June 18, 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation will hold a hearing on June 20, 2018, to consider the nomination of Geoffrey Starks to be an FCC Commissioner.

- The Order establishing USF funds for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands to rebuild, improve, and expand voice and broadband networks is effective June 13, 2018. Comments on the accompanying NPRM on how best to structure the second stage of these funds are due July 5, 2018. Replies are due July 18, 2018.

- Oppositions are due June 29, 2018, to Petitions for Reconsideration of the additional A-CAM funding in the March 2018 RoR USF Reform Order filed by Clarity Telecom, Hamilton County Telephone Co-op, and Grand River Mutual Telephone. Public Notice

- The FCC announced an upcoming June 26, 2018 webinar for Tribal governments on the process for challenging the identification of areas initially deemed ineligible for Mobility Fund II funding.

- NTCA filed a Petition for Reconsideration of the 2018 Rural Call Completion Order, requesting the Commission reconsider its decision not to require covered providers to file their documented rural call completion monitoring procedures with the Commission. USTelecom filed a Petition for Stay of the RCC Order’s covered provider monitoring requirements during the pendency of the RCC NPRM.

- The FCC announced the Restoring Internet Freedom Order went into effect on June 11, 2018.

- The FCC Office of Managing Director announced the proposed universal service contribution factor for the third quarter of 2018 will be 17.9 percent, down from the current 18.4 percent.

- Chairman Pai announced that Commissioners Carr and O’Rielly have voted in favor of his proposal to increase funding for the USF Rural Health Care Program by $171 million a year.

- The FCC placed an item on circulation entitled Jurisdictional Separations and Referral to the Federal-State Joint Board.

Other Key Upcoming Dates

- June 18 - Comments due on the NPRM on BDS regulation for RoR carriers. Replies are due July 2, 2018. FR
- June 18 - Comments due on CenturyLink’s Petition for a Declaratory Ruling on end office local switching access reciprocal compensation. Replies are due July 3, 2018. Public Notice
- June 19 - Replies due on the Third FNPRM on rural call completion.
- June 25 - Replies due on the NPRM on high-cost USF rate-of-return reform. FR
- June 25 - Petitions due seeking to suspend or reject tariff filings made on 15 days’ notice. Replies due June 28, 2018. Order

Editor: Teresa Evert | Assistant Editor: Shawn O’Brien
USF Reform

The FCC published a notice in the Federal Register on June 13, 2018, establishing the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and the Connect USVI Fund to rebuild, improve, and expand voice and broadband networks in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund will make available up to $750 million to carriers in Puerto Rico, including an immediate infusion of $51.2 million for restoration efforts in 2018. The Connect USVI Fund will make available up to $204 million of funding to carriers in the U.S. Virgin Islands, including an immediate infusion of $13 million for restoration efforts in 2018. As a result of these Funds, as well as the Commission’s decision not to offset more than $65 million in advance payments it made to carriers last year, it will make available up to $256 million in additional high cost support for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The FCC published a second notice in the Federal Register on June 13, 2018, seeking comments on how best to structure the second stage of the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund. Comments are due July 5, 2018; replies are due July 18, 2018.

The FCC published a notice in the Federal Register on June 14, 2018, announcing Petitions for Reconsideration of the March 2018 RoR USF Reform Order have been filed by Clarity Telecom, d/b/a Vast Broadband, Hamilton County Telephone Co-op, and Grand River Mutual Telephone. They seek reconsideration of the decision to provide additional funding for A-CAM support, asking the FCC to make a minor increase in the amount of additional A-CAM support to provide funding for the locations which were precluded from receiving support due either to an inadvertent clerical error or a competitor erroneously reporting wider broadband coverage than reality on its Form 477, which has since been updated to more closely reflect reality. They suggested that, at the very least, the Commission seek comment on including these abandoned locations in the USF NPRM as it considers additional A-CAM funding opportunities. Oppositions to the Petition are due June 29, 2018. Public Notice

The Office of Native Affairs and Policy and the Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force issued a Public Notice on June 11, 2018, to announce an upcoming June 26, 2018 webinar for Tribal governments on the process for challenging the identification of areas initially deemed ineligible for Mobility Fund II funding. They indicated the MF II auction will include a tribal reserve to ensure some of the support awarded in the auction is directed to tribal lands. The webinar will explain the MF II reverse auction, how to determine if a locality has been initially deemed ineligible for support, and how to challenge that determination and seek inclusion of the locality as eligible for support.

