



PUBLIC NOTICE

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THE WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU FURTHER EXTENDS THE HUBB CERTIFICATION DEADLINE FOR DEPLOYED FIXED LOCATIONS FOR ALASKA PLAN CARRIERS ADAK, ASTAC, AND MTA AND ANNOUNCES NEW DEADLINE

WC Docket No. 10-90
WC Docket No. 16-271

Filing Deadline: August 12, 2022

In this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau, *sua sponte*, waives the revised annual location reporting deadline for rate-of-return Alaska Plan participants Adak Telephone Utility (Adak) (SAC 610989), Arctic Slope Telephone Cooperative (ASTAC) (SAC 613001), and Matanuska Telephone Association (MTA) (SAC 613015) and announces the carriers must certify their annual location reporting by August 12, 2022.¹

On December 23, 2021, the Wireline Competition Bureau announced the performance obligations for rate-of-return Alaska Plan carriers as part of the midterm review.² To allow the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) sufficient time to make modifications to the High-Cost Universal Broadband portal (HUBB) to account for revised commitments at speed tiers not yet available to report, the Bureau waived the March 1, 2022 deadline for annual location reporting for Adak, ASTAC, and MTA.³ On June 7, 2022, after USAC completed the modifications to the HUBB, the Bureau announced the new deadline for filing as July 15, 2022.⁴

Subsequent to the July 15, 2022 deadline, the Bureau became aware of technical challenges related to the changes made to reporting the new speed tiers that resulted in all three carriers having difficulties submitting and certifying deployment information. As such, on our own motion, we waive the July 15, 2022 deadline for annual location reporting for rate-of-return Alaska Plan carriers Adak, ASTAC, and MTA. We find a limited extension is in the public interest to account for the special circumstances and administrative difficulties associated with this HUBB modification.⁵ Accordingly,

¹ 47 CFR § 54.316.

² *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Performance Obligations for Rate-Of-Return Alaska Plan Recipients After the Midterm Review*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 16-271, Public Notice, DA 21-1642 (WCB 2021).

³ *Id.* at 1-2.

⁴ *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the HUBB Certification Deadline for Deployed Fixed Locations for Alaska Plan Carriers ADAK, ASTAC and MTA*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 16-271, Public Notice, DA 22-618 (WCB 2022).

⁵ We note that in the *Alaska Plan Order*, the Commission delegated authority to the Bureau to allow filing extensions for location reporting. *Connect America Fund et al.*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 31 FCC Rcd 10139, 10157, para. 58 n.114 (2016) (*Alaska Plan Order*) (delegating authority to the

(continued....)

these carriers will have until the end of this week to complete their filings.⁶ The new deadline is Friday, August 12, 2022.⁷

For additional information, contact Rebekah Douglas, rebekah.douglas@fcc.gov, of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-7931.

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Wireline Competition Bureau to extend the deadlines of 47 CFR § 54.316 as needed for administrative convenience); *see also, e.g., Connect America Fund et al.*, Order on Reconsideration, 33 FCC Rcd 2068, App. at 2087 (WCB/WTB 2018) (Bureau-level order extending the deadline of section 54.316 for the middle-mile data collection from March 1, 2018 to July 1, 2018); *Extension of Deadline for Alaska Plan Carriers Filing Middle-Mile Fiber and Microwave Network Maps Pursuant to Section 54.316(a)(6)*, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 16-271, 33 FCC Rcd 6242 (2018); *Annual International Traffic and Revenue Data As of December 31, 2014 Must Be Filed Using the Section 43.62 Online Filing System From August 17, 2015 to September 30, 2015*, Public Notice, 30 FCC Rcd 8257 (IB 2015) (providing a filing extension at the Bureau-level due to technical concerns with a new online filing system).

⁶ We remind the carriers that the Commission has consistently encouraged ETCs subject to defined deployment obligations and HUBB reporting obligations to report geocoded location information data on a rolling basis, preferably within 30 days after the initial offering. *See, e.g., Alaska Plan Order*, 31 FCC Rcd at 10157, para. 58.

⁷ We do not anticipate providing further extensions of this deadline.