between the ILECs and the CLECs to determine how hot cuts would be handled until the March 10, 2006 deadline, after which UNE-P would no longer be available at wholesale prices.

On June 27, 2006, the Commission directed that a further collaborative be conducted, with the Mediator to issue a report on how to address remaining issues. The Mediator issued his report on August 28, 2006, recommending that the docket be closed with parties reporting informally to him of continued issues so the issues can be resolved and, if necessary, to address the issues in a formal proceeding. The Mediator's Report was based on a collaborative session held on July 12, 2006, and on follow-up reports. While there were no issues related to conversions from UNE-P to UNE-L, three CLECs reported issues regarding transitioning from the ILEC's LWC offering (local wholesale complete - a market-priced alternative to UNE-P) to UNE-L. Another CLEC indicated there were issues with transitioning to UNE-L in a scenario where a third party provides switching to the CLEC on a wholesale basis. The Mediator's Report indicated there was a process agreed upon for LWC conversions, and that there were no current LWC to UNE-L issues other than monitoring the process. The wholesale switching conversions are not resolved, and the CLEC voiced concerns that the MPSC continue to oversee the negotiations. The Mediator recommended closing the docket, but requiring monthly reports be made to him by the parties on the wholesale issues, with the final report being due December 14, 2006 or until such time as the issues are resolved or it is decided that it needs to be escalated to a formal proceeding.

The Commission adopted the Mediator's Report, closed the docket, require the parties to file monthly reports with the Mediator and the Commission until the issues are resolved. By the end of 2006, the Mediator is to report to the Commission, identifying the unresolved disputes, if any, and recommending formal procedures for further dispute resolution.

Case No. U-14900

Eligible Telecommunications Carriers

Certification of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=14900>

On September 12, 2006, the Michigan Public Service Commission issued a minute item designating the following carriers as eligible telecommunications carriers for the purpose of receiving federal universal service funds to be expended in 2007:

Ace Telephone Company	Chippewa County Tel. Co.	Peninsula Telephone Company
Allband Communications Coop.	Climax Telephone Company	Pigeon Telephone Company
Allendale Telephone Company	Deerfield Farmers Tel. Co.	Sand Creek Tel. Co.
AllTel Communications, Inc.	Dobson Cellular Systems, Inc.	Springport Telephone Company
American Cellular Corp	Drenthe Telephone Company	TDS: Communications
AT&T Michigan	Frontier Communications of	Corporation of Michigan
Baraga Telephone Company	Michigan, Inc.	TDS: Chatham Tel. Company
Barry County Tel. Company	Hiawatha Telephone Company	TDS: Island Tel. Company
Blanchard Tel. Ass'n, Inc.	Kaleva Telephone Company	TDS: Shiawasee Tel. Company
Bloomington Tel. Co., Inc.	Lennon Telephone Company	TDS: Wolverine Telephone
Carr Telephone Company	Michiana Metronet, Inc.	Company
CenturyTel of Michigan, Inc.	Centennial Michigan RSA 6	Thumb Cellular
CenturyTel of Midwest-	Cellular Corp.	Upper Peninsula Tel. Co.
Michigan, Inc.	Centennial Michigan RSA 7	Verizon North
CenturyTel of Northern	Cellular Corp.	Verizon North Systems
Michigan, Inc.	Midway Telephone Company	Vilaire Communications
CenturyTel of Upper	Nexus Communications, Inc.	Waldron Telephone Company
Michigan, Inc.	Ogden Telephone Company	Westphalia Tel. Co.
Chapin Telephone Company	Ontonagon County Telephone	Winn Telephone Company

Case No. U-14901
Corvus, Inc. v. TelCove Operations, LLC

Dispute between providers

On September 12, 2006, the Michigan Public Service Commission issued an order dismissing the May 23, 2006 Complaint of Corvus, Inc. (complainant) against TelCove Operations, LLC alleging various unauthorized switches of telephone service, misrepresentation, and breach of contract. On August 18, 2006, the complainant filed a request to withdraw the complaint with prejudice.

Case No. U-14976
Infinity Mortgage Service, Inc. v. XO Communications Services, Inc.