The Auctions and Spectrum Access Division issued an Order on June 12, 2018, granting the Nebraska Farm Bureau a waiver to participate as a challenger in the Mobility Fund Phase II challenge process, subject to certain conditions. The Order instructs USAC to grant access to the challenge process portal to the users identified in NFB’s Petition for Waiver.

Chairman Pai sent letters to 30 Senators on May 30, 2018, in response to their letter that expressed concern about the accuracy of the map of eligible areas for Mobility Fund II support. Pai expressed his commitment to ensuring the challenge process will produce a high quality map, noting state, local and Tribal governments are able to participate, in addition to carriers. He noted the FCC released a map of areas most susceptible to challenge, changed the parameters of the speed test, and will release a list of qualifying handsets. Pai also said he supports extending the challenge process window by 90 days.

Chairman Pai sent a letter to Congressman Stevan Pearce (R-NM) on June 8, 2018, in response to his letter that expressed disappointment that Mescalero Apache Telecom was not included in the Tribal OpEx Order that addressed the high cost of providing broadband on Tribal lands. Pai agreed the Order did not go far enough in extending support to more carriers that serve Tribal lands, and said the Commission recently agreed to solicit public input on the adoption of a Tribal Broadband Factor that would provide additional financial assistance to carriers serving Tribal lands.

Chairman Pai sent a letter to Senator Robert Casey (D-PA) and five Congressman from Pennsylvania June 7, 2018, in response to their letter urging the grant of the Pennsylvania PUC and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Petition regarding CAF II funding for Pennsylvania. Pai said the CAF Phase II auction is structured so that states are able to provide
matching funds toward broadband over and above the federal funding. He also noted next year the Commission plans to move on the Remote Areas Fund for those areas still without high-speed broadband, and said the FCC will ensure that any funding originally intended for rural Pennsylvania will be available to build there in that second auction.

- GVNW met separately with Advisors to Commissioners Carr, O'Rielly, and Rosenworcel on June 12, 2018, to discuss competitive overlap issues for the Illinois RLECs. GVNW reiterated that the reverse auction proposal in the NPRM is not helpful, and suggested the burdensome aspects of the current process could be eliminated by replacing the Form 499 trigger with a challenge from a competitor that is purportedly overlapped. GVNW expressed support for the proposals filed by NTCA and WTA for creating sufficiency in the USF budget, and said for the same reasons that an inflation adjustment on the total RoR high-cost support fund is required, so is an inflation adjustment on the Alaska Plan funding. GVNW also discussed the need to maintain docket discipline on the current intercarrier compensation dockets related to arbitrage and properly notice any broader policy issues to ensure a proper public policy discussion is achieved.

- Smith Bagley met with Advisors to Chairman Pai and the Commissioners and FCC staff on June 12, 2018, to discuss the Tribal Mobility Fund Phase II auction, suggesting the need to weight the auction to minimize the possibility that the most remote and difficult to serve Tribal lands are not foreclosed at the auction. SBI introduced several alternatives for weighting to provide an advantage to bidders proposing to serve Tribal areas having significant deficits in telephone penetration, mobile broadband penetration, or population density.

Call Completion

- NTCA filed a Petition for Reconsideration of the 2018 Rural Call Completion Order on June 11, 2018, requesting the Commission reconsider its decision not to require covered providers to file their documented rural call completion monitoring procedures with the Commission. NTCA noted it did not object when the Commission eliminated the reporting requirement for covered providers, and instead adopted a new rule requiring covered providers to monitor the performance of the intermediate providers to which they hand off calls and document their procedures. NTCA requests the Commission require the filing of documentation that covered providers prepare to indicate how they plan to monitor intermediate providers and make this documentation publicly available.

