

Monty Garrett
Senior Vice President - Accounting
One Verizon Way
Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Tel: (908) 559-3055
monty.garrett@verizon.com

July 20, 2016

Technical Director Financial Accounting Standards Board 401 Merritt 7 PO Box 5116 Norwalk, CT 06856-5116

File Reference Number: 2016-230

Re: Proposed Accounting Standards Update, Intangibles – Goodwill and Other (Topic 350) – Simplifying the Accounting for Goodwill Impairment

Verizon Communications Inc. ("Verizon") appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Accounting Standards Update, Intangibles – Goodwill and Other (Topic 350) – *Simplifying the Accounting for Goodwill Impairment*. Verizon, one of the world's leading providers of communications services, is a registrant with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") and is classified as a Large Accelerated Filer.

Verizon supports the Board's proposal to simplify the accounting for goodwill impairment. We agree that eliminating the requirement to perform Step 2 would reduce the cost and complexity of financial reporting, while still retaining the usefulness of information reported to users of financial statements.

Verizon also encourages the Board to continue with Phase 2 of this project to simplify the subsequent accounting for goodwill.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We would be pleased to discuss our comments in more detail with the members of the Board or Staff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Monty Garrett

Senior Vice President - Accounting