

From: Chris Recchia <chris.recchia@valley.net>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 5:54 PM
To: Faith Brown <FBrown@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: Ann Cummings <ACUMMINGS@leg.state.vt.us>; F. X. Flinn <chair@ecfiber.net>;
irvthomae@alum.mit.edu
Subject: [External] Senate Finance Request for Information

[External]

Dear Faith –

Hope you are well. It's come to my attention that Senator Cummings requested some information about the utility pole licensing and make-ready work based on the changes made 2 years ago.

We selected a random set of 52 Licenses ValleyNet applied for in 2019 and 2020 (about ½ of what we applied for from pole-owning utilities), and found that of these 52, 23 were issued "early," at an average of 66 days from the date of submittal. 17 were issued "late" by an average of 41 days from the date of submittal.

Good communication has occurred between us and the pole owning utility during this period, and even on the "late" licenses, we believe the pole owning utility communicated reasons for the issues and performed their work in a timely manner.

Obviously, we've also been operating this entire time under Act 79 (2019) and PUC Rule 3.700 (effective 7/10/2020) in COVID-19 Pandemic times, so that has understandably contributed to delays experienced. In short, we are generally quite pleased with how the changes in Statute and Rule have been accepted and implemented.

I'd be happy to provide more, or to testify about our experiences if that is desired.

Best,

- Chris

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