June 27, 2016 HIGHLIGHTS

- The FCC adopted an NPRM at its June 24, 2016 Open Meeting on streamlining the Executive Branch review of foreign ownership applications and a Report and Order on submarine cable licensees at its June 24, 2016 Open Meeting. The FCC issued a tentative agenda for its July 14, 2016 Open Meeting. It will consider a Declaratory Ruling, Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration that adopts a framework to guide transitions to next-generation communications technologies while protecting the interests of consumers and competition, and an Order and FNPRM that would make spectrum in bands above 24 GHz available for flexible use wireless services.

- Petitions for court review were due on the RoR USF Reform Order on June 24. No filings reported as of June 27.

- Comments are due July 21 on the Notice proposing a process for determining winning bidders in the CAF Phase II auction. Replies are due August 5.

- PRA comments are due August 22 on the survey of urban rates for fixed voice and fixed broadband residential services.

- NTCA asked the FCC to develop a clear implementation schedule that will enable all USF reforms for RoR companies to take effect at approximately the same time, and to provide carriers with sufficient estimates, calculations, and data in advance to help inform upcoming USF support elections. NTCA discussed budget controls on USF mechanisms and urged the FCC to address its Petition for Reconsideration.

- JSI discussed flexibility in meeting buildout obligations and certain implementation issues related to the A-CAM model, and questions on the USF contributions treatment of non-tariffed services in the recently released Clarification Order. Hamilton County Telephone and JSI discussed Hamilton’s April 28 challenge to the competitive coverage contained in the current version of the A-CAM.

- AT&T discussed its proposal for conducting CAF Phase II broadband performance testing.

- GCI discussed the characteristics for mobile services that it proposed as its Alaska Plan performance commitments. ACS discussed its CAF Phase II commitments, and asserted GCI has failed to commit that any middle mile built using federal high-cost support would be made available to other carriers on non-discriminatory terms.

- CTIA and the CCA filed Applications for Review of the Open Internet transparency rule guidance Notice.

- Reply comments are now due July 6 on the NPRM on establishing privacy regulations for broadband ISPs.

- No petitions to suspend or reject 2016 tariff filings made on 15 days’ notice were filed. Order

- NECA discussed the method by which it computed SIC’s revenue requirement for the Paniolo cable lease and related costs.

- The House Communications and Technology Subcommittee will hold a hearing July 12 on oversight of the FCC.

- Comments were filed on the NPRM on FY 2016 regulatory fees. Replies are due July 5.

- Chairman Wheeler sent letters to House Committee on Energy and Commerce members, responding to their letter that expressed concern the FCC might impose a hard cap on the Lifeline program.

- Petitions for Reconsideration of the Lifeline Reform Order were filed. NARUC filed a Petition for Review.

Other Key Upcoming Dates

- June 28 - Comments due on the FNPRM on a new deregulatory framework for business data services that classifies markets as either non-competitive or competitive. Replies due July 26.

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

- Petitions for court review of the RoR USF Reform Order were due on June 24. No filings reported as of June 27.

- The FCC published a Notice in the Federal Register on June 21, 2016, seeking comment on three sets of issues relating to the process for determining winning bidders in the CAF Phase II auction: how to apply weights to the different levels of performance adopted in the Order; measures to achieve the public interest objective of ensuring appropriate support for all of the states; and measures to achieve the public interest objective of expanding broadband on Tribal lands. Comments are due July 21; replies due August 5.

- The FCC published a Notice in the Federal Register on June 22, 2016, seeking PRA comments on the form and content of its survey of urban rates for fixed voice and fixed broadband residential services. It said the information collected in this survey will be used to establish a rate floor that ETCs receiving high-cost loop support or frozen high-cost support must meet to receive their full support amounts and to help ensure that USF support recipients offering fixed voice and broadband services do so at reasonably comparable rates to those in urban areas. Comments are due August 22.

