



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <https://www.fcc.gov>

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STREAMLINED RESOLUTION OF REQUESTS UNDER THE SECURE AND TRUSTED COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

WC Docket No. 18-89

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) grants, pursuant to delegated authority, the following petitions requesting to extend certain deadlines under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program (Reimbursement Program or Program).

As directed by the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019, as amended (Secure Networks Act), the Commission established the Reimbursement Program to reimburse providers of advanced communications service with ten million or fewer customers for reasonable costs incurred in the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment or services from their networks that pose a national security risk, i.e., communications equipment or services produced or provided by Huawei Technologies Company (Huawei) or ZTE Corporation (ZTE), that were obtained by providers on or before June 30, 2020.¹ The Reimbursement Program is funded by a \$1.9 billion congressional appropriation,² which is less than the \$5.6 billion in collective funds requested by applicants to the Program.³ Because demand exceeded available funding, the Secure Networks Act

¹ Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019, Pub. L. No. 116-124, § 4(a)-(c), 134 Stat. 158 (2020) (codified as amended at 47 U.S.C. §§ 1601-1609). The Commission adopted rules implementing the Secure Networks Act on December 10, 2020. *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Second Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 14284 (2020) (*2020 Supply Chain Order*). On July 13, 2021, the Commission amended its rules, consistent with amendments to the Secure Networks Act included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021. *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Third Report and Order, 36 FCC Rcd 11958, 11959, para. 2 (2021) (*2021 Supply Chain Order*). The Commission later clarified that, for purposes of the Reimbursement Program, covered communications equipment or services are limited to the communications equipment or services produced or provided by Huawei or ZTE that were obtained by providers on or before June 30, 2020. See *2021 Supply Chain Order*, 36 FCC Rcd at 11959, 11965, paras. 2 and 18; see also generally *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs – Huawei Designation*, PS Docket No. 19-351, Order, 35 FCC Rcd 6604 (PSSSB 2020); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs – ZTE Designation*, PS Docket No. 19-352, Order, 35 FCC Rcd 6633 (PSSSB 2020).

² Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260, § 906, 134 Stat. 1182 (2020) (CAA). Section 906 provides that “[t]here is appropriated to the Federal Communications Commission, out of amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for fiscal year 2021, to remain available until expended— . . . (2) \$1,900,000,000 to carry out the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), of which \$1,895,000,000 shall be used to carry out the program established under section 4 of that Act (47 U.S.C. 1603).”

³ See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Grant of Applications for the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, DA 22-774, at 1-2 (WCB July 18, 2022) (*SCRIP Granted Applications Public Notice*) (explaining that “[e]ach applicant was required to (continued....)

required the Bureau to implement a prioritization scheme where funding was allocated first to approved applicants with 2,000,000 or fewer customers (Priority 1 applicants).⁴ Demand from Priority 1 applicants alone exceeded the congressional appropriation, and Commission rules therefore required that allocations to Priority 1 applicants be pro-rated on an equal basis.⁵ Consequently, recipients received funding allocations for approximately 39.5% of their reasonable and supported estimated costs for removing, replacing, and disposing of covered communications equipment and services.⁶

Reimbursement Program recipients must complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment and services within one year from the initial disbursement of funds to the recipient.⁷ Pursuant to section 4(d)(6)(C) of the Secure Networks Act, the Commission may grant recipients extensions of this term on an individual basis.⁸ The Commission delegated authority to the Bureau to grant or deny individual petitions for an extension of a recipient's term.⁹ The Bureau "may grant an extension for up to six months after finding, that due to no fault of such recipient, such recipient is unable to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal by the end of the term" and "may grant more than one extension request to a recipient if circumstances warrant."¹⁰ This can occur, for example, due to the lack of funding to fully reimburse recipients, which can require recipients to revise their plans in ways that cause them to need more time to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment, in addition to delays in receiving the necessary equipment to replace their covered equipment, which likewise can require a recipient to need more time to meet its obligations under the Reimbursement Program.¹¹

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include in its application estimates for the costs that it will reasonably incur for the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment and services" and identifying that, across all filed applications, applicants sought a total of "approximately \$5.6 billion in gross program support").