Consumer complaint: MTA Violations

On September 12, 2006, the Michigan Public Service Commission issued an order dismissing the July 24, 2006 Complaint of Infinity Mortgage Service, Inc. (“complainant”) against XO Communications Services, Inc. alleging an violations of the Michigan Telecommunications Act. On August 10, 2006, the complainant filed a request to withdraw the complaint with prejudice.

Case No. U-14977
William E. Helke v. Sprint Communications Company L.P.

Consumer complaint: Slamming

On September 12, 2006, the Michigan Public Service Commission issued an order dismissing the July 24, 2006 Complaint of William E. Helke (“complainant”) against Sprint Communications Company L.P. alleging an unauthorized switch of telephone service. On August 24, 2006, the complainant filed a request to withdraw the complaint with prejudice.

Case No. U-15023
Zenk Group, Ltd., d/b/a Planet Access
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15023>

License

On September 12, 2006, the Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) issued an order granting to Zenk Group, Ltd, d/b/a Planet Access (“Planet Access”) a temporary expansion geographic service area of its license to provide basic local exchange service to include all the zones and exchanges in which Verizon North Inc. and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems, are the incumbent local exchange carriers. The Commission had previously issued to Planet Access license to provide basic local exchange service in the areas served by AT&T Michigan on November 19, 1999 in MPSC Case No. U-12057. The Commission further ordered Planet Access to issue a public notice of its request to expand its license by October 2, 2006. Interested persons are invited to file comment on Planet Access’ Application on or before October 17, 2006.

APPLICATIONS AND COMPLAINTS |

Case No. U-14931 [AMENDED APPLICATION]

License

Cost Plus Communications, LLC

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=14931>

On September 18, 2006, Cost Plus Communications, LLC filed a second amended application with the Michigan Public Service Commission for a temporary and permanent license to provide basic local exchange service throughout the State of Michigan in the zone and exchange areas in which AT&T Michigan, Verizon North, Inc., and Verizon North Systems are the incumbent local exchange carriers. The application states that Cost Plus Communications LLC is a Michigan Limited Liability Company headquartered in Kalamazoo.

Case No. U-14990 [AMENDED COMPLAINT]

Consumer Complaint: Slamming

Donald and Judith Beck v Talk America

On September 18, 2006, Donald and Judith Beck (“complainants”) filed an Amended Complaint, amending their August 3, 2006 formal complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission against Talk America alleging that Talk America switched their long distance service without authorization. The complainants seek fines and other relief in accordance with the Michigan Telecommunication Act.

Case No. U-15052

License

Ygnition Networks, Inc.

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15052>

On September 14, 2006, Ygnition Networks, Inc. applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for a temporary and permanent license to provide basic local exchange service throughout the State of Michigan in the zone and exchange areas in which AT&T Michigan, Verizon North, Inc., and Verizon North Systems are the incumbent local exchange carriers. The application states that Ygnition Networks, Inc. is a Washington Corporation, headquartered in Seattle, Washington.

Case No. U-15053

Interconnection Agreement

AT&T Michigan and Michigan Access

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15053>

On September 15, 2006, AT&T Michigan and Michigan Access, Inc. jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of an Interconnection Agreement. The Application states that the Interconnection Agreement is an adoption of the agreement between AT&T Michigan and TelNet Worldwide, Inc. that was approved by the Commission in an order issued on February 24, 2005 in Case No. U-14413

Case No. U-15055
Duane Tursi v. Vonage

Consumer Complaint: Service Delays

On September 12, 2006, Duane Tursi of Commerce Township (“complainant”) filed a formal Complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission against Vonage alleging that Vonage delayed installation of his telephone service and did not provide adequate service. The complainant is seeking reimbursement of his costs, time, and expenses totaling \$11,857.33.

Case No. U-15057
AT&T Michigan and NationsLine Michigan, Inc.
<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15057>

Interconnection Agreement

On September 15, 2006, AT&T Michigan and NationsLine Michigan, Inc. jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of an Interconnection Agreement

Case No. U-15058
OPEX Communications, Inc.

