NECA’s Weekly Federal Regulatory Summary

February 18, 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- The FCC authorized CAF Phase II support for 1060 winning bids. The FCC also authorized CAF Phase II support to Hughes Network Systems for broadband deployment in New York. The FCC said the authorizations total over $240 million and will expand rural broadband deployment in nine states.

- The FCC announced it proposes to release certain mobile broadband coverage data submitted pursuant to the Mobility Fund Phase II challenge process order. Parties that submitted MF-II coverage data have until February 27, 2020 to object to the release of their data.

- Red River Communications and NTCA discussed Red River’s pending petition for waiver of the election deadline for A-CAM II and request for a revised A-CAM II offer.

- The USDA announced it has invested $9 million in four, high-speed broadband infrastructure projects in Tennessee, and invested $3.4 million in Illinois. The funding is through the USDA’s ReConnect Pilot Program.

- NTCA discussed issues faced by smaller RLECs in connection with any potential transition of access charges for 8YY traffic to bill-and-keep.

- AT&T offered suggestions on 8YY access charge reform.

- Comments are due February 24, 2020, on the NPRM on establishing a registration process for the registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls. Replies are due March 2, 2020.

- NCTA filed final NANC-approved recommendations on funding of the creation costs and fee structure for users of the reassigned numbers database.

- Craigville Telephone and Consolidated Telephone filed oppositions with the Illinois district court to motions by T-Mobile and Inteliquent that sought dismissal of plaintiffs’ complaint alleging, among other things, T-Mobile’s provision of false ring tones resulted in lost opportunities to seek intercarrier compensation. Plaintiffs also opposed Inteliquent’s motion for primary jurisdiction referral.

- The New York district court issued a decision and order and judgment rejecting a lawsuit filed by the states of New York, California, et al. that claimed the proposed T-Mobile-Sprint merger would substantially lessen competition in the mobile wireless telecommunications market.

Other Key Upcoming Dates

- Feb. 28 - Replies due on the FCC’s first staff report on call blocking.

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USF Reform

• The Wireline Competition Bureau, Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force and Office of Economics and Analytics issued a public notice on February 13, 2020, authorizing CAF Phase II support for 1060 winning bids identified in attachment A of the public notice. The FCC said it will soon post a state-level summary under the data tab on the Auction 903 webpage, with details on the support and obligations. The FCC authorized the first eight waves of funding in May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December 2019. The FCC issued a news release announcing this authorization, as well as the CAF II authorization to Hughes Network Systems (see item below), totaling $240,232,453, will expand rural broadband deployment in Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, Oklahoma and Wyoming.

• The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a public notice on February 13, 2020, authorizing $7,026,075 in CAF Phase II support to Hughes Network Systems that will provide broadband to 22,305 locations in New York.

• The Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force, in conjunction with the Office of Economics and Analytics and Wireline and Wireless Telecommunications Bureaus issued a public notice on February 12, 2020, announcing they propose to release certain mobile broadband coverage data submitted pursuant to the Mobility Fund Phase II challenge process order. They said they are commencing this process to allow the agency to publicly release carrier-specific 4G LTE coverage maps derived from the MF-II coverage data. Parties that submitted MF-II coverage data have ten business days from the date of the release of this public notice to object to the release of their own data and the deadline for filing objections is February 27, 2020. If the Commission receives no objections, it will publicly release these data on March 2, 2020.

• Chairman Pai visited the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming on February 11, 2020, and toured areas receiving $4.1 million from the CAF Phase II auction to deploy gigabit-speed service to 849 rural homes and businesses on the reservation. Pai and tribal leaders also discussed the tribal priority window, through which tribes can obtain 2.5 GHz spectrum for free before any commercial auctions.

• Red River Communications, Olson Thielen, and NTCA met separately with Chairman Pai’s rural broadband advisor, and legal advisors to Commissioners O’Rielly, Carr, Rosenworcel and Starks on February 11 and 12, 2020, to discuss Red River’s pending petition for waiver of the election deadline for A-CAM II and requesting a revised A-CAM II offer. They discussed Red River’s reduction A-CAM support resulting from an inadvertent erroneous submission by a neighboring operator that reflected broadband coverage on the basis of census tracts rather than census blocks.

• JSI, on behalf of Zenda Telephone, filed a letter on February 12, 2020, withdrawing Zenda’s petition seeking a waiver of the requirement that geocoded broadband location data filed in the HUBB can only be certified if the location deployment data was dated in the reporting period for the year. It said after receiving additional guidance from the Wireline Competition Bureau, Zenda was able to resolve its issue without a waiver.