⁴ See 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(5)(C); 47 CFR § 1.50004(f)(1); *SCRIP Granted Applications Public Notice* at 2-3.

⁵ The Commission's rules provide that "[i]f there is insufficient funding to fully fund all requests in a particular prioritization category, then the [Bureau] will pro-rate the available funding among all eligible providers in that prioritization category." 47 CFR § 1.50004(f)(1); see also 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(5)(A) ("[T]he Commission shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that reimbursement funds are distributed equitably among all applicants for reimbursements under the Program according to the needs of the applicants, as identified by the applications of the applicants.").

⁶ See 47 CFR § 1.50004(f)(1); see also *SCRIP Granted Applications Public Notice* at 2-3.

⁷ 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(6)(A); 47 CFR § 1.50004(h).

⁸ See 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(6)(C).

⁹ See 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(6)(C); 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) ("Individual extensions. Prior to the expiration of the removal, replacement and disposal term, a Reimbursement Program recipient may petition the Wireline Competition Bureau for an extension of the term. The Wireline Competition Bureau may grant an extension for up to six months after finding, that due to no fault of such recipient, such recipient is unable to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal by the end of the term. The Wireline Competition Bureau may grant more than one extension request to a recipient if circumstances warrant.").

¹⁰ 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2); see also *2020 Supply Chain Order*, 35 FCC Rcd at 14354-56, paras. 171, 173 and n.501.

¹¹ See, e.g., *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-875, para. 7 (WCB Sept. 22, 2023) (*Stealth Extension Order*) (granting an extension based on supply chain issues); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-938, paras. 12-16 (WCB Oct. 10, 2023) (*WorldCell et al. Extension Order*) (granting extensions based on both funding issues and supply chain issues); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-1016, paras. 12-16 (WCB Oct. 27, 2023) (*Point/SI Wireless Extension Order*) (granting extensions based on both funding issues and supply chain issues); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89,

(continued....)

The Bureau strongly encourages recipients that intend to file a petition for an extension to do so as promptly as possible after determining that their circumstances meet the standard for an extension established in the statute and the Commission's implementing rules, and well in advance of the recipient's deadline, so the Bureau is able to fully consider and grant or deny the petition before the recipient's term expires. We remind recipients that requests for term extensions must specify both the specific grounds for the request and the underlying facts and circumstances on which the recipient relies in asserting those grounds. The Commission directed the Bureau to review individual extension requests on a case-by-case basis and to consider all factors when evaluating the request.¹² To this end, the facts and circumstances in an individual request should include the specific obstacles faced by the recipient, how they affected the recipient's ability to meet its term deadline, why the inability to meet the deadline exists through no fault of the recipient, and steps taken by the recipient to mitigate the impacts of the obstacles as it works towards meeting its removal, replacement, and disposal obligations. Recipients should also explain whether they expect to meet their new deadline if the Bureau grants their extension request. Consistent with rule 1.50004(h)(2), which permits the Bureau to grant more than one extension request "if circumstances warrant,"¹³ recipients making a second or subsequent extension request should ensure that the facts and circumstances described cover the time period since their prior extension request was made and explain progress made since that request. Requests that lack adequate support may be denied or the recipient may be required to provide additional support, which could delay a decision on the request.

The lack of full funding will not necessarily be a sufficient showing for multiple extension requests, as recipients should continually make progress toward completing their projects by the end of their removal, replacement, and disposal term. The Bureau will evaluate the sufficiency of each individual extension request at the time it is filed in determining whether to grant or deny it. We emphasize that a recipient's statutory obligation to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment or services exists regardless of the amount of funding it may receive through the Reimbursement Program pursuant to the Secure Networks Act. The Secure Networks Act and the Commission's rules require each Reimbursement Program recipient to remove, replace, and dispose of "all" its covered equipment and services.¹⁴ Similarly, the Reimbursement Program FAQs (at 25) state that "[p]roviders are expected to remove, replace, and dispose of all Huawei and/or ZTE communications equipment and services in their networks as of the date of the submission of the application even if they receive a prorated allocation from the Reimbursement Program due to funding constraints."¹⁵

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Order, DA 23-1110, paras. 8-11 (WCB Nov. 28, 2023) (*Triangle Telephone/Triangle Communication Extension Order*) (granting extension of time requests by Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association Inc. and Triangle Communication System, Inc. based on supply chain issues); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-1196, para. 5 (WCB Dec. 21, 2023) (*GigSky Extension Order*) (granting extension of time request by GigSky, Inc. based on funding issues).

