

NECA's Weekly Federal Regulatory Summary

[USF Reform](#) [Open Internet](#) [Broadband](#) [IP Transition](#) [USF](#) [Call Completion](#) [Misc.](#) [Upcoming Events](#)

May 20, 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- The FCC issued a [tentative agenda](#) for its June 6, 2019 Open Meeting. The FCC will consider three items, including a [Declaratory Ruling and Third FNPRM](#) clarifying that voice service providers may block illegal and unwanted calls as the default before they reach consumers' phones, and proposing a safe harbor for providers who block calls that fail call authentication and a [Report and Order and Second FNPRM](#) that would modernize the existing leased access rules to reflect changes in the video programming market and simplify the leased access rate formula.
- President Trump issued an [Executive Order](#) prohibiting any transactions involving information and communications technology or services designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary.
- The FCC [authorized](#) CAF Phase II Auction support for the winning bids identified in Attachment A of this Public Notice. The FCC also issued a [News Release](#) announcing the auction allocated \$1.488 billion in support, and provided a complete list by state of the companies receiving support.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau [announced](#) the beginning of the phase down of legacy high-cost USF support for price cap carriers and fixed CETCs now that the Bureau has authorized CAF Phase II Auction support. The Bureau issued [an Erratum](#) replacing the document linked in the third paragraph of the Public Notice.
- The FCC [granted](#) Casey Mutual Telephone's Petition for Waiver of the letter of credit commitment letter deadline for the CAF Phase II Auction, but denied Allens Communications' Petition for Waiver of the requirement that an Auction 903 recipient obtain a standby letter of credit.
- USTelecom, ITTA, and WISPA [discussed](#) network testing and the speed and latency compliance framework.
- NTTA [expressed support](#) for recent positions taken by WTA and NTCA on broadband performance testing.
- Sprint [asserted](#) elimination of access charges is the only sure way to achieve the FCC's goal of eliminating access arbitrage and called for a mandatory phase-out of all access charge rate elements.
- Chairman Pai will convene a [summit](#) on July 11, 2019, focused on the industry's implementation of SHAKEN/STIR,
- The Wireline Competition Bureau [granted](#) INCOMPAS' [motion](#) for an extension of time to file reply comments on the [Public Notice](#) seeking focused additional comment in the Business Data Services and USTelecom Forbearance Petition proceedings. Reply comments are now due May 28, 2019.
- Comments [are due](#) June 7, 2019, on NANC's [Additional Findings Report on Nationwide Number Portability](#) that analyzes the technical requirements for two proposals to implement NNP: National Local Routing Number and Internet Protocol Local Routing Number.

Other Key Upcoming Dates

- May 22 - Oppositions due to Petitions for Reconsideration of the [Reassigned Numbers Database Order](#).