- NTCA met with Chairman Wheeler’s Legal Advisor and spoke with the Deputy Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau on June 16 and 20, 2016, to discuss the budget controls on USF mechanisms effective as of July 1, 2016. NTCA encouraged the FCC to develop a clear implementation schedule that will enable all reforms to take effect at approximately the same time, and to provide carriers with sufficient estimates, calculations, and other data in advance of any implementation deadlines to help inform upcoming USF support elections. It provided a proposed sequence of events for implementation of the USF reforms. It also urged the Commission to address those questions raised in its Petition for Reconsideration regarding competitive overlap and disaggregation, operating expense limits, capital investment allowances, imputation of access recovery charges, and the management of USF budgets in the event of certain carriers electing but then subsequently declining model support. NTCA also spoke separately via telephone with the Legal Advisors of Commissioners Rosenworcel and Pai on June 21, 2016, regarding the same issues.

- JSI met with Wireline Competition Bureau staff on June 20, 2016, to discuss flexibility in meeting buildout obligations and certain implementation issues related to the A-CAM model. JSI also discussed questions regarding the USF contributions treatment of non-tariffed services in the recently released Clarification Order.

- Hamilton County Telephone Co-op and JSI met via conference call with Legal Advisors to Commissioners Rosenworcel and O’Rielly on June 16 – 17, 2016, to discuss Hamilton’s April 28 challenge to the competitive coverage contained in the current version of the A-CAM. Hamilton said it filed a challenge against Wisper ISP, a fixed wireless ISP, in which Hamilton made extensive arguments and provided data to show that Wisper could not possibly cover as much of Hamilton’s study area as Wisper claimed on its June 2015 Form 477 data. Hamilton discussed how it is an excellent candidate for the A-CAM and was planning to elect model support. It requested that its challenge be granted and that the FCC look into Wisper’s Form 477 data.

- AT&T met with Wireline Competition Bureau staff on June 22, 2016, to present a proposal for conducting CAF Phase II broadband performance testing. AT&T recommended that testing be conducted over the period of time that reflects actual usage periods of both residential and business customers, and recommended that the Commission adopt a testing timeframe that minimizes the impact of testing on the customer experience and reflects the types of use that deploying broadband into rural areas is intended to support.

- ACS met with Commissioner Pai and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on June 16, 2016, to discuss its CAF Phase II commitments, and requested that the first build-out milestone be set at 20 percent by year-end 2020. ACS also said the Commission should demand that CETCs in Alaska state by
December 31, 2017, where they intend to deploy broadband and what middle-mile facilities they will build or lease in order to deliver broadband coverage meeting the FCC’s minimum broadband standards.

- ACS filed a letter on June 24, 2016, in response to GCI’s June 22, 2016 letter, which indicated GCI will deliver minimum service speeds of 10/1 Mbps in areas served by fiber-based middle mile facilities for its mobile wireless broadband service under the Alaska Plan. ACS contended, before the Commission accepts this commitment, it should consider why GCI has made no commitment to actually deploy fiber backhaul, given that GCI stands to receive the largest share of support from the Commission’s forthcoming revisions to high-cost support mechanisms for Alaska ROR LECs. ACS said GCI also fails to commit that any middle mile it may build using federal high-cost support would be made available to other carriers on non-discriminatory terms. ACS asserted the Commission should demand the same accountability from GCI that it demands of incumbent LECs receiving high-cost support.

- GCI spoke by telephone with Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staff on June 20, 2016, to discuss the characteristics for mobile services that GCI has proposed as its Alaska Plan performance commitments, including the speeds GCI could deliver in areas served with fiber, microwave, or satellite backhaul. GCI said for its LTE deployment in areas with fiber-based backhaul, it will deliver minimum service speeds of 10/1 Mbps, and for all its proposed performance commitments, it would provide the stated speed throughout the populated areas of the relevant census blocks.

- Gila River Telecommunications met with Commissioner Rosenworcel and her Legal Advisor on June 21, 2016, to reaffirm its support for a tribal-specific OpEx mechanism that either exempts or modifies the OpEx limits in the USF Reform Order and for a capital investment mechanism, like the Tribal Broadband Factor proposed by NTTA.

- The Alaska Federation of Natives sent a letter to Senators Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Sullivan (R-Alaska) and Congressman Young (R-Alaska) on June 15, 2016, to request their support to ensure affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband is available for all Alaskans, including those who reside in rural Alaska. It said the FCC should put in place accountability safeguards that: establish specific, enforceable metrics based on speed and usage benchmarks to ensure federal support is used in the public interest; ensure facilities constructed with public funds be available to a variety of retail providers so that consumers can reap the benefits of competition; and facilities constructed with public funds be affordable and measures be put in place to monitor rates and ensure affordability.