License

On September 14, 2006, OPEX Communications, Inc. applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for a temporary and permanent license to provide basic local exchange service throughout the State of Michigan in the zone and exchange areas in which AT&T Michigan, Verizon North, Inc., and Verizon North Systems are the incumbent local exchange carriers. The application states that OPEX Communications, Inc. is an Illinois Corporation, headquartered in Elk Grove Village, Illinois.

Case No. U-15060
Benita Stevens v. ACN

Consumer Complaint: False and Misleading Statements

On September 15, 2006, Benita Stevens of Flint (“complainant”) filed a formal Complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission against ACN alleging that ACN made false and misleading statements to her regarding the terms of her telephone service. The complainant is seeking fines and other relief in accordance with the Michigan Telecommunications Act.

Case No. U-15061
Jordan Construction v. Talk America

Consumer Complaint: Service Delays

On September 15, 2006, Larry G. Trumble of Jordon Construction Services, Inc. of East Jordan (“complainant”) filed a formal Complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission against Talk America alleging that Talk America delayed installation of its telephone service. The complainant is seeking reimbursement for lost sales and of various telephone charges.

Case No. U-15065
Gloria Martinez v. TDS Metrocom

Consumer Complaint: False and Misleading Statements

On September 15, 2006, Gloria Martinez of Kalamazoo (“complainant”) filed a formal Complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission against TDS Metrocom alleging that TDS Metrocom made false and misleading statements to her regarding the terms of her telephone service. The complainant is seeking fines and other relief in accordance with the Michigan Telecommunications Act.

Case No. U-15066
Grand Ledge Ford v. LDMI

Consumer Complaint: Cramming

On September 18, 2006, Grand Ledge Ford of Grand Ledge (“complainant”) filed a formal complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission against LDMI alleging that LDMI has charged them for telephone service on lines that do not belong to the complainant. The complainant seeks a refund for services paid for and allegedly not received as well as reimbursement for their time and expenses trying to resolve this matter.

Case No. U-15058

License

Globetel, Inc.

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15068>

On September 20, 2006, Globetel, Inc. applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for a temporary and permanent license to provide basic local exchange service throughout the State of Michigan in the zone and exchange areas in which AT&T Michigan, Verizon North, Inc., and Verizon North Systems are the incumbent local exchange carriers. The application states that Globetel, Inc. is a Nevada Corporation, headquartered in Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada.

Case No. U-15069

Interconnection Agreement

AT&T Michigan and Superior Spectrum Telephone and Data, L.L.C.

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15069>

On September 21, 2006, AT&T Michigan and Superior Spectrum Telephone and Data, L.L.C. jointly applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of an Interconnection Agreement. The Application states that the Interconnection Agreement is an adoption of the agreement between AT&T Michigan and TelNet Worldwide, Inc. that was approved by the Commission in an order issued on February 24, 2005 in Case No. U-14413

Case No. U-15070

License

AT&T Michigan

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15070>

On September 21, 2006, AT&T Michigan applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for an expansion of the geographic area of its license to provide basic local exchange service. AT&T is applying to expand its Ann Arbor exchange to include a portion of Verizon North Inc.’s Saline exchange. According to the application, the boundary change “is necessary to accommodate a customer request for AT&T Michigan’s services.

Case No. U-15073

Consumer Complaint: Slamming

Wreatha Pauline Hancock v. Sprint/Nextel

On September 20, 2006, Wreatha Pauline Hancock of Kalamazoo (“complainant”) filed a formal complaint with the Michigan Public Service Commission against Sprint/Nextel alleging that Sprint/Nextel switched her telephone service without her authorization. The complaint seeks reimbursement for complainant’s actual costs and fines under the Michigan Telecommunications Act.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMENT |

Case No. U-15023

License

Zenk Group, Ltd., d/b/a Planet Access

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15023>

Comments Due October 17, 2006

On August 17, 2006, Zenk Group, Ltd, d/b/a Planet Access (“Planet Access”) filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission requesting an expansion of the geographic service area of its license to provide basic local exchange service to include all the zones and exchanges in which Verizon North Inc. and Contel of the South, Inc., d/b/a Verizon North Systems, are the incumbent local exchange carriers. Interested persons are invited to file comments in this docket by **October 17, 2006**.

