My name is Anthony van Lierop. I am a Senior Staff Consultant - National PEG Implementation with the Verizon companies. I am part of a group that has been responsible for the activation of public, educational, and governmental channels ("PEG Channels") throughout Verizon's video footprint across the country, including the activation of more than 785 unique PEG Channels since 2006.

2. I am responsible for overseeing the activation of the PEG Channels as set forth in the Cable Franchise Agreement Between the City of Gresham, Oregon and Verizon Northwest Inc. dated November 18, 2008 (the "Franchise Agreement" or "Agreement").

3. Verizon has agreed to provide nine PEG Channels in the City of Gresham. Because Verizon obtains the signal for the Community Access Network ("CAN") Channel from a pre-existing source, Verizon began distributing that channel in Gresham on December 10, 2008. Verizon has taken several actions to expedite deployment of the remaining eight PEG Channels. Verizon's target timeline, designated Verizon Exhibit 6 in this proceeding, established a 120-day schedule instead of a more-typical 180-day schedule. While Verizon is confident of its ability to meet this schedule, there are many factors outside of Verizon's control, including the cooperation of others, weather delays and wait time for equipment delivery, which could lengthen the PEG activation process.

4. Verizon has already shortened the standard times for internal design decisions and approvals by prioritizing the PEG Channels that originate at MetroEast Community Media ("MetroEast"). This allowed the pre-planning phase to be completed in two weeks, instead of 60 days. In addition, the construction process is currently ahead of schedule and may allow additional shortening of the overall schedule. Verizon hopes to launch the PEG Channels before its target date of April 8, 2009, but cannot commit to do so at this time due to factors beyond its control.

5. Verizon initiated the PEG planning process during the franchise negotiations. Specifically, on December 20, 2007, Verizon conducted a site survey at MetroEast. Based upon the information gathered during the site survey, Verizon determined that a direct connection to the MetroEast facility was feasible and developed preliminary design options for constructing a direct connection to obtain the signal for the PEG Channels at MetroEast. The final design would depend, in part, on whether Verizon's state-of-the-art Fiber To The Premise ("FTTP") Network had been constructed in the public rights-of-way adjacent to the MetroEast facility at the time of PEG deployment. Consequently, the final design could not be definitively determined in advance.
6. Following approval of the Franchise Agreement by the City of Gresham, Verizon received information regarding the PEG Channel programming and preferred channel assignments from the MHCRC staff. On December 2, 2008, Verizon requested that internal staff assign the PEG Channel numbers as requested by the MHCRC. Tentative channel number assignments were made one week later, on December 9, 2008. During this time, Verizon was also working on a tentative design and deployment plan.

7. A second site survey was completed at MetroEast on December 9, 2008 to determine whether any changes had occurred that would affect the design and engineering of the PEG connection. Based upon this second site survey, Verizon determined that a technology it has dubbed “IP PEG”, which uses the FTTP Network, would be used to connect the MetroEast facility to the Verizon network for the purpose of obtaining the PEG Channel signals.

8. On December 9, 2008, the same day that the second site survey was completed, Verizon’s PEG design team finalized the deployment plan using the IP PEG technology and submitted it for internal approval. The very next day, December 10, 2008, Verizon completed review of the checks and balances necessary to approve the final PEG deployment plan and associated budget. This approval allowed the plan to be released for final engineering by the outside plant group (“OSP”) and the central office engineering and installation group (“COEI”).

9. Because it is unusual for Verizon to obtain eight PEG Channels from one location (seven PEG Channels and one additional channel for MetroEast’s programming schedule), the plan developed for deployment at MetroEast had to be customized. The equipment configuration for the PEG Channels that originate at MetroEast is unique and complex. See Verizon Exhibit 7.

10. The number of channels involved also make this deployment more complex than a typical PEG deployment. Verizon has two types of Optical Network Terminal (“ONT”) as part of its FTTP Network. In a typical installation, a single family unit (“SFU”) ONT will transport a single PEG Channel while a multi-dwelling unit (“MDU”) ONT will transport up to five separate PEG Channels. Because MetroEast will source eight distinct channels to Verizon, two MDU ONTs are required.

11. Release of the deployment plan to OSP and COEI completed the pre-planning phase of Verizon’s PEG process. This phase was expedited based on the concerns raised by the MHCRC staff and was completed in just 15 days, including the four-day Thanksgiving holiday. A typical pre-planning phase would take approximately 60 days.