- Standing Rock Telecommunications filed a letter on June 20, 2016, seeking to modify the project descriptions and timelines for four census tracks in North and South Dakota that it won in the Mobility Fund Phase 1 Auction 901. Standing Rock said it has now decided it would be more efficient and in the public interest to deploy a 4G network in its Mobility Fund census tracts. It claimed allowing Standing Rock to update its Mobility Fund reporting to reflect the 4G network build, updating existing 3G network equipment, and the corresponding updated build-out deadline of December 31, 2016, will allow it sufficient time to build out its network and better serve the underserved customers residing on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

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ICC

- West Kentucky and Tennessee Telecommunications Cooperative and JSI met with Legal Advisors to Commissioners Rosenworcel and O’Rielly on June 17 and 20, 2016, to discuss its pending Petition for Waiver of section 51.917(b)(7)(iii), 2011 Rate-of-Return Carrier Base Period Revenue, filed in March 2014. The West Kentucky representatives asserted the FCC has good cause to include revenues associated with FY 2011 that were billed and collected after March 31, 2012, in its Base Period Revenue. It said denial of the Petition would have a significant cumulative negative impact and inappropriately penalize the Company’s Eligible Recovery going forward.
Smart City Telecommunications and JSI met via conference call with Legal Advisors to Commissioners Pai, O’Rielly, Clyburn, and Rosenworcel on June 16, 2016, to discuss Smart City’s pending Petition for Waiver of Section 51.917(b)(7)(ii), the 2011 Rate-of-Return Carrier Base Period Revenue. Smart City provided support that the revenues which Smart City seeks to include in its BPR are associated with switched access billing and not VoIP, contrary to Verizon’s claim. They also discussed how the Company meets all applicable conditions set forth in the Halo Waiver Order, which established precedent for waivers of this subject matter, and requested that the Petition be approved expeditiously.

Open Internet

CTIA and the Competitive Carriers Association filed Applications for Review on June 20, 2016, of the Public Notice that provided guidance on the Open Internet transparency rule. CCA said the notice enacts unlawful changes to the existing transparency disclosure rules adopted pursuant to the 2010 and 2015 Open Internet Orders without first issuing a notice and comment rulemaking proceeding pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act. CTIA asserted the “guidance” includes new substantive rules issued without notice and comment, and this lack of public process has led to flawed and unworkable solutions. It said the Commission should rescind the Public Notice and create a new public comment process to address these issues.

Broadband

The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice on June 22, 2016, extending the deadline to file reply comments on the NPRM on establishing privacy regulations for broadband ISPs to implement section 222 of the Communications Act until July 6, 2016.

The FCC is circulating an item entitled “Deployment of Advanced Telecommunications Capability to All Americans in a Reasonable and Timely Fashion, and Possible Steps to Accelerate Such Deployment Pursuant to Section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,” as of June 23, 2016.

ATA filed reply comments on the NPRM on establishing privacy regulations for broadband ISPs to implement section 222 of the Communications Act. ATA said it is important that privacy rules be appropriate to the circumstances of both consumers and the small providers, and urged the Commission to provide an exemption from the proposed consumer choice framework for small providers and define small providers as those with fewer than 100,000 customers.

IP Transition

USTelecom, CenturyLink, and Verizon met with Wireline Competition Bureau staff on June 16, 2016, to express support for AT&T’s IP transition proposal to streamline section 214 applications to discontinue legacy interstate telecommunications service in favor of service based on newer technology. They said if the Commission declines to adopt a streamlining proposal, the existing five-factor evaluation for deciding section 214 discontinuance petitions should continue to be used without regard to whether they involve technology transitions. They also agreed with AT&T that several of the FCC’s proposed criteria should not be adopted, and said there is no need to adopt criteria for network reliability, service quality, and service functionality because consumers already demand them as part of their service.

AT&T filed a letter on June 23, 2016, in response to Public Knowledge’s letter, which argued it is premature to adopt AT&T’s IP Transition proposal to streamline the discontinuance process for IP transitions. AT&T asserted that by year-end 2016, less than 10 percent of housing units in states where AT&T operates as an ILEC continue to use TDM-based legacy POTS services, and said with so
few customers remaining on legacy POTS, carriers should be able to utilize an efficient process to transition their remaining customers, such as the certification options in AT&T’s proposal.