USF Reform

- The Wireline Competition Bureau, Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force, and Office of Economics and Analytics issued a [Public Notice](#) on May 14, 2019, authorizing CAF Phase II (Auction 903) support for the winning bids identified in Attachment A of this Public Notice. They indicated they will also soon post a state-level summary under the “Data” tab on the [Auction 903 webpage](#). The Public Notice also provided a summary of the various obligations of authorized Auction 903 support recipients, but noted this summary is not comprehensive. These include service milestones, HUBB reporting, the annual Form 481 report, and annual section 54.314 certifications, among others. The FCC also issued a [News Release](#) announcing the auction allocated \$1.488 billion in support, and provided a complete list by state of the companies receiving support.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [Public Notice](#) on May 14, 2019, announcing the beginning of the phase down of legacy high-cost USF support for price cap carriers and fixed competitive ETCs now that the Bureau has authorized CAF Phase II Auction support. The Bureau updated the report showing price cap carriers’ legacy CAF Phase I frozen support amounts associated with each census block for which CAF Phase II auction support was awarded. Once authorized, legacy support for those blocks will cease for price cap carriers that did not decline phase-down support. In non-awarded, auction-eligible census blocks, a price cap carrier that did not decline phase-down support will continue receiving legacy phase-down support in the amounts shown in the report until further Commission action. The Bureau also updated the report showing the legacy support amounts associated with CETCs offering service to fixed locations. Fixed CETCs will begin receiving legacy support at a reduced level beginning the first day of June, the month after the first authorization of any CAF Phase II auction support nationwide.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued [an Erratum](#) on May 17, 2019, to the May 14, 2019 [Public Notice](#) that announced the beginning of the phase down of legacy high-cost USF support for price cap carriers and fixed CETCs now that the Bureau has authorized CAF Phase II auction support. The Erratum replaces the document linked in the third paragraph at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-357433A1.xlsx> with a corrected document.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau, Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force, and Office of Economics and Analytics issued [an Order](#) on May 15, 2019, granting Casey Mutual Telephone’s Petition for Waiver of the November 5, 2018 letter of credit commitment letter deadline for the CAF Phase II Auction. They denied Allen’s T.V. Cable Service, d/b/a Allens Communications’ Petition for Waiver of the requirement that an Auction 903 recipient obtain a standby letter of credit that covers the amount of support that has been disbursed plus the support that will be disbursed in the coming year.
- Chairman Pai sent [letters](#) to Sens. John Thune (R-SD) and Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) on May 6, 2019, in response to their letter on the local service rate floor. Pai noted in 2017, the FCC put in place a two-year freeze of the rate floor and asked the public whether it should eliminate the rate floor altogether. He said the feedback overwhelmingly favored consigning the rate floor rule to the ash heap of history, and noted during last month’s Open Commission Meeting, the Commission unanimously voted to get rid of it.
- USTelecom, ITTA, and WISPA [spoke with](#) Chairman Pai’s Advisor on May 10, 2019, to discuss network testing and the speed and latency compliance framework. They reiterated that the Order created a misalignment with respect to Tier 1 noncompliance for network testing vs deployment milestones and made recommendations to address this. They also said a CAF recipient failing to meet both the speed and latency obligations would be subject to a single non-compliance obligation.
- The National Tribal Telecommunications Association filed [a letter](#) on May 14, 2019, to express support for recent positions taken by WTA and NTCA on broadband performance testing. NTTA said its members have significant concerns with the broadband testing protocols outlined in the Network Testing Order, noting the testing protocols are not yet ready, and will not be ready in time, for testing to begin in the third quarter of this year. NTTA said it also shares NTCA’s and WTA’s concerns about the requirement for carriers to test outside their networks, speeds and tiers to be tested, incompatible CPE,

and the starting date. NTTA also expressed concern about the lack of accuracy in broadband availability data in Tribal areas, including what is reported in USAC's HUBB portal.

- Northeast Rural Services filed a [Petition for Waiver](#) on May 16, 2019, of the Rural Broadband Experiments rules that allow USAC to draw on NRS's letters of credit to recover support funds in the event of a default and, instead, permit NRS to voluntarily relinquish the support funds disbursed to NRS for Project IDs 1, 5, & 6. NRS said it is nearing completion of the three-year 85% build-out milestone for Project IDs 4, 11, & 12. NRS said, however, it does not believe it will be able to meet the build-out milestones for Project IDs 1, 5, & 6, nor does it believe it would be economically feasible to complete the build-out for those projects, and now seeks to voluntarily relinquish the disbursed support funds for Project IDs 1, 5, & 6, in lieu of USAC drawing on NRS's letters of credit.
- Midcontinent Communications [met with](#) Wireline Competition Bureau staff on May 13, 2019, to discuss its CAF Phase II application and award. Midco said it plans to serve CAF locations primarily with data and voice using fixed wireless technology. It discussed its experiences with and approval of the CAF rules and the auction system software, saying it would support the Commission using a similar process for future auctions. Midco offered one suggestion; that shapefiles of GIS and mapping data be provided during any future auction.