¹² *2021 Supply Chain Order*, 36 FCC Rcd at 11998, para. 99.

¹³ 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).

¹⁴ 47 U.S.C. § 1603(e)(4)(A)(ii) (recipient must file a final certification to show removal, replacement, and disposal of "all" covered equipment and services); 47 CFR 1.50004(m)(1) (same); *see also* 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(4)(A)(i)(I) (applicant must certify it has a plan to remove "any" covered equipment and services); 47 CFR § 1.50004(a)(3)(i)(A) (same).

¹⁵ FCC, *Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program: Frequently Asked Questions*, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-234A2.pdf> (last visited, Nov. 20, 2024). Within 10 days following the expiration of the removal, replacement, and disposal term, a recipient must file a final certification with the Commission indicating whether it has fully complied with all terms and conditions of the Reimbursement Program. 47 U.S.C. § 1603(e)(4)(A); 47 CFR § 1.50004(m)(1).

Consistent with the Commission's goal of streamlining its internal review processes,¹⁶ and further pursuant to our delegated authority,¹⁷ we announced in our *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* that we would, with that Public Notice, begin issuing a Public Notice, as necessary but not more frequently than monthly, disposing of pending petitions which seek an extension of an applicants' removal, replacement, and disposal terms, do not involve complicated and/or controversial issues, and can be addressed in a manner consistent with Commission and/or Bureau precedent.¹⁸ Accordingly, we hereby grant the pending petitions listed below for an extension of a recipient's term to remove, replace, and dispose of its covered equipment.¹⁹

Recipient – Beamspeed LLC, SCRP0001010

Grounds for individual term extension – Beamspeed LLC (Beamspeed) requests a second six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services.²⁰ Beamspeed asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its application deadline of December 21, 2024 has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Regarding lack of full funding, Beamspeed states that the funding shortfall has forced it to re-prioritize what work it can afford to do, and in what order, to avoid compromising network integrity, and to focus first on a few key sites, and that this has slowed its progress.²¹ Regarding supply chain issues, Beamspeed states that it continues to have difficulty finding telecom cabinets that will meet the needs of the summer climate in Arizona and is looking into specialized modifications to withstand the heat issues, which will take additional time.²² Beamspeed adds

¹⁶ See *Report on FCC Process Reform*, GN Docket No. 14-25 (Staff Working Group, Feb. 14, 2014) (*Process Reform Report*).

¹⁷ See 47 CFR §§ 0.91, 0.291, 1.50004(h)(2).

¹⁸ *Streamlined Resolution of Requests Under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, 39 FCC Rcd 460, 462 (WCB Jan. 31, 2024) (*January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*). This approach further speeds the disposition of petitions seeking extension of the removal, replacement, and disposal term and to ensure the continued efficient administration of the Reimbursement Program, while at the same time fulfilling our obligation to thoroughly review the record before us. *Id.* Prior to issuance of the *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*, we had resolved petitions for extensions of recipients' removal, replacement, and disposal terms in stand-alone orders addressing each petition. The Bureau routinely resolves other matters in the manner of the *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*, as appropriate. See, e.g., *Streamlined Process for Resolving Requests for Review of Decisions by the Universal Service Administrative Company*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 02-6, WC Docket Nos. 02-60, 06-122, 08-71, 10-90, 11-42, and 14-58, Public Notice, 29 FCC Rcd 11094 (WCB 2014) (stating that the Bureau will resolve certain Universal Service Fund matters in a streamlined public notice).

¹⁹ This Public Notice does not take positions on the merits of grounds raised by requestors other than those identified and discussed herein. In addition, we expressly reject any suggestion in the requests that a recipient is required to meet its statutorily mandated removal, replacement, and disposal obligations only if full funding is made available by Congress.