• USTelecom, AT&T, Windstream, CenturyLink, and Verizon met with Wireline Competition Bureau and Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau staff on June 21, 2016, to discuss cybersecurity management activities. They explained these functions are managed in a centralized and coordinated fashion based on an entity-wide perspective, and thus do not lend themselves to application in a limited geographic area, such as a wire center, or to a specific product, as in the context of a section 214 application. They claimed that imposing a new cybersecurity compliance regime on such granular levels runs counter to an enterprise-wide risk management process.

• ACS filed a Petition for Waiver on June 7, 2016, of section 51.332 to permit a retirement of copper upon fewer than the 180 days’ notice otherwise required. ACS explained it recently received notice from the Alaska DOT indicating it will proceed with two major road works projects this summer in Anchorage that will result in the destruction of Anchorage’s copper loop plant. ACS said in order to maintain service to affected customers, it plans to replace the affected facilities with two digital loop carrier systems. ACS said it has no ability to delay the Alaska DOT projects.

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USF

• Chairman Wheeler sent letters to nine members of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on June 10, 2016, responding to their letter, which expressed concern that the FCC might impose a hard cap on the Lifeline program. Chairman Wheeler said the recent Lifeline Order established a budget mechanism of $2.25 billion, indexed to inflation, which allows for responsible organic growth from the current spending level. Chairman Wheeler also said if spending reaches 90 percent of the $2.25 billion budget, the Wireline Bureau must report to the Commission about the trends and factors leading to this spending increase, and the Commission would take action as appropriate.

• The Wireline Competition Bureau issued an Order on June 22, 2016, directing USAC to issue a temporary hold of payments to Total Call Mobile for Lifeline reimbursements from the USF. The Bureau said the hold shall remain in effect pending the Bureau’s receipt and evaluation of TCM’s final, complete response to the Bureau’s June 1, 2016 letter, and subject to the Bureau notifying USAC of any change in the terms of the temporary hold and to the outcome of the Commission’s investigation pursuant to paragraph 102 of the Notice of Apparent Liability and Order issued to TCM. The NAL had proposed to fine TCM $51 million for apparently enrolling tens of thousands of duplicate and ineligible consumers into the Lifeline program since 2014.

• The FCC Managing Director released an Erratum on June 22, 2016, to the May 6, 2016 Lifeline Reform Order, making corrections to paragraph 284 on the streamlined Lifeline provider designation process. The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Second Erratum, making minor changes to the text of the Order and the rules in Appendix A.

• Petitions were filed on June 23, 2016, seeking reconsideration and clarification of the Lifeline Reform Order, NTCA and WTA seek reconsideration of the exception to the fixed broadband minimum speed standard, the phasing out of support for voice-only fixed and mobile service, the 150 GB minimum usage allowance for carriers utilizing satellite backhaul to deliver broadband to remote rural areas, the “rolling recertification” requirement, the “port freeze” provisions, and said the FCC should clarify the rule allowing non-Lifeline-only ETCs to provide voice but not broadband. CTIA seeks reconsideration of the decision to set long-term minimum capacity standards for mobile broadband at 70 percent of the average mobile data usage per household. CTIA asserted the Commission adopted a standard for mobile broadband without any consideration of whether it was consistent with the statutory universal service principle of affordability. CTIA claimed the record raises serious questions about whether the 70 percent average of mobile data usage per-household standard adequately accounts for the
affordability of Lifeline broadband service for the lowest-income consumers who otherwise would stand to benefit the most from the Commission’s recent modifications to the Lifeline program. The Joint Lifeline ETC Petitioners seek reconsideration of the mobile broadband minimum service standards after December 1, 2017, issues related to the National Verifier, the decision not to provide streamlined ETC application processing for voice-only Lifeline services, and seek clarification of the “rolling recertification” rule. GCI seeks reconsideration of the rolling recertification rule. List of all petitions available to date.