12. At this point in the process, Verizon developed an expedited timeline for activation of the PEG Channels based upon the decision to deploy IP PEG topology. Verizon’s accelerated plan established April 8, 2009 as the target launch for the PEG Channels based upon the time necessary to complete engineering, obtain equipment, construct, install and test the PEG Channels prior to final launch.

13. Next, the OSP and COEI teams began engineering their respective components of the plan. The OSP team completed its engineering and on January 9, 2009 Verizon issued
construction work orders which allowed materials to be ordered and staging for construction to begin.

14. On January 16, 2009, the engineering had progressed to the point where the preliminary PEG Channel assignments made on December 9, 2008 received final approval. The engineering team identified the need for a seven-foot rack to house the required equipment within the MetroEast facility. The ONT is typically a wall-mounted unit. Due to wall-space limitations at MetroEast, a specialized, seven-foot, equipment rack was designed to house the ONTs and encoders that must be installed. Each channel requires a separate encoder, so the rack will house the two ONTs and eight encoders.

15. The rack to be installed at MetroEast was ordered on January 16, 2009, completing the engineering phase of the PEG process in approximately five weeks. A typical engineering phase takes approximately seven to eight weeks.

16. Verizon contacted MetroEast on January 22, 2009 to schedule the “make ready” work that was needed at the MetroEast facility. Verizon met with MetroEast at its facility on January 26, 2009. Additional electrical outlets were needed which MetroEast provided.

17. In late January, OSP began installing fiber between the MetroEast facility and Verizon’s central office. The fiber installation was completed on January 29, well ahead of the scheduled date of March 11, 2009.

18. The rack containing the MDU ONTs was delivered and installed on February 10, 2009. This completes the construction phase.

19. Next, in the network creation phase, Verizon will establish or create connectivity between all the pieces of equipment so that there is a physical path from MetroEast back to the central office/video service office (“VSO”). Shortly, the ONTs will be connected to the Verizon FTTP fiber at MetroEast. With the ONTs connected to the fiber at MetroEast, the COEI team will begin configuring the optical line terminal (“OLT”) that is housed at the VSO. Once this equipment is in place and configured at both ends – MetroEast and the VSO – Verizon will submit the MetroEast address to the integrated Verizon advanced provisioning platform (“iVAPP”) as an active and valid location on the FTTP Network. These steps are scheduled to be completed by March 11, 2009.

20. During the provisioning phase, Verizon will be installing an encoder for each channel (a total of eight encoders) on the rack at MetroEast. When installation of the encoders is complete, Verizon will test the continuity of the system between Verizon’s regional video hub office (“VHO”) and MetroEast. Any additional configuration adjustments that are needed will be made at this time. These steps are scheduled to be completed by March 25, 2009. Verizon hopes that this will be completed ahead of schedule.

21. The final stage of the process is verification that the PEG content is received at the VHO for distribution on Verizon’s cable system and system testing. Testing includes internal activation of the PEG Channels as a final test to ensure readiness for launch. Verizon will also
release the content action requirement ("CAR"). The CAR triggers an update to Verizon’s online information regarding the channel lineup to reflect the PEG Channels that have been activated.

22. This complex series of design, engineering, construction, installation, and testing requires considerable time. Unique elements, such as the need for a rack and multiple MDU ONTs in this case, lengthen the time required for activation of PEG Channels. Absent unusual circumstances, Verizon often establishes a target timeline of 180 days. However, many steps in this process are outside of Verizon’s control. For example, the cooperation of the provider of PEG programming is necessary, as well as adequate access, space, power, and environmental conditions for the installation of the necessary equipment. In some instances, upgrades to existing conditions are necessary.

23. Verizon has achieved the expedited time frames described herein by prioritizing these PEG Channels. This prioritization shortened the design, engineering, and internal approval processes significantly. In addition, the construction and installation crews made this project a priority and adjusted their schedules so that they engaged promptly when all prerequisites to their work were in place. In this manner, Verizon has expedited deployment of the PEG Channels as much as possible.

Dated this 17th day of February, 2009

Anthony van Lierop

Testimony of Anthony van Lierop on behalf of Verizon
Page 4