²⁰ Request of Beamspeed LLC for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001010, WC Docket No. 18-89, at 1 (filed Nov. 4, 2024) (Beamspeed Extension Request). Beamspeed previously filed for a six-month extension for the same application number. See Request of Beamspeed LLC for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001010, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed May 6, 2024). The Bureau granted that request in May 2024. See *Streamlined Resolution of Requests Under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, DA-24-494 at 4-5 (WCB May 24, 2024) (*May 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*).

²¹ Beamspeed Extension Request at 1-2.

²² *Id.* at 1.

that it is facing three- to six-month lead times on replacement equipment and fiber, which extends the time it will need to complete the Program requirements.²³ The Bureau finds Beamspeed's showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of the lack of full funding²⁴ and supply chain issues,²⁵ and accordingly grants the requested extension for the application number listed above.

New RRD term expiration date – Beamspeed's deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from December 21, 2024 to June 21, 2025.

Recipient – Commnet Wireless, LLC, SCRP0001026, SCRP0001027, SCRP0001028, SCRP0001029, and NTUA Wireless, LLC, SCRP0001024, SCRP0001025

Grounds for individual term extension – Commnet Wireless, LLC (Commnet) and NTUA Wireless, LLC (NTUA) (collectively, "Commnet/NTUA") request a second six-month extension of the deadlines to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment for the application numbers listed above.²⁶ Commnet/NTUA assert that their ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by their application deadlines, which range from January 14, 2025 to February 4, 2025 has, through no fault of their own, been materially affected by lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Regarding lack of full funding, Commnet/NTUA claim that funding shortfalls have forced them to "re-engineer and reassess [their] Build Plan," "result[ing] in several phases of revision to [their] build plan as [they] seek[] to best utilize [their] limited funds," and that the funding shortfall has caused them to focus on prioritizing removal of covered equipment, which has led to delays in replacing covered equipment across their network.²⁷ Commnet/NTUA also assert that they have had to "minimize staffing and labor," which has delayed project progress.²⁸ Regarding supply chain issues, they state that recent supply chain issues have "exacerbated . . . delays."²⁹ Specifically,

²³ *Id.* at 2.

²⁴ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

²⁵ See, e.g., *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5.

²⁶ Commnet and NTUA filed separate, substantively identical extension requests for each application number. See Request of Commnet for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001026, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 11, 2024); Request of Commnet for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001027, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 11, 2024); Request of Commnet for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001028, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 11, 2024); Request of Commnet for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001029, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 11, 2024); Request of NTUA for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001024, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 11, 2024); Request of NTUA for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001025, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 11, 2024) (collectively, Commnet/NTUA Extension Request). The parties submitted a joint supplement to their requests. See Supplement to Request of Commnet/NTUA for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 30, 2024) (Commnet/NTUA Supplement). The parties previously sought an extension for the same applications at issue here. See Request of Commnet Wireless, LLC, on behalf of itself and NTUA Wireless, LLC, for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Apr. 12, 2024). The Bureau granted those requests in April 2024. See *Streamlined Resolution of Requests Under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, DA 24-407 at 5-6 (WCB April 30, 2024) (*April 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*).

²⁷ Commnet/NTUA Extension Request at 1-2; see also Commnet/NTUA Supplement at 1-2.

²⁸ Commnet/NTUA Supplement at 1.

they explain that “extended lead times for critical equipment, price volatility and procurement uncertainties” have required “adjustments to [their] build and replacement plans.”³⁰ They also state they have also faced cost increases for labor due to these supply chain issues.³¹ Commnet/NTUA add that they have worked to mitigate these difficulties. Specifically, they state that they have “reorganized [their] workforce, prioritized critical network upgrades and renegotiated terms with key vendors.”³² Commnet/NTUA’s most recent status updates also state that they have continued to make progress toward completing their obligations under the Program. The Bureau finds Commnet/NTUA’s showing persuasive and that their situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of lack of full funding³³ and supply chain issues,³⁴ and accordingly grants the requested extensions for the application numbers listed above.