- USTelecom filed a Petition for Stay on June 11, 2018, of the 2018 Rural Call Completion Order’s covered provider monitoring requirements during the pendency of the RCC NPRM. USTelecom requested a stay on section 64.2111 until the effective date of rules governing intermediate providers that will be adopted in response to the RCC Notice. USTelecom explained the Commission’s monitoring rule will go into effect on October 17, 2018, regardless of whether the Commission has adopted obligations for intermediate providers, and argued it is unrealistic and counterproductive for the Commission to mandate monitoring requirements for non-safe harbor providers by an arbitrary date before it has established the registration, self-monitoring, and service quality standards for intermediate providers.

Open Internet

- The FCC issued a News Release on June 11, 2018, to announce the Restoring Internet Freedom Order went into effect on June 11, 2018. The Commission said it is returning to the successful, bipartisan framework that helped the internet grow and flourish for two decades prior to 2015. The FCC asserted this light-touch approach will protect consumers and deliver better, faster, cheaper internet access to consumers. Commissioner Rosenworcel issued a statement.

- Chairman Pai sent a letter to Rep. Frank Pallone (D-N.J.) and 23 Members of Congress on June 4, 2018, to respond to their letter requesting information on how the Commission managed the record in
the Restoring Internet Freedom proceeding. Pai said the Commission provided information about its comment review process in the Order, and reviewed and addressed all substantive arguments raised by consumer advocates, attorneys general, members of Congress, and other members of the public.

- Commissioner O’Rielly spoke before the Philadelphia Lawyers Chapter of The Federalist Society on June 12, 2018, discussing the Commission’s authority, net neutrality, and 911 fees. He said the basic economics of certain legacy services is dramatically changing and raises the issue of how the FCC should react to this. O’Rielly asserted the only logical take-away is to either support greater deregulation of FCC regulatees that must compete with these services or advocate for new Congressional powers to regulate these services, suggesting this would seem futile and unnecessary in a thriving market. He asserted state efforts to enact net neutrality rules are legally flawed and would impose substantial and unnecessary compliance burdens on providers. He also said with the responsibility for funding and operating 911 chiefly being a state-level responsibility, a concerted effort is going to be required against states who divert fees collected for 911 to other funds.

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- Aureon Network Services met with Chairman Pai and Commissioner Rosenworcel’s Wireline Advisors on June 12, 2018, to discuss the NPRM proposing measures to eliminate access arbitrage. Aureon urged the Commission to ensure that any rules adopted by the FCC as a result of the NPRM protect the viability of CEA service so that rural Iowa communities will continue to have a choice of long distance providers and receive advanced telecommunications services, broadband IP, and digital cable TV offerings comparable to that enjoyed by their urban counterparts.

- South Dakota Network met with Commissioner O’Rielly’s Legal Advisor on June 11, 2018, to discuss its rebuttal comments filed in the case investigating the lawfulness of Aureon’s tariff revisions. SDN claimed CenturyLink is not the appropriate benchmark for CEA switching service because CenturyLink’s tandem switching service is not the same, asserting CenturyLink does not provide centralized equal access functionality. SDN also discussed the use of direct interconnection obligations to combat access stimulation and rural call completion issues.

- South Dakota Network met separately with Advisors to Chairman Pai and Commissioners Carr and Rosenworcel and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on June 12, 2018, to discuss centralized equal access. It reiterated that CenturyLink is not the appropriate benchmark for CEA switching service because CenturyLink’s tandem switching service is not the same as CEA switching service. SDN discussed the use of direct interconnection obligations to combat access stimulation, and emphasized that a broader application outside of access stimulation would undermine CEA networks and be at cross purposes with the Commission’s policy objectives in authorizing them. It urged the Commission to affirm SDN’s ability to enter into contracts for the provision of access services.