[Back to Highlights](#)

ICC

- Sprint [met with](#) Wireline Competition Bureau and Office of Economics and Analysis staff on May 14, 2019, to discuss access arbitrage. Sprint asserted elimination of access charges is the only sure way to achieve the FCC's goal of eliminating access arbitrage. Sprint supported: immediate adoption of "prong 1" of the Commission's access arbitrage proposal, so long as the access stimulators do not shift costs back to IXCs or wireless carriers through alternative call routing; adoption of a mandatory one-year phase out of remaining access rate elements for price cap ILECs and CLECs; adoption of a mandatory two-year phase out of remaining access rate elements for all other ILECs, suggesting RLECs may petition the FCC for USF support to recover the incremental costs of implementing IP interconnection.
- CLECs BTC, d/b/a Western Iowa Networks, Goldfield Access Network, Great Lakes Communication, Northern Valley Communications, OmniTel Communications, and Louisa Communications filed [a letter](#) on May 13, 2019, to respond to the letters submitted by AT&T and CenturyLink during the month of April supporting the "prong one" proposal in the Access Stimulation NPRM, *i.e.*, to require access-stimulating LECs to "bear the financial responsibility for the delivery of terminating traffic to their end office" in the event the LECs do not accept direct connections. They said the Commission should refrain from taking further action on any access stimulation reforms until it receives from the IXCs and CEA providers the post-2011 data and evidence that the CLECs have requested and that are necessary to justify any access stimulation rule changes. They suggested if the Commission keeps this docket open, it should issue the proposed data requests and obtain information from the IXCs, after which the agency should determine whether the proposed rules are necessary, nondiscriminatory, and in accord with all Commission rules and precedent. They said otherwise, the Commission should consider the issues resolved by its Centralized Equal Access Tariff Orders and close the docket.
- Inteliquent [met with](#) Legal Advisors to Chairman Pai and Commissioners O'Reilly, Carr, Rosenworcel, and Starks on May 10, 2019, to discuss proposed solutions to access arbitrage. Inteliquent said the solution should focus on achievement of three goals: reducing mileage pumping by leveraging the proven RBOC benchmarking approach for which there is ample precedent; preventing call blocking by clearly delineating the operational and financial duties of market participants; and modernizing the definition of access stimulation to remove the shared revenue loophole.
- Aureon filed a [Reply](#) on May 13, 2019, to AT&T's [Petition](#) that asked the FCC to reject or to suspend and investigate the revised tariff filed by Aureon Network Services on April 29, 2019. Aureon asserted its switch investment costs meet the FCC's "used and useful" standard, and those amounts are

appropriately included in Aureon's revenue requirement. It also said its traffic study is supported by current, actual data, and its fair market value analysis complies with the FCC's rules and the [Second Rate Order](#).

- No comments were filed on Lakeland Communications' [Petition for Waiver](#) of sections 51.909(a), 51.917(b)(1), and 51.917(b)(7) to modify access rate bands and 2011 Base Period Revenues to implement the merger of two commonly-owned study areas. Replies are due May 23, 2019. [PN](#)

[Back to Highlights](#)