New RRD term expiration date – Commnet’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED as follows:

- For File No. SCRP0001026, from January 14, 2025 to July 14, 2025.
- For File No. SCRP0001027, from January 26, 2025 to July 26, 2025.
- For File No. SCRP0001028, from January 27, 2025, to July 27, 2025.
- For File No. SCRP0001029, from January 27, 2025 to July 27, 2025.

NTUA’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED as follows:

- For File No. SCRP0001024 from February 3, 2025 to August 3, 2025.
- For File No. SCRP0001025 from February 4, 2025 to August 4, 2025.

Recipient – Eastern Oregon Telecom, LLC, SCRP0001037

Grounds for individual term extension – Eastern Oregon Telecom, LLC (Eastern Oregon) requests a second six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services.³⁵ Eastern Oregon asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its January 6, 2025 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Regarding the funding shortfall, Eastern Oregon says that vendors have been “reluctant to negotiate costs” “due to the difficulties of navigating the short time frame of the program, as well

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²⁹ *Id.* at 2.

³⁰ *Id.*

³¹ *Id.*

³² *Id.* at 1-2.

³³ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

³⁴ See, e.g., *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5.

³⁵ See Request of Eastern Oregon Telecom, LLC for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001037, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 25, 2024) (Eastern Oregon Extension Request). Eastern Oregon previously filed for a six-month extension for the same application number. See Request of Eastern Oregon Telecom, LLC for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001037, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed May 10, 2024). The Bureau granted that request in the *May 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5.

as a shortage of equipment and skilled labor.”³⁶ Eastern Oregon asserts that bringing testing and optimization of equipment in-house “is expected to save over \$300,000 over the term of this project” and will “allow[] completion of the RRD work to be done within the funding threshold, as the cost estimates that were received indicated that it would not have been possible” by using outside vendors.³⁷ However, as a result of moving the work in-house, Eastern Oregon also “pushed out the timeline as staff had to balance completing RRD work as well as completing their regular duties.”³⁸ In addition, in order to save over \$250,000, which was necessary in light of the funding shortfall, Eastern Oregon moved away from replacing “dense wavelength division multiplexing” equipment and will instead use a different platform, but the implementation work for this revised plan “is expected to be completed in December 2024,” close to its current deadline.³⁹ Regarding supply chain issues, Eastern Oregon states that its location in rural Oregon has resulted in “significant challenges in hiring and retaining vendors to complete this project” and that as a result it previously had to change vendors, adding seven months to its project schedule.⁴⁰ It also states it has faced issues with the interoperability of equipment obtained from vendors, which has “delayed service implementation by an additional 3-4 months.”⁴¹ Further, according to Eastern Oregon, the vendor it planned to work with for disposal of equipment is located in Florida and was impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, leading Eastern Oregon to have to change vendors, which led to a further shift in the timeline, so that it now estimates overall completion in the spring of 2025 at the earliest.⁴² Eastern Oregon states that it has worked to mitigate these difficulties in order to meet its Program obligations. In addition to conserving funds by bringing work in-house and shifting towards a new equipment platform, it asserts that, since its last extension was granted in May, it “has made steady progress” towards compliance “including a 17% progression in project work completed, bringing the overall project to 52% complete.”⁴³ The Bureau finds Eastern Oregon’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of the lack of full funding⁴⁴ and supply chain issues,⁴⁵ and accordingly grants the requested extension.

New RRD term expiration date – Eastern Oregon’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from January 6, 2025 to July 6, 2025.

Recipient – GigSky Inc, SCRP0001143

³⁶ Eastern Oregon Extension Request at 2.

³⁷ *Id.* at 2-3.

³⁸ *Id.* at 3.

³⁹ *Id.*

⁴⁰ *Id.*

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² *Id.* at 4.

⁴³ *Id.* at 3.

⁴⁴ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

⁴⁵ See, e.g., *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5.