Case No. U-15036

PBLES Rate

AT&T Michigan

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15036>

Comments Due November 7, 2006

On September 1, 2006, AT&T Michigan filed an application with the Michigan Public Service Commission to increase its rate for primary basic local exchange service in an amount that does not exceed its intrastate end user line charge and eliminate its intrastate end user line charge. Interested persons are invited to comment in this docket by **November 7, 2006**.

NOTICES OF HEARING |

The following notices of hearing were issued by the Michigan Public Service Commission’s Executive Secretary. Unless otherwise noted, all hearings are held at the offices of the Michigan Public Service Commission, 6545 Mercantile Way, Suite 7, Lansing, Michigan.

Case No. U-14986

License

Network PTS, Inc.

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=14986>

Evidentiary Hearing, October 12, 2006, at 9:00 a.m.

The August 1, 2006 application of Network PTS, Inc., for a license to provide basic local exchange service throughout the State of Michigan in the zones and exchanges served by AT&T Michigan, Verizon North Inc., and Verizon North Systems, is set for an evidentiary hearing on **October 12, 2006**, at 9:00 a.m. before Administrative Law Judge Sharon Feldman at the Offices of the Michigan Public Service Commission.

Quick Communications, Inc. v. AT&T Michigan

<http://efile.mpsc.cis.state.mi.us/cgi-bin/efile/viewcase.pl?casenum=15016>

Prehearing Conference, September 27, 2006, at 9:00 a.m.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (“Commission”) will consider the August 16, 2006 complaint of Quick Communications, Inc. against AT&T Michigan alleging violations of an interconnection agreement. A public hearing will be held in this matter on **September 27, 2006**, at 9:00 a.m. before Administrative Law Judge Mark D. Eyster at the Commission’s offices. This will be a prehearing conference to determine future hearing dates and other procedural matters.

MPSC HEARINGS SCHEDULE |

Note: Unless indicated otherwise, hearings are held in the offices of the Commission, 6545 Mercantile Way, Suite 7, Lansing. Hearing dates and times are subject to change or cancellation. Please check with the Commission’s Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160 to confirm that a hearing will be taking place.

KNOWN TELECOM HEARINGS SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT FORTNIGHT SEPTEMBER 25 – OCTOBER 6, 2006)

September 25, 2006, 1:00 p.m.
Case No. U-14988/evidentiary hearing
All About You Hair Studio & Tammy
Garinger v. MichTel Communications LLC
(consumer complaint: disconnection)

September 27, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-15016/prehearing
Quick Communications v AT&T (dispute
between carriers)

September 27, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-14979/evidentiary hearing
Abraham Ben-Ze’ev v. Talk America, LDMI
and AT&T (slamming)

September 27, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-15016/prehearing
Quick Communications v AT&T (dispute
between carriers)

September 27, 2006, 10:00 a.m.
Case No. U-14974/evidentiary hearing
Murphy v. Verizon and Upper Peninsula
Telephone (consumer complaint)

September 29, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-14985/motion hearing
ACLU v. Verizon and AT&T Michigan
(investigation)

FUTURE TELECOM HEARINGS SCHEDULED

October 10, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-14952/motion hearing
TDS Metocom *et al* v. AT&T (dispute
between carriers)

October 12, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-14986/evidentiary hearing
Network PTS, Inc. (license)

October 26, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-14937/evidentiary hearing
CloseCall America, Inc. (license)

November 1, 2006, 9:00 a.m.
Case No. U-14931/evidentiary hearing
Cost Plus Communications, LLC (license)

2006 REGULAR MPSC MEETING DATES |

<u>Month & Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>
September 26	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
October 12	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
October 24	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
November 9	Thursday	1:30 p.m.
December 12	Tuesday	1:30 p.m.
December 21	Thursday	1:30 p.m.

* Additional Special Meetings may be scheduled, as needed, on 18-hours notice as permitted by Section 5(4) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.265(4). Agendas for all Regular and Special Meetings will be posted on 18 hours notice. A posted agenda is subject to amendment as determined by the Commission. Any person with a question about a Regular or a Special Meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission may make an inquiry by calling the Commission's Executive Secretary at (517) 241-6160.

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