Broadband

- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [Public Notice](#) on May 14, 2019, granting INCOMPAS' [motion](#) for an extension of time to file reply comments on the [Public Notice](#) seeking focused additional comment in the Business Data Services and USTelecom Forbearance Petition proceedings. The Bureau also extended access to the Secure Data Enclave until June 30, 2019, to allow interested parties additional time to access the data and supplement the record with further analysis of the data in their reply comments. Reply comments are now due May 28, 2019.
- In addition to comments reported in a previous edition of REGScan, Alaska Communications filed [comments](#) on the [Public Notice](#) inviting focused public comment on the extent to which the April Data Tables inform the extent of competition and competitive pressure in the market for lower speed TDM transport services in price cap areas. ACS claimed the information in the April Data Tables does not appear to accurately describe the extent of competitive facilities near ACS' wire centers, particularly in the more remote price cap areas. It asserted notwithstanding the incomplete nature of the April Data Tables, all available data confirm that the Alaska price cap service territories enjoy robust competition for advanced BDS services. ACS said the Commission should decline to impose *ex ante* regulation of the rates, terms, and conditions of price cap LECs' TDM-based transport services and forbear from the tariffing requirements of section 203 of the Communications Act with respect to these services. Replies are [due](#) May 28, 2019. [FR. All comments available to date.](#)
- The FCC issued a [Public Notice](#) on May 16, 2019, announcing Chairman Pai appointed members to serve on the re-chartered Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee. Chairman Pai designated Elizabeth Bowles, President and Chair of Aristotle, to continue to serve as Chair of the BDAC, and David Young, Fiber Infrastructure and Right of Way Manager, City of Lincoln, Nebraska, to continue to serve as Vice Chair. A full list of BDAC members is attached to the Public Notice. The re-chartered BDAC will hold its first meeting on June 13, 2019.
- USTelecom, AT&T, Frontier, Verizon, and CenturyLink [met with](#) Wireline Competition Bureau staff on May 8, 2019, to discuss USTelecom's [Petition for Forbearance](#). USTelecom urged nationwide forbearance from the section 251(c)(3) unbundling requirements, as well as related mandates, and from section 251(c)(4) ILEC-specific resale mandates. USTelecom provided a list of unbundling requirements from which it says the FCC should forbear if it does not grant USTelecom's remaining forbearance requests entirely. USTelecom claimed a failure to grant forbearance from unbundling rules for loops in census blocks served by a cable competitor would be inconsistent with the Commission's policy prohibiting the availability of USF support in areas served by an unsubsidized competitor based on Form 477 data. USTelecom also said reliance on Form 477 census block data is more than adequate for assessing the presence and feasibility of competition for last-mile facilities without reliance on UNEs.
- INCOMPAS [spoke with](#) Commissioner Starks' Legal Advisor on May 10, 2019, to urge the FCC to deny USTelcom's [Petition or Forbearance](#). INCOMPAS asserted the unbundling and resale provisions of the Telecom Act are working for market entry and the deployment of new networks. INCOMPAS claimed the economic study it submitted in the record shows carriers using unbundled network elements as a bridge to fiber are building more fiber in the areas they operate than either the incumbent or cable.
- PRTC filed a [letter](#) on May 14, 2019, to respond to the [letter](#) filed by the Puerto Rico Telecommunications Bureau on February 12, 2019, on USTelecom's Petition for Forbearance. PRTC

claimed the Puerto Rico Bureau letter marks the second time it has made representations about the state of competition in Puerto Rico in this proceeding without providing or citing to any data as support for its claims. PRTC asserted aggregate data that the Puerto Rico Bureau makes available (when combined with the Commission's data and internal PRTC data) undermine the Puerto Rico Bureau's arguments regarding the state of competition in Puerto Rico.

- The FCC released a [Small Entity Compliance Guide](#) on May 13, 2019, on the March 2018 [Order](#) that adopted new rules to streamline the wireless infrastructure siting review process. The guide provides information on sections 1.1312(e), Small Wireless Facilities Exempt from Historic and Environmental Review; 1.1307(a)(6), Environmental Assessments of Facilities in Floodplains; and the streamlined NHPA review procedures for larger wireless facilities.

[Back to Highlights](#)