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Broadband

- Commissioner Rosenworcel spoke at the U.S. Conference of Mayors on June 9, 2018, discussing broadband deployment and infrastructure, the Homework Gap, and net neutrality. She suggested the FCC develop model codes for small cell and 5G deployment that are supported by a wide range of industry and state and local officials, and review every infrastructure grant program at the Commerce, Agriculture, and Transportation Departments and build in incentives to use this model. Rosenworcel also said seven in ten teachers assign homework that requires access to broadband, but as many as one in three households do not subscribe to internet service. To address this problem, she noted some towns have created maps for students that show where there is free Wi-Fi and have installed Wi-Fi
routers on school buses. She also said last year’s FCC net neutrality decision gave the legal green light for broadband providers to block websites, throttle services, and censor online content.

- **Rep. Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.)** announced he introduced the Reprioritizing Unserved Rural Areas and Locations for Broadband Act of 2018. The RURAL Broadband Act would prioritize the Rural Utility Service funds to unserved areas over underserved areas that are already receiving some USF resources. Sen. Steve Daines (R-Mont.) and Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) introduced identical language in S. 2970 on May 24, 2018.

- The Senate Committee on Appropriations approved the FY 2019 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act on June 14, 2018, which is a $62.995 billion funding bill to support law enforcement, economic prosperity, scientific research, and other national priorities. The bill, among other things, funds NTIA at $39 million, including funds to enhance the National Broadband Map.

- NATOA, the National League of Cities, *et al.* filed a letter on June 14, 2018, to express concerns regarding the composition of the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee and issues with the model municipal and state codes. They asserted the Municipal Model should not be used to create a mandate imposed on municipalities, and claimed the Model State Code includes unfair mandates on local government. They also claimed the Ad Hoc Rates and Fees Committee used unverifiable and insufficient data that only represented a small sample size of rates and fees that state and local governments have assessed for broadband infrastructure deployments.

- NRECA met with Chairman Pai and his Wireline Legal Advisor on June 12, 2018, to discuss the CAF Phase II auction, claiming electric co-op participation might have been even higher if more flexibility in the bidding areas were allowed. NRECA discussed concerns about the potential incumbent overreporting of broadband coverage reflected in the final maps of eligible funding locations, and discussed coordination between the FCC and the RUS broadband programs and concerns with overbuilding. It said proposals that prevent federal funding to rural areas with substandard broadband service, or that unnecessarily limit the use of RUS programs, would perpetuate the status quo and widen the digital divide. NRECA also discussed concerns with the BDAC and the state model code set for a final vote in July.

- NCTA, Comcast, Charter Communications, and Cox met with Chairman Pai’s Chief of Staff and Senior Counsel on June 12, 2018, to request that the Commission take action to prevent state and local governments from imposing duplicative regulations and fees and other regulatory obstacles that have the effect of hindering the deployment of new facilities and services by cable operators.

- NCTA filed a letter on June 13, 2018, detailing barriers to broadband deployment that cable operators experience. NCTA asserted the FCC should address: demands for unwarranted franchises or authorizations and duplicative franchise fees; refusal, delay, unnecessary expense, or discriminatory treatment in processing permit requests and in overall permitting practices; challenges to use of utility easements; and uncompensated or discriminatory treatment in the relocation of facilities. NCTA said the Commission can remove these obstacles with targeted, straightforward declaratory rulings under well-established precedent and authority, and asserted the FCC has additional authority under section 253 to streamline state and local obligations that are hindering broadband deployment.

- Crown Castle met with Commissioner Carr and his Chief of Staff on June 12, 2018, to discuss access to rights-of-way for broadband facilities. Crown Castle encouraged the Commission to ensure any action focused on the deployment of small cells includes a definition of the term small cell that is broad enough to include whether the manufacturer may characterize the equipment as a single antenna. Crown Castle also discussed the applicability of sections 253 and 332 to deployment in the public rights-of-way, how to implement “deemed grant” procedures, and approaches to limit unreasonable fees that impose an effective prohibition.