• GCI and the Alaska Telecom Association met separately with Chairman Pai’s rural broadband advisor, and legal advisors to Commissioners O’Rielly, Carr, and Rosenworcel on February 10, 2020, to urge the Commission to grant GCI’s application for review, which seeks reversal of an order by the Wireless Telecommunications and the Wireline Competition Bureaus denying a limited waiver of the 7.6 meter accuracy standard that applies to the network maps that Alaska Plan participants must file annually.

• NARUC approved a number of resolutions at its Winter Policy Summit, including one on the new 5G fund, which advocates for the FCC to require current and accurate mobile wireless data coverage mapping prior to awarding any dollars from the 5G Fund. The resolution also said 5G Fund dollars should be prioritized for areas that do not have mobile wireless data coverage meeting the 5 mbps threshold.

• The Vermont Department of Public Service met with Commissioner Carr and his legal advisor on February 10, 2020, to discuss the new 5G fund. VT DPS expressed support for Commission efforts to
bridge the digital divide, but said there continues to be significant flaws in the current market-based auction system administered by the Commission, on both the mobile and fixed side. VT DPS emphasized the need for a voice requirement for the 5G Fund similar to that required in Mobility Fund Phase II. The DPS also met with Office of Economics and Analytics and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on February 11, 2020, and with Chairman Pai’s legal advisor, and Commissioners Rosenworcel, O’Rielly and Starks and their legal advisors, to discuss similar issues.

- The Competitive Carriers Association met with Office of Economics and Analytics and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on February 6, 2020, to discuss Chairman Pai’s proposal to establish a 5G Fund. CCA suggested the FCC preserve and expand mobile services to ensure that all unserved areas obtain mobile connectivity, provide rural America service that is comparable to what is available in more urban areas, distribute the funds efficiently and equitably, and phase out legacy support in a fair and equitable manner that ensures preservation of existing service to rural America. CCA recommended the FCC target funds to reach unserved areas and said one way to target the support is to make funds available for areas that do not have unsubsidized 4G LTE service.

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ICC

- NTCA met with Chairman Pai’s legal advisor and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on February 12, 2020, to discuss issues faced by smaller RLECs in connection with any potential transition of access charges for 8YY traffic to bill-and-keep. NTCA discussed concerns regarding the impacts of any reductions in access revenues associated with such a transition and urged the Commission not to depart from the precedent made in the Transformation Order in any future transition that zeroes out any additional rate elements not currently included within existing explicit alternative cost recovery mechanisms. NTCA also discussed concerns regarding interconnection and network edge issues arising out of the potential transition of any transport rate elements to bill-and-keep.

- AT&T filed a letter on February 13, 2020, offering suggestions on 8YY access charge reform. AT&T claimed 8YY traffic represents an increasingly disproportionate share of AT&T’s overall originating access expense, that CLECs represent a majority of AT&T’s originating access expense and estimated about 99 percent of CLEC originating access charges today are for 8YY calls. AT&T suggested the FCC amend its rules to prohibit CLECs from assessing more than one database query charge on the same call and should require all carriers in the call path to pass end office CLLI code information in accordance with the industry guidelines.

- The Native American Telecom Companies (Crow Creek and Pine Ridge) filed a letter on February 13, 2020, on their operations serving the telecommunications and broadband needs of residents of the Pine Ridge and Crow Creek Indian reservations. Crow Creek said it will no longer pursue economic development initiatives aimed at establishing it as a gateway for telecommunications traffic, which previously resulted in the company being classified as an access-stimulating CLEC. Crow Creek asserted this change in business will result in the loss of critically important services for residents of the reservation, but is necessary to comply with the new ICC rules. Pine Ridge said it is no longer an access-stimulating CLEC and now originates telecommunications traffic and meets the 6:1 traffic ratio.

- 123.Net (d/b/a LEC-MI) filed a reply brief on February 10, 2020, in the case addressing AT&T’s formal complaint alleging LEC-MI improperly billed AT&T at least $1,054,897 in end office access charges on aggregated 8YY traffic that AT&T paid. LEC-MI said its reply addresses issues raised by AT&T’s answers to interrogatories, and claimed AT&T’s interrogatory responses show that its complaint is predicated on material misstatements.