Grounds for individual term extension – GigSky Inc. (GigSky) requests a third six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) for the application listed above.⁴⁶ GigSky claims that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its December 22, 2024 deadline, has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. Specifically, GigSky asserts that the lack of full funding “has strained [its] resources” particularly in light of the fact it is a “small business that is still unprofitable.” Absent a six-month extension, it argues it would be “financially unsustainable . . . to complete the remaining project phases with the current timeframe.”⁴⁷ Such an extension, it argues, would allow it to “continue [its] efforts without compromising financial stability or the quality of the network upgrade”⁴⁸ GigSky asserts that it has worked to mitigate these difficulties in order to meet its Program obligations. Specifically, it asserts that, since its last extension for these applications was granted six months ago, it has continued to “work diligently” to replace its current equipment, having made a “downpayment” on a critical piece of new equipment and leased other equipment to facilitate software testing.⁴⁹ The Bureau finds GigSky’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of lack of full funding,⁵⁰ and accordingly grants the requested extension.

New RRD term expiration date – GigSky’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from December 22, 2024 to June 22, 2025.

Recipient – NE Colorado Cellular, Inc. d/b/a Viaero Wireless, SCRP0001111, SCRP0001121

Grounds for individual term extension – NE Colorado Cellular, Inc d/b/a Viaero Wireless (NE Colorado) requests a second six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) for the applications listed above.⁵¹ NE Colorado asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by the deadlines for those applications, which range from January 15, 2025 to January 27, 2025, has, through no fault of its

⁴⁶ See Request of GigSky Inc. for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001143, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Nov. 14, 2024) (GigSky Extension Request). GigSky previously requested a six-month extension in June 2024. See Supplemental Request of GigSky for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 20, 2024); Request of GigSky for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 5, 2024). The Bureau granted that request in *Streamlined Resolution of Requests Under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, DA 24-625 at 6 (WCB June 28, 2024) (*June Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*). The Bureau granted GigSky its first extension in December 2023. See *GigSky Extension Order*.

⁴⁷ GigSky Extension Request at 2.

⁴⁸ *Id.*

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 1-2.

⁵⁰ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

⁵¹ See Request of NE Colorado Cellular Inc., d/b/a Viaero Wireless for Extension of Time for SCRP0001121, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Nov. 8, 2024); Request of NE Colorado Cellular Inc., d/b/a Viaero Wireless for Extension of Time for SCRP0001111, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Nov. 8, 2024) (together, NE Colorado Extension Requests). NE Colorado Cellular filed for an earlier extension request for these same applications. See Request of NE Colorado Cellular Inc for Extension of Time for SCRP000111, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed May 17, 2024); see NE Colorado Cellular Inc for Extension of Time for SCRP0001121, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed May 17, 2024). The Bureau granted those requests in May 2024. See *May 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 6-7.

own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. NE Colorado states that the limited funding has forced it to reprioritize where it allocates its work crews in order to focus on completing work at the sites already under construction, and that this need to work on the overall project in clusters has caused it to make limited progress at other sites.⁵² NE Colorado also states that the lack of full funding has caused it to release some construction crews, which has caused project delays, and that its primary vendor has pulled its construction crews because NE Colorado has not received the funding needed to pay for scheduled work.⁵³ NE Colorado further states that the lack of full funding has forced it to limit or postpone some equipment orders and cancel or postpone others due to the lack of full funding.⁵⁴ Nevertheless, NE Colorado explains that it has continued working to mitigate the impact of the lack of full funding by continually reevaluating its project plan and timelines and has been able to complete a substantial amount of site preparation, along with completing the deployment of core equipment at its network operations centers, completing delivery of onsite hardware and software, and migrating all of its voice and data traffic off of the Huawei cores.⁵⁵ The Bureau finds NE Colorado's showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of the lack of full funding,⁵⁶ and accordingly grants the requested extensions for the application numbers listed above.

New RRD term expiration date – NE Colorado's deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED as follows:

- For File No. SCRP0001111, from January 27, 2025 to July 27, 2025.
- For File No. SCRP0001121, from January 15, 2025 to July 15, 2025.