Universal Service

- The Wireline Competition Bureau released a [Public Notice](#) on May 17, 2019, granting, denying, and dismissing various petitions related to actions taken by USAC on the E-rate and Rural Health Care programs. Petitions for reconsideration or applications for review of these decisions must be filed within 30 days of this Public Notice.
- TIA [met with](#) Chairman Pai's Advisor on May 9, 2019, to urge the Commission to expedite the adoption of a rule that prohibits the use of universal service funding for equipment and services from suppliers that pose a national security risk. TIA asserted any potential new sources of support should be prioritized to assist small and/or rural carriers with replacing equipment from suppliers of concern.
- TruConnect [spoke with](#) Chairman Pai's Advisor on May 13, 2019, to discuss the Lifeline program. TruConnect said implementation of a 60-day port freeze will help make eligibility confirmations more accurate and reliable. TruConnect expressed concern that the mobile broadband minimum data requirements for Lifeline are scheduled to rise again, suggesting the FCC freeze the expected data escalation mandate, or at least freeze the coming escalation in minimum data service standards until well after the National Lifeline Verifier is improved, the necessary state databases are accessible for the National Verifier, and until the Lifeline program changes and improvements can be reassessed.
- No comments were filed on i-wireless' amended [Petition](#) seeking to expand its designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier to certain tribal lands in Alabama, Connecticut, New York, North Carolina, and Virginia. [Public Notice](#)
- Puerto Rico Telephone Company filed a [letter](#) on May 13, 2019, to respond to Liberty Cablevision of Puerto Rico's [letter](#) on the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund. PRTC claimed Liberty's arguments that the CAM approach is not the most efficient or best-suited for the distribution of Stage 2 funding in Puerto Rico and its proposal to replace it with a slightly different model raises more problems than it answers and should be rejected by the Commission.
- ATN International, on behalf of its subsidiary Viya, [met separately with](#) Chairman Pai's Special Counsel and Advisor, Commissioner Carr and his Chief of Staff, and Commissioner O'Rielly's Advisor on May 14, 2019, to urge the Commission to award the fixed Connect USVI Fund support to Viya consistent with the statewide commitments offered to price cap ILECs in 2014. It also said the Commission must ensure that the eligibility criteria and accountability requirements applicable to any competitive process adequately guard against the award of support to an entity that is ultimately unable to perform on its commitments.
- The SHLB Coalition, New England Telehealth Consortium, Connections Telehealth Consortium, ADS Advanced Data, Alaska Communications, et al. [met separately with](#) Wireline Competition Bureau staff and Advisors to Commissioner's O'Rielly, Starks, and Carr on May 10, 2019, to discuss SHLB's concerns about the delayed release of funding year 2018 commitment decisions for upfront costs and multi-year requests in the Healthcare Connect Fund. They also discussed the need for an extension of

the FY 2019 filing window, the difficulty of complying with the Commission's urban and rural rate rules for the Telecommunications Program, and other issues outlined in SHLB's March 15, 2019 [letter](#).

[Back to Highlights](#)

Misc.

- The FCC issued a [tentative agenda](#) on May 16, 2019, for its June 6, 2019 Open Meeting. The FCC will consider a [Declaratory Ruling and Third FNPRM](#) clarifying that voice service providers may block illegal and unwanted calls as the default before they reach consumers' phones, and proposing a safe harbor for providers who block calls that fail call authentication, while ensuring that emergency and other critical calls reach consumers. The FCC will also consider: a [Report and Order and Second FNPRM](#) that would vacate its 2008 Leased Access Order, modernize the existing leased access rules to reflect changes in the video programming market, and simplify the leased access rate formula; and an [NPRM](#) that would propose to modernize the Commission's rules to improve aviation safety, support the deployment of more advanced avionics technology, and increase the efficient use of limited spectrum resources.
- President Trump issued an [Executive Order](#) on May 15, 2019, prohibiting any transactions involving information and communications technology or services designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary. The Order stipulates that within 150 days, the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with other Departments and agencies, including the FCC, shall publish rules or regulations implementing the authorities delegated to the Secretary by this Order. The term "foreign adversary" is defined as any foreign government or foreign non-government person engaged in a long-term pattern or serious instances of conduct significantly adverse to the national security of the United States or security and safety of United States persons. FCC [Chairman Pai](#) and [Commissioner Carr](#) issued statements.
- Commissioner O'Rielly [spoke](#) at the Daniel Morgan Graduate School of National Security on May 16, 2019, discussing the most recent actions of the Commission pertaining to the protection of U.S. national security. He discussed how the Commission deals with companies with reportable levels of foreign ownership who file an application for an FCC license. He also discussed the [Executive Order](#) signed by President Trump, saying the Order does not designate any specific countries or companies as risks, instead opting to place such decisions in the hands of the Executive Agencies to determine whether a transaction can raise national security issues. O'Rielly also discussed concerns with respect to the operations of the International Telecommunication Union.
- The FCC issued a [Public Notice](#) on May 13, 2019, announcing Chairman Pai will convene a summit on July 11, 2019, focused on the industry's implementation of SHAKEN/STIR, a caller ID authentication framework to combat illegal robocalls and caller ID spoofing. The summit will showcase the progress that major providers have made in deploying SHAKEN/STIR and provide an opportunity to identify any challenges to implementation and how best to overcome them. Stakeholders interested in participating in the summit are encouraged to contact the Wireline Competition Bureau by June 11, 2019. [News Release](#).
- The FCC issued a [News Release](#) on May 15, 2019, announcing Chairman Pai is circulated a Declaratory Ruling that, if adopted, would allow phone companies to block unwanted calls to their customers by default and to allow consumers to block calls not on their own contact list. The accompanying draft FNPRM would propose a safe harbor for providers that implement network-wide blocking of calls that fail caller authentication under the SHAKEN/STIR framework once it is implemented.
- Commissioner O'Rielly [spoke](#) at the ACA International Washington Insights Conference on May 16, 2019, discussing the Telephone Consumers Protection Act and robocalls. He said it remains up to this FCC to respond to the court's set-asides, re-define Automatic Telephone Dialing System in a clear and rational manner, and complete the adoption of a non-arbitrary reassigned numbers database with a sufficiently workable safe harbor. O'Rielly said regulators and lawmakers need to stop vilifying automated calls and be clear and precise about the problem and the actors they are addressing. He noted Chairman Pai has circulated an item to give carriers more flexibility and liability protection in