- American Tower Corporation met with Chairman Pai and his Advisor and Commissioner Carr and his Legal Advisor on June 12, 2018, to discuss the role macro towers will play in the future deployment of
5G. ATC suggested the Commission strike a reasonable and appropriate balance between the need to deploy infrastructure to facilitate 5G by streamlining local reviews and reducing costs while preserving the right of local communities reasonably to protect local land use values.

Universal Service

- The FCC Office of Managing Director issued a Public Notice on June 13, 2018, announcing the proposed universal service contribution factor for the third quarter of 2018 will be 17.9 percent, down from the current 18.4 percent.

- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice on June 14, 2018, seeking comment on Petitions for ETC designation in New York for the purpose of being able to receive CAF support, filed by Hughes Network Systems and OEConnect. Comments are due June 29, 2018; replies are due July 9, 2018.

- The New England Telehealth Consortium and Connections Telehealth Consortium filed a Petition on June 10, 2018, seeking a waiver of section 54.675(d), which sets a cap on rural healthcare funding. They asserted that because FY 2017 commitments were released less than four months before the end of the funding year, many eligible health care providers will be unable to utilize significant amounts of awarded funding, and if the waiver is not granted, many funding commitments will not be fully utilized.

- Chairman Pai sent letters to Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Ill.) and six other Members of Congress and Rep. Anna Eshoo (D-Calif.) and 67 Members of Congress on June 1, 2018, to respond to their letters regarding the Lifeline program. Pai said the 2017 Lifeline Order increased consumer choice by eliminating restrictions that barred Lifeline consumers from changing Lifeline providers for a year and protected consumers by barring low-quality services that offered mobile broadband in theory but failed to do so in practice. Pai also answered specific questions on the National Verifier.

- Chairman Pai sent a letter to Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-Calif.) and 31 other Members of Congress on June 1, 2018, to respond to their letter that urged the Commission to halt its effort to cut off support for low-income Tribal families through proposed changes to the Tribal Lands Lifeline Program. Pai said closing the digital divide is one of his top priorities, and said claims that the changes in the 2017 Lifeline Reform Order would cut off support to Tribal members living in urban areas are false, as are claims the Commission did not consult with Tribes before adopting the Order.

- Chairman Pai sent a letter to Sen. Heidi Heitkamp (D-N.D.) on June 8, 2018, to respond to her letter expressing concern with changes to the Lifeline program that could impact Tribal lands. Pai said claims that the changes in the 2017 Lifeline Reform Order would cut off support to tribal members living in urban areas and that the Commission did not consult with tribes before adopting the Order are false.

- Chairman Pai sent letters to Sens. Michael Bennett (D-Colo.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.) and four other members of Congress, Susan Collins (R-Maine) and Bob Casey (D-Pa.), and Rep. Mike Thompson (D-Calif.) on June 8, 2018, to respond to their letters expressing concern with proposed changes to the Lifeline program. Pai said the 2017 Lifeline Order increased consumer choice by eliminating restrictions that barred Lifeline consumers from changing Lifeline providers for a year and protected consumers by barring low-quality services that offered mobile broadband in theory but failed to do so in practice.

- The FCC published a Notice in the Federal Register on June 12, 2018, seeking PRA comments on a revision to a currently approved information collection associated with Forms 555, 481, 497, 5629, 5630, and 5631. This revision implements the requirement that ETCs provide written notice to their customers who are currently receiving enhanced support who will no longer be eligible for enhanced Tribal support. PRA comments are due July 12, 2018.
The Wireline Competition Bureau released an Order on June 14, 2018, granting the Michigan Public Service Commission an extension of an existing waiver giving Michigan additional time to implement federal Lifeline eligibility rule changes. The Bureau extended the waiver through the earliest of December 31, 2018, the date on which the National Verifier is enrolling Lifeline subscribers in Michigan, or the date on which Michigan has aligned its eligibility criteria with the Commission’s Lifeline eligibility rules and updated its eligibility database accordingly.