Recipient – Pine Telephone Co., SCRP0001034, SCRP0001035, SCRP0001036

Grounds for individual term extension – Pine Telephone Co. (Pine Telephone) requests a second six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) for the applications listed above.⁵⁷ Pine Telephone asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its deadlines, which range from January 25, 2025 to February 12, 2025, has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Specifically, regarding lack of full funding, Pine Telephone states that the lack of full funding has forced it to focus its limited funds on obtaining replacement equipment in order to retain its existing network coverage, which is relied upon by many rural consumers who, it argues, would otherwise lack access, and to defer work on removing and disposing of covered

⁵² See, e.g., NE Colorado Request for Extension for Application SCRP0001111 at 2.

⁵³ *Id.*

⁵⁴ *Id.* at 2-3.

⁵⁵ *Id.* at 2.

⁵⁶ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

⁵⁷ See Request of Pine Telephone Company for Extension of Time for Applications SCRP0001034, SCRP0001035, and SCRP0001036, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Nov. 15, 2024). Pine Telephone previously requested a six-month extension for these same application numbers in June 2024. See Request of Pine Telephone Company for Extension of Time for Applications SCRP0001034, SCRP0001035, and SCRP0001036, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 7, 2024). The Bureau granted that request in the *June Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 8-9.

equipment and services.⁵⁸ Regarding supply chain issues, Pine Telephone states that “supply chain issues significantly delayed multiple aspects of the project from the very outset” ultimately delaying the initial steps of the project by approximately a year.⁵⁹ Pine Telephone also asserts that it has worked to mitigate these difficulties in order to meet its Program obligations. Pine Telephone states that in the six months since the last granted extension for these same applications, it “finished replacement installation on 11 sites” and “cut new sites over to the new core.”⁶⁰ Pine Telephone “also anticipates [it] will finish replacement installation on an additional 8 sites” in the last quarter of 2024 and first quarter of 2025.⁶¹ The Bureau finds Pine Telephone’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of lack of full funding⁶² and supply chain issues,⁶³ and accordingly grants the requested extension for the application numbers listed.

New RRD term expiration date – Pine Telephone’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED as follows:

- For File No. SCRP0001034, from January 20, 2025 to July 20, 2025.
- For File No. SCRP0001035, from February 12, 2025 to August 12, 2025.
- For File No. SCRP0001036, from February 12, 2025 to August 12, 2025.

Recipient – SI Wireless, LLC, SCRP0001013

Grounds for individual term extension – SI Wireless, LLC (SI Wireless) requests a third six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).⁶⁴ SI Wireless asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its deadline of November 24, 2024 has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by lack of full funding and other issues. Regarding lack of funding, SI Wireless states that the funding shortfall caused it to make significant modifications to its overall plan.⁶⁵ SI Wireless further explains that these modifications led to material delays in its ability to obtain and install necessary replacement equipment, which has prevented it from being able to meet its current deadline.⁶⁶ Even so, SI Wireless states that it has continued to work and make progress toward

⁵⁸ Pine Telephone Extension Request at 2.

⁵⁹ *Id.* at 1.

⁶⁰ *Id.* at 1-2.

⁶¹ *Id.* at 2.

⁶² See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

⁶³ See, e.g., *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5.

⁶⁴ Revised Request of SI Wireless, LLC for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89, at 1 (filed Nov. 22, 2024) (SI Wireless Revised Extension Request). SI Wireless previously filed for two six-month extensions for the same application number. See Request of SI Wireless, LLC for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Apr. 23, 2024); Request of SI Wireless, LLC for Extension of Time for Application SCRP0001013, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Oct. 12, 2023). The Bureau granted those requests in April 2024 and October 2023. See *April 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 9-10; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 12-18.

⁶⁵ SI Wireless Revised Extension Request at 1.

⁶⁶ *Id.*

the complete removal, replacement, and disposal of its covered equipment and services in the past six months, and has been able to remove most of the covered equipment in its network and to install replacement equipment on a good portion of its cell sites.⁶⁷ The Bureau finds SI Wireless's showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions based on the lack of full funding,⁶⁸ and accordingly grants the requested extension.

New RRD term expiration date – SI Wireless's deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from November 24, 2024 to May 24, 2025.

For additional information concerning this Public Notice, please contact Ty Covey in the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at ty.covey@fcc.gov or (202) 418-1372.

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⁶⁷ *Id.*

⁶⁸ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.