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Broadband

- The USDA announced on February 13, 2020, it has invested $9 million in four, high-speed broadband infrastructure projects in Tennessee. The USDA said Ben Lomand Holdings will use the funding to deploy a FTTP network, and North Central Communications, Peoples Telephone, and United Communications will use the funding to provide broadband service. The funding is through the USDA’s ReConnect Pilot Program.

- The USDA announced on February 14, 2020, it has invested $3.4 million in a broadband infrastructure project in Illinois. The USDA said Hamilton County Telephone Cooperative will replace copper wire with fiber-optic cable wire and the upgrade will benefit 146 customers in the area. The funding is through the USDA’s ReConnect Pilot Program.

- NTIA announced on February 12, 2020, five additional states joined the initial eight states in its National Broadband Availability Map program. NTIA said the new participating states are Nebraska, New Mexico, Michigan, Missouri and Virginia. The eight initial states are California, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, and West Virginia. NTIA said its platform allows for the visualization of federal, state, and commercially available data sets and includes Form 477 fixed broadband data from the FCC, and it will soon add Form 477 mobile broadband data.

- Commissioner Starks hosted a roundtable discussion on February 11, 2020, on the future of work. The FCC discussed communities impacted by the lack of access to broadband and how that affects their participation in a technologically advanced workforce, among other things.

- The House Energy and Commerce Committee announced on February 13, 2020, the Communications and Technology Subcommittee’s February 20, 2020 field hearing entitled “Rural Broadband: Connecting Consumers and Empowering Small Businesses Across America” has been canceled. Reps. McEachin (D Va.) and Spanberger (D Va.) will be hosting a conversation on rural broadband in its place.

- Sens. Tom Udall (D-N.M.), Maria Cantwell (D-Wash.) and Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) introduced the Bridging the Tribal Digital Divide Act of 2020 on February 13, 2020. The bill seeks to accelerate the deployment of broadband services to native communities and would also establish the Tribal Broadband Interagency Working Group to improve coordination across federal broadband programs and reduce deployment barriers and sets aside FCC and USDA funds for the benefit of broadband deployment on Tribal lands, among other things.

- To date, no oppositions were filed to petitions for reconsideration of the report and order establishing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection. Replies to oppositions are due February 24, 2020. public notice, FR

Robocalls

- The NPRM on establishing a registration process for the registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls was published in the Federal Register on February 14, 2020. The NPRM was issued in accordance with the Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act (TRACED Act). Comments are due February 24, 2020; replies due March 2, 2020.

- NCTA filed a letter on February 13, 2020, attaching final recommendations on funding of the creation costs and fee structure for users of the reassigned numbers database developed by the NANC’s Numbering Administration Oversight Working Group and approved by the NANC. NCTA said the NAOWG found that insufficient information exists to allow for recommendations on specific funding and pricing amounts. NCTA said the recommendations address the processes for funding and repayment of the creation costs of the reassigned numbers database, as well as the initial pricing structure and pricing levels for use of the database.
NTCA filed a letter on February 12, 2020, to respond to USTelecom et al.’s January 31, 2020, letter which discussed the need for a broad safe harbor that promotes voice service providers’ good-faith efforts to combat abusive robocalls. NTCA expressed support for their proposal to adopt a safe harbor to enable voice providers to block or label suspected or unwanted robocalls. NTCA said, however, if the Commission adopts such a safe harbor it should also declare voice providers cannot block or label as spam, or suspected spam, or otherwise any call based solely upon the lack of SHAKEN/STIR caller-ID authentication and suggested amended language to the proposal.

Sprint filed a letter on February 13, 2020, to provide an update on the status of its implementation of SHAKEN/STIR. Sprint said it has met its commitment to install and test STIR/SHAKEN within its network by the end of 2019, and said it is on track to sign and verify the vast majority of its traffic in 2020.

The Professional Association for Customer Engagement and Noble Systems met separately with Chairman Pai’s advisor and Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau staff on February 5, 2020, to discuss SHAKEN/STIR implementation issues in an enterprise environment in light of the TRACED Act.

Call Completion

Craigville Telephone and Consolidated Telephone (plaintiffs) filed oppositions with the Illinois district court on February 10, 2020, to motions by T-Mobile and Inteliquent that sought dismissal of plaintiffs’ complaint against them that alleged, among other things, T-Mobile’s provision of false ring tones resulted in lost opportunities to seek intercarrier compensation and lost profits and revenue. Plaintiffs also filed an opposition to Inteliquent’s motion to refer the claims against it to the FCC under the doctrine of primary jurisdiction.