Chairman Pai announced on June 14, 2018, that Commissioners Carr and O’Rielly have voted in favor of his proposal to increase funding for the USF Rural Health Care Program by $171 million a year. Pai also provided statements from members of Congress and other people on the proposal.

Commissioner Carr released a statement on June 13, 2018, on his vote to approve a draft Order addressing a rural health care funding shortfall to improve access to telemedicine in rural areas. He said the Order will provide longer-term certainty by adjusting the annual funding cap for inflation.

Easy Wireless filed a letter on June 13, 2018, to respond to the Order which denied 14 requests for review of USAC decisions concerning in-depth data validation findings of alleged duplicate Lifeline enrollments, including two filed by Easy. Easy claimed it was inappropriate for the Wireline Bureau to deny its requests as it had withdrawn them four months prior to release of the Order, and asserted the Commission agreed not to act on them. Easy asked the Commission to direct the Wireline Bureau to issue an Errata removing Easy and its properly withdrawn requests for review from the Order.

Alaska Communications sent a letter to Chairman Pai on June 6, 2018, to express support for the Commission proposal to increase funding for the Rural Health Care Program that would immediately address the funding shortfall and help improve telemedicine in rural Alaska and across the country. Alaska Communications said the proposed Order would give providers long-term certainty by adjusting the cap annually for inflation and allowing unused funds from prior years to be carried forward to future years.

Misc.

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation will hold a hearing on June 20, 2018, to consider two presidential nominees: Geoffrey Adam Starks, of Kansas, to be an FCC Commissioner and Peter Aaron Feldman, of the District of Columbia, to be a member of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The Commission placed an item on circulation on June 14, 2018, entitled Jurisdictional Separations and Referral to the Federal-State Joint Board.

The FCC released the Declaratory Ruling and NPRM that clarified the FCC’s rules regarding the authorization required to text-enable a toll free number and proposing further safeguards to promote the use of toll free numbers toll free texting, which was adopted at its June 7, 2018 Open Meeting.

Comcast met with Commissioner O’Rielly’s Advisor on June 13, 2018, to express support for the establishment of a centralized, comprehensive, Commission-designated database of reassigned telephone numbers, and to encourage use of this resource by adopting an appropriately tailored safe harbor from liability under the TCPA for entities that reasonably rely on the database. It emphasized the Commission could take various steps to implement this solution in a manner that minimizes costs for the voice providers feeding information into the database and for callers seeking to access the database. It urged the Commission to move expeditiously towards adopting these proposed measures.
- Eastman Credit Union filed a letter on June 8, 2018, to comment on the proposed rule for the creation of a reassigned numbers database. Eastman does not support the creation of a database, but instead urged the FCC to adopt realistic rules and regulations under the TCPA that balance the legitimate needs of businesses with the privacy concerns of consumers. It supported the restoration of the established business relationship exemption for both residential and cellular numbers, and urged consideration of the creation of an exemption for consent given in contract.

- The FCC published in the Federal Register on June 14, 2018, the NPRM that was issued on May 22, 2018, seeking comment on the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY 2018. The FCC is proposing to collect $322,035,000 in regulatory fees for FY 2018. Comments are due June 21, 2018; replies are due July 6, 2018.

- No comments were filed on Number Access’ application for authorization to obtain NANP telephone numbers directly from the Numbering Administrators for its iVoIP service. Public Notice

- The FCC published a notice in the Federal Register on June 14, 2018, seeking PRA comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection related to the FCC’s Truth in Billing Format rules in section 64.2401. PRA comments are due July 16, 2018.

Upcoming Filing Dates

- June 18 - Comments due on the NPRM proposing to allow rate-of-return carriers receiving A-CAM support to voluntarily migrate their lower speed circuit-based business data service offerings to incentive regulation. Replies are due July 2, 2018. FR

- June 18 - Comments due on CenturyLink’s Petition for a Declaratory Ruling as to the applicability of end office local switching access reciprocal compensation, under section 51.913, for traffic that originates from or terminates to an end user customer of an over-the-top VoIP provider that partners with a LEC to exchange traffic to and from the PSTN. Replies are due July 3, 2018. Public Notice

- June 19 - Replies due on the Third FNPRM on rural call completion. The FCC seeks comment on: proposed rules to implement the recently enacted Improving Rural Call Quality and Reliability Act of 2017, and sunsetting the recording and retention rules established in the RCC Order upon implementation of the RCC Act.