blocking unlawful calls, and said while eliminating illegal robocalls is a critical priority, we must remain mindful not to catch legitimate organizations in the crosshairs.

- Transaction Network Services filed a [“2019 Robocalls Investigation Report”](#) on May 16, 2019, indicating complaints to the FTC have dropped for the first year ever. The Report found, among other things: 1 in 4,000 mobile numbers are now being hijacked by robocall spoofers every month; high-risk calls using neighbor spoofing now accounts for 24% of all negative calls - up 5 percentage points from the prior year; spoofers are using snowshoe spamming to propagate spoofing over several telephone numbers in low volume and rapidly churning through them to evade detection; more than two-thirds of the calls from legitimate toll-free numbers are identified as nuisance or high-risk; almost three-quarters of all calls, positive and negative, come from tier one providers, yet a little over 10% of the calls from those carriers are considered high-risk; and negative traffic from Canada is growing at over 100%.
- The National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions filed a [letter](#) on May 15, 2019, opposing the Petition for Reconsideration filed by the [Competitive Carriers Association, CTIA, and USTelecom](#) of the December 13, 2018 [Robocall Order](#). NAFCU claimed the Petitioners’ request would cause further delay in the creation of a reassigned numbers database, which could result in more costly litigation and liability for credit unions. NAFCU said under a single database, callers would avoid the risk and liability they currently face from having to check reassigned numbers with multiple commercial databases, which are often incomplete.
- The FCC issued a [Public Notice](#) on May 17, 2019, seeking comment on the North American Numbering Council’s [Additional Findings Report on Nationwide Number Portability](#) submitted to the Wireline Competition Bureau. The Report analyzes the technical requirements for two proposals to implement NNP: National Local Routing Number and Internet Protocol Local Routing Number. Comments are due June 7, 2019.
- An FCC [notice](#) was published in the Federal Register on May 20, 2019, seeking Paperwork Reduction Act comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with telephone number portability rules (sections 52.21 through 52.36). The FCC said the information collected in the standard local service request data fields is necessary to complete simple wireline-to-wireline and intermodal ports within the one business day porting interval mandated by the Commission, and will be used to comply with section 251. PRA comments are due July 19, 2019.
- The House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology held a [hearing](#) on May 15, 2019, on oversight of the FCC. Testimony was given by Chairman Pai and Commissioners O’Rielly, Rosenworcel, Carr and Starks. [Pai](#) discussed closing the digital divide, establishing a \$20.4 billion Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, broadband infrastructure, and robocalls. [ORielly](#) discussed mid-band spectrum, robocalls, and 911 fees. [Carr](#) discussed steps the FCC is taking to accelerate the buildout of 5G and other broadband infrastructure. [Rosenworcel](#) discussed net neutrality, consumer protection, and public safety. [Starks](#) discussed broadband deployment.
- The FCC released on May 15, 2019, the [Report and Order and FNPRM](#) adopting new rules to improve Video Relay Service, which was adopted at the May 9, 2019 Open Meeting.
- The FCC released on May 13, 2019, the [NPRM and Order](#) proposing to reallocate spectrum in the 1675-1680 MHz band for shared use between incumbent federal users and new, non-federal flexible-use wireless operations, which was adopted at the May 9, 2019 Open Meeting.
- The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau issued Orders on May 14, 2019, denying complaints alleging [U.S. Telecom Long Distance](#), [Consumer Telcom](#), [Nationwide Long Distance Service](#), and [Central Telecom Long Distance](#) changed complainants’ telecommunications service provider without obtaining authorization and verification from complainants in violation of the Commission’s rules. The Bureau found the providers’ actions did not result in an unauthorized change in complainant’s telecommunications service provider and denied the complaints.
- The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau issued two Orders on May 15, 2019, granting complaints alleging [Tele Circuit Network Corporation](#) and [Long Distance Consolidated Billing Company](#)