Universal Service

The public notice announcing petitions for reconsideration of the November 2019 Lifeline order filed by WTA, TruConnect and Sprint was published in the Federal Register on February 14, 2020. Oppositions are due March 2, 2020; replies to oppositions are due March 10, 2020.

An FCC notice was published in the Federal Register on February 14, 2020, announcing the re-establishment of a computer matching program the FCC and USAC will conduct with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the eligibility of applicants to and subscribers of the Lifeline program. Written comments are due on March 16, 2020. This program will begin March 16, 2020, unless written comments are received that require a contrary determination, and will conclude on September 16, 2021.

TruConnect and Sage Telecom Communications spoke with Chairman Pai’s legal advisor on February 11, 2020, to discuss their petition for reconsideration of the decision to adopt new section 54.406(b), which prohibits ETCs from paying commissions to Lifeline enrollment representatives. They urged the Commission to rescind the new rule or if it does not act on the petition, reconsider and extend the effective date of this rule. They also met separately with Commissioners O’Rielly and Carr and their legal advisors on February 11, 2020, to discuss similar issues.

An FCC notice was published in the Federal Register on February 14, 2020, seeking PRA comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection relating to the monitoring of USF support mechanisms. The FCC said it is reporting a 124 hour increase in the total hour burden based on updated information from NECA regarding the number of respondents/responses. PRA comments are due April 14, 2020.
• The public notice announcing Viya filed a petition for reconsideration of the December 2019 public notice announcing location counts and reserve prices for the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund Stage 2 fixed support competitive proposal process was published in the Federal Register on February 18, 2020. Oppositions to the petitions are due March 4, 2020; replies to oppositions are due March 16, 2020.

• NCTA filed a letter on February 11, 2020, to express support for USTelecom’s comments on proposed changes to the annual and quarterly telecommunications reporting worksheets (FCC Forms 499-A and 499-Q), and accompanying instructions, to be used in 2020 to report 2019 revenues. NCTA said the Commission should not require providers to identify universal service subsidies that are not paid to the provider in line 308 of the Form 499-A and suggested it amend the proposed instructions to line 308 to clarify that providers are not obligated to report universal service support revenue that they do not directly receive.

• Comments were filed on February 13, 2020, on the NPRM on updating the Commission’s suspension and debarment rules to make them consistent with OMB guidelines to better prevent bad actors from participating in USF programs, TRS programs and the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program. INCOMPAS, NTCA and ACA Connects expressed support for the proposed reforms and urged the Commission to draw upon experiences of other agencies and adopt balanced rules that allow for an appropriate response to incidents of noncompliance or misconduct and incorporate strong due process protections for service providers. CTIA and USTelecom supported the proposed reforms, but claimed the proposed rules lack clear standards and sufficient due process procedures, set too low a threshold for suspension and debarment, impose onerous compliance obligations on USF and other support program participants, and would impose burdensome reporting obligations. The SHLB Coalition and State E-rate Coordinators Alliance asserted the proposed rules are overbroad and fail to consider the unique aspects of the USF programs. Replies are due March 16, 2020. FR.

• Commissioner Carr spoke at the National Rural Health Association’s 31st Annual Rural Health Policy Institute on February 11, 2020, to discuss rural health care, and expanding access to broadband-powered telehealth in rural communities. He discussed the proposed Connected Care pilot program and said the Commission will move forward soon with a final order.

• USTelecom, AT&T, CenturyLink and Alaska Communications met separately with advisors to Chairman Pai and Commissioners Carr and O’Rielly on February 10, 2020, to discuss issues raised in USTelecom’s petition for reconsideration of the August 2019 rural health care order. USTelecom discussed the time sensitive nature of the need to reconsider and/or clarify the Commission’s certification rules which go into effect on July 1, 2020, and the need for the Commission to reconsider how the new median “rural rate” is meant to operate.

• Commissioner Starks announced on February 13, 2020, he will host a field hearing on February 21, 2020, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, to discuss steps taken to improve the resiliency of communications networks since Hurricanes Irma and Maria, how communications networks and recovery efforts performed during recent earthquakes, and what additional actions are needed to ensure that communications networks are always available, particularly to meet public safety needs.

Misc.