- June 21 - Comments due on applications filed by Terra Nova Telecom, EdgeTel, and Origin Networks, d/b/a Infostructure for authorization to obtain NANP telephone numbers directly from the Numbering Administrators for their iVoIP service.


- June 25 - Petitions due seeking to suspend or reject tariff filings made on 15 days’ notice. Replies due June 28, 2018. Order

- June 25 - Replies due on the NPRM portion of the March 23, 2018, Report and Order, Third Order on Reconsideration, and NPRM on high-cost USF rate-of-return reform. FR

- June 29 - PRA comments due on a revision to a currently approved collection associated with FCC Forms 481, 505, and 525. Notice

- June 29 - Oppositions due to Petitions for Reconsideration of the March 2018 RoR USF Reform Order have been filed by Clarity Telecom, Hamilton County Telephone Co-op, and Grand River Mutual Telephone. Public Notice FR Notice
• June 29 - Comments due on Petitions for ETC designation in New York for the purpose of being able to receive CAF support, filed by Hughes Network Systems and OEConnect. Replies are due July 9, 2018. Public Notice

• July 2 - Replies due on the NPRM proposing ways to ensure that USF support is not used to purchase equipment or services from companies posing a national security threat to the integrity of communications networks or the communications supply chain. FR

• July 2 - Replies due on the NPRM proposing to allow rate-of-return carriers receiving A-CAM support to voluntarily migrate their lower speed circuit-based business data service offerings to incentive regulation. FR

• July 3 - Replies due on CenturyLink’s Petition for a Declaratory Ruling as to the applicability of end office local switching access reciprocal compensation, under section 51.913, for traffic that originates from or terminates to an end user customer of an over-the-top VoIP provider that partners with a LEC to exchange traffic to and from the PSTN. Public Notice

• July 5 - Comments due on the NPRM on how best to structure the second stage of the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund. Replies are due July 18, 2018. FR notice

• July 6 - Replies due on the NPRM on the assessment and collection of regulatory fees for FY 2018.

• July 9 - Replies due on the FNPRM on ways to address the problem of unwanted calls to reassigned numbers. FR

• July 9 - Replies due on Petitions for ETC designation in New York for the purpose of being able to receive CAF support, filed by Hughes Network Systems and OEConnect. Public Notice

• July 9 - PRA comments due on a new information collection on Form 683 to collect information from the winning bidders to determine the recipients of CAF Phase II auction support. Notice

• July 12 - PRA comments due on a revision to a currently approved information collection associated with Forms 555, 481, 497, 5629, 5630, and 5631. This revision implements the requirement that ETCs provide written notice to their customers who are currently receiving enhanced support who will no longer be eligible for enhanced Tribal support. Notice

• July 16 - Comments due on NTTA’s Notice seeking comments on ways to improve the nation’s ability to analyze broadband availability, with the intention of identifying gaps in broadband availability that can be used to improve policymaking and inform public investments.

• July 16 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with the selection of USAC Board of Directors and ensuring that requests for review are filed properly with the Commission. Notice

• July 16 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection related to the FCC’s Truth in Billing Format rules in section 64.2401. FR Notice

• July 18 - Replies due on the NPRM on how best to structure the second stage of the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and Connect USVI Fund. FR notice

• July 23 - PRA comments due on a revision of currently approved information collections associated with rural call completion. Notice

• July 23 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collections associated with FCC Forms 470 and 471. Notice
Aug. 6 - Comments due on USTelecom’s Petition for Forbearance from certain regulatory obligations imposed on ILECs. Replies due September 5, 2018. Public Notice, Order

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