changed complainants' telecommunications service providers without obtaining authorization and verification from complainants in violation of the Commission's rules. The Bureau said they must remove all charges incurred for service provided to complainants for the first 30 days after the alleged unauthorized change.

- The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau issued Orders on May 17, 2019, denying complaints alleging [CenturyLink](#) and [MCI](#) changed complainants' telecommunications service provider without obtaining authorization and verification from complainants in violation of the Commission's rules. The Bureau found the providers' actions did not result in an unauthorized change in complainant's telecommunications service provider and denied the complaints.

[Back to Highlights](#)

Upcoming Filing Dates

- May 20 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with direct access to numbering resources. [Notice](#)
- May 20 - Replies due on Tata Communications' [Petition](#) for a waiver of section 54.706 on USF contributions or, alternatively, a waiver of the twelve percent threshold of the Limited International Revenue Exemption. [Public Notice](#)
- May 20 - PRA comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection pertaining to annual reporting and record retention requirements for Mobility Fund Phase I and Tribal Mobility Fund Phase I support recipients (FCC Form 690). [FR](#)
- May 23 - Replies due on Lakeland Communications' [Petition for Waiver](#) of sections 51.909(a), 51.917(b)(1), and 51.917(b)(7) to modify access rate bands and 2011 Base Period Revenues to implement the merger of two commonly-owned study areas. [Public Notice](#)
- May 24 - Comments due on Reservation Telephone and CenturyLink study area waiver petition in North Dakota. Replies due June 24 [Public Notice](#)
- May 28 - PRA comments are due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with study area boundary data reporting in Esri shapefile format. [FR](#)
- May 28 - Replies due on the [Public Notice](#) seeking focused additional comment in Business Data Services and USTelecom Forbearance petition proceedings. [Public Notice](#) extended reply dates.
- May 31 - PRA comments due on a revision of a currently approved information collection associated with FCC Form 481. The FCC proposes to revise this information collection, as well as Form 481 and the accompanying instructions, to reflect the adoption in the March 2018 Rate-of-Return Order of section 54.313(f)(4). [Notice](#)
- June 7 - Comments due on the North American Numbering Council's [Additional Findings Report on Nationwide Number Portability](#) that analyzes the technical requirements for two proposals to implement NNP: National Local Routing Number and Internet Protocol Local Routing Number. [Public Notice](#)
- June 7 - Comments due on the [NPRM](#) on May 8, 2019, seeking comment on the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY 2019. Replies are due June 24, 2019.
- June 21 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with Form 502, Numbering Resource Optimization. [Notice](#)
- June 24 - Replies due on Reservation Telephone and CenturyLink study area waiver petition in North Dakota. [Notice](#)

- June 24 - PRA comments due revision of a currently approved information collection for high-cost USF support. The FCC indicated in the December 13, 2018 Rate-of-Return USF Reform. [Order FR](#)
- June 24 - Replies due on the [NPRM](#) on May 8, 2019, seeking comment on the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY 2019.
- June 25 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection on the survey of urban rates for fixed voice and broadband residential services. [Notice](#)
- July 19 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with telephone number portability rules (sections 52.21 through 52.36). [Notice](#)

[Back to Highlights](#)

Editor: [Teresa Evert](#) | Assistant Editor: [Shawn O'Brien](#)