• The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York issued a decision and order and judgment on February 11, 2020, which rejected a lawsuit filed by the states of New York, California, et al. that claimed the proposed T-Mobile-Sprint merger would substantially lessen competition in the mobile wireless telecommunications market. Chairman Pai, and Commissioners Starks, O’Rielly, Carr and Rosenworcel issued statements on the decision.

Back to Highlights
• The Department of Justice announced on February 13, 2020, a superseding indictment was handed down against Huawei Technologies, charging it with conspiracy to violate the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act and adding a charge of conspiracy to steal trade secrets.

• The U.S. Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Industry and Security announced on February 13, 2020, it is renewing, for 45 days, the temporary general license authorizing specific, limited engagements in transactions involving the export, reexport, and transfer of items—under the Export Administration Regulations—to Huawei and its non-U.S. affiliates which are subject to the Entity List. The bureau said the extension is necessary to allow telecommunication providers—particularly those in rural U.S. communities—the ability to continue to temporarily and securely operate existing networks while they identify alternatives to Huawei for future operation.

• Mavenir Systems met separately with Chairman Pai and his policy advisor, Commissioners O’Rielly and Starks and their advisors, and Commissioner Carr’s advisor on February 5 and 6, 2020, to discuss supply chain issues and its ability to assist small rural carriers who have deployed ZTE and Huawei with software-based networks.

• RigNet met separately with Commissioner Starks’ advisor and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology staff on February 6, 2020, to assert that military-grade, hardware-generated encryption can help with the issue of suspect or untrustworthy equipment. RigNet claimed this type of equipment could be used instead of ripping and replacing suspect network equipment.

• The FCC issued its FY 2019 annual performance report on February 10, 2020, which summarized the FCC’s progress from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. The FCC detailed, among other things, efforts on 5G deployment, protecting consumers from robocalls, closing the digital divide, broadband mapping, and high-cost universal service support to rural carriers.

• The FCC released its FY 2021 budget estimates to Congress on February 10, 2020, requesting $343,070,000 in budget authority from regulatory fee offsetting collections. The FCC said this budget request represents an increase of $4,070,000 from the FY 2020 appropriated level of $339,000,000, and will be used to support the following strategic goals for FY 2021: closing the digital divide; promoting innovation; protecting consumers and public safety; and reforming the FCC’s processes. The FCC also issued a budget in brief.

• Comments were filed on February 12, 2020, on the public notice seeking to refresh the record on truth-in-billing rules. NTCA encouraged the Commission to apply the rules equally to all voice providers and allow consumers an equal comparison among different providers. Verizon asserted the current rules give providers the flexibility to choose how best to convey information about line-item charges to their voice customers and said that any changes to the rules should preserve the requirement for clear and non-misleading fee descriptions, while avoiding imposing one-size fits all rules. USTelecom asserted the Commission should not impose a one-size fits all requirement on how voice service providers display or differentiate line-item fees that are government-mandated from those that are not, and should not extend its current truth-in-billing rules to interconnected VoIP service providers. Kansas Corporation Commission said the rules should be applied to interconnected VoIP and wireless providers and expressed support for a requirement to categorize and identify charges that are government mandated vs those that are not. INCOMPAS and The VON Coalition opposed application of truth-in-billing rules to interconnected VoIP providers. INCOMPAS said in the absence of evidence customers are experiencing harms specifically from iVoIP billing practices, the Commission should maintain its current policy, and should not require iVoIP to distinguish between government-mandated line-item fees and those that are not. Replies are due March 13, 2020. Federal Register, all comments available

• The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a public notice on February 11, 2020, granting a section 214 application filed for the transfer of control of Vantage Telecom to Pinnacle Telecom.

• To date, no comments were filed on a 214 application requesting consent to transfer control of Illinois Network Alliance to Missouri Network Alliance. Replies are due February 21, 2020. public notice
• Comments are due February 18, 2020, on a 214 application requesting Buggs Island Cooperative transfer assets to EMPOWER. Replies are due February 25, 2020. public notice

• The FCC issued a public notice on February 13, 2020, granting an application filed Assurance Telecom for authorization to obtain NANP telephone numbers directly from the numbering administrators for its iVoIP service.

• The FCC issued a public notice on February 14, 2020, granting an application filed by Ton80 Communications for authorization to obtain NANP telephone numbers directly from the numbering administrators for its iVoIP service.

Upcoming Filing Dates

• Feb. 20 - PRA comments due on a revision of a currently approved information collection associated with FCC Form 477, Local Telephone Competition and Broadband Reporting. The revisions to the information collection are necessitated by the August 2019 report and order on the new Digital Opportunity Data Collection. notice

• Feb. 20 - Replies due on the Department of Hawaiian Homelands petition for waiver to file as an eligible entity in the 2.5 GHz rural tribal priority window. public notice

• Feb. 21 - Replies due on a 214 application requesting consent to transfer control of Illinois Network Alliance to Missouri Network Alliance. public notice

• Feb. 24 - Replies due to oppositions to petitions for reconsideration of the report and order establishing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection. public notice, FR

• Feb. 24 - Comments due on the technical requirements for the reassigned numbers database, which was established in the 2018 robocall order. Replies are due March 9, 2020. public notice

• Feb. 24 - Comments due on the NPRM on establishing a registration process for the registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls. Replies are due March 2, 2020.

• Feb. 25 - Replies due on a 214 application requesting Buggs Island Cooperative transfer assets to EMPOWER. public notice

• Feb. 27 - Oppositions due on the public release of Mobility Fund II coverage data that were submitted pursuant to the MF II challenge process order. public notice

• Feb. 25 - Replies due on the FNPRM on adding a goal of broadband adoption to the Lifeline program, making additional program integrity improvements to the program, and establishing privacy training requirements for entities accessing Lifeline subscribers’ personal information. FR

• Feb. 28 - Replies due on the Commission’s first staff report on call blocking. FR, public notice

• Mar. 2 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with the FCC rules that prevent the unauthorized change by telecommunications carriers of consumers’ selections of telecommunications service providers. notice

• Mar. 2 - Replies due on the NPRM on establishing a registration process for the registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls.
Mar. 2 - Oppositions due to petitions for reconsideration of the November 2019 Lifeline order filed by WTA, TruConnect and Sprint. Replies to oppositions are due March 10, 2020. public notice

Mar. 3 - Replies due on the supply chain FNPRM.

Mar. 4 - Comments due on NECA’s December 2019 proposed average schedule formulas. Replies are due March 19, 2020. public notice

Mar. 4 - Oppositions due to Viya’s petition for reconsideration of the public notice announcing location counts and reserve prices for the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund Stage 2 fixed support competitive proposal process. Replies due March 16, 2020. public notice, FR

Mar. 5 - PRA comments due on a revision of a currently approved information collection associated with Part 61 tariffing. The revisions are necessitated by the access arbitrage order, FR

Mar. 6 - Replies due on the NPRM on updating its unbundling and resale rules to reflect the marketplace realities of intermodal voice and broadband competition. FR

Mar. 9 - Replies due on the technical requirements for the reassigned numbers database, which was established in the 2018 robocall order. public notice

Mar. 10- Replies to oppositions due on petitions for reconsideration of the November 2019 Lifeline order filed by WTA, TruConnect and Sprint. public notice

Mar. 13 - Replies due on seeking to refresh the record on ways to modernize and strengthen the truth-in-billing rules. public notice, Federal Register

Mar 16 - Replies due on the NPRM on updating the Commission’s suspension and debarment rules to make them consistent with OMB guidelines to better prevent bad actors from participating in USF programs, TRS programs and the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program. FR.

Mar. 16 - Comments due on the re-establishment of a computer matching program the FCC and USAC will conduct with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the eligibility of applicants to and subscribers of the Lifeline program. notice

Mar. 16 - Replies due to oppositions to Viya’s petition for reconsideration of the public notice announcing location counts and reserve prices for the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund Stage 2 fixed support competitive proposal process. public notice, FR

Mar. 19 - Replies due on NECA’s December 2019 proposed average schedule formulas. public notice

Mar. 23 - PRA comments are due on an extension of a currently approved information collection regarding access to numbering resource application information. FCC notice

Mar. 23 - PRA comments are due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with Parts 54 and 69 filing requirements for regulation of interstate services of non-price cap ILECs and IXCs. notice

Mar. 24 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with payphone compensation. FCC notice

Mar. 30 - PRA comments due on a revision of a currently approved information collection associated with changes in reporting and recording keeping requirements for FCC forms 460, 461, 462, 463, 465, 3466 and 467 (rural health care.) FR

Apr. 6 - PRA comments due on a revision of a currently approved information collection on FCC Form 183, the application to participate in the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund auction. notice
• Apr. 14 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection relating to the monitoring of USF support mechanisms. PRA comments are due April 14, 2020. [FCC notice]