- NARUC filed a Petition for Review with D.C. Circuit on June 2, 2016, of the FCC’s Lifeline Reform Order. NARUC claimed that choosing to ignore the U.S. Constitutions’ concept of separation of powers, along with the clear text and unambiguous structure of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the FCC purports to “preempt” not a State law or regulation, but the section 214(e)(2) Congressional specification of the State’s role under the Act. NARUC claimed that, if upheld on review, this view of the power of an Agency vs. the power of Congress to specify the scope of that agency’s powers will break new ground, transferring yet another substantial swath of authority from Congress to agencies.

- Comments were filed on June 22, 2016, on Premier Communications and Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association’s Petition for waiver of the study area boundary freeze. NTCA supported the Petition and said modification of the study area would not frustrate the Commission’s universal service objectives, but is essential to carry out those objectives in a manner that promotes accountability and better enables tracking of progress toward CAF Phase II and other USF-related goals. ITTA said the Petitioners’ commitment to honor the buildout obligations for the established Phase II funding in their respective modified Heartland and new Winnebago study areas will not increase the burden on the USF or cause a shift in USF cost recovery. Replies are due July 7. Public Notice

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Misc.

- At its June 24, 2016 Open Meeting, the FCC adopted a NPRM proposing changes to streamline and increase the transparency of the Executive Branch review of applications and petitions for national security, law enforcement, foreign policy, and trade policy concerns and a Report and Order to require submarine cable licensees to report communications network outages to the FCC. The FCC deleted from the agenda a Report and Order that would revise the Emergency Alert System rules by adding new event codes, and deleted the media-related items because they were already adopted. The items are not yet released.

- The FCC issued a tentative agenda for its July 14, 2016 Open Meeting. It will consider a Declaratory Ruling, Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration that adopts a framework to guide transitions to next-generation communications technologies while protecting the interests of consumers and competition, and a Report and Order and FNPRM that would make spectrum in bands above 24 GHz available for flexible use wireless services, including for next-generation or 5G networks and technologies.

- The Wireline Competition Bureau released an Erratum on June 24, 2016, correcting the last sentence in paragraph 5 of the June 17, 2016 Order that approved NECA’s modifications to the average schedule HCLS formula, by replacing “3.4” percent with “0.43” percent.

- No petitions to suspend or reject tariff filings made on 15 days’ notice were filed. Replies due June 27. Order

- NECA spoke with Wireline Competition Bureau staff on June 23, 2016, to explain the method by which NECA computed the Sandwich Isles Communications revenue requirement with respect to the Paniolo cable lease and related costs.

- House Communications and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Greg Walden (R-Ore.) announced that the subcommittee will hold a hearing on July 12, 2016, on oversight of the FCC. The
subcommittee will seek an update from the Commissioners on the “mismanagement” of the Lifeline program, and will examine various issues at the FCC, including the agency’s proposed privacy rules on broadband ISPs, the FCC’s set-top box proposal, and the importance of an open and transparent process within the FCC. All five FCC Commissioners will testify.

- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued an Order on June 24, 2016, extending the procedures for submitting and accessing confidential information adopted in the business data services Protective Orders in WC Docket No. 05-25 (special access) to confidential information filed in the record in WC Docket No. 16-143 (Business Data Services in an IP Environment).

- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice on June 24, 2016, listing Acknowledgements of Confidentiality filed by parties seeking access to confidential information filed in the Special Access Data Collection proceeding since the June 10, 2016 Public Notice. Parties that submitted confidential information in response to the collection have until July 1, 2016, to object to the disclosure of their data and information to any of the parties listed in the attachment to this Public Notice.

- AT&T filed a Protective Petition for Review with the D.C. Circuit on June 9, 2016, of the FCC’s May 2, 2016 Order that resolved the investigation of AT&T, Verizon, CenturyLink and Frontier’s special access tariffs. The Order found that certain terms and conditions of these tariffs were unjust and unreasonable and ordered these companies to file new tariffs within 60 days of release of the Order. AT&T originally filed a Petition for Review on May 11, 2016, and another on June 2, 2016, and said this most recent petition is filed out of an abundance of caution to address any ambiguity as to when the Tariff Order became subject to challenge under 28 U.S.C. § 2344.

- USTelecom filed comments on June 23, 2016, in support of CenturyLink, et al.’s Motion that requested the FCC to strike from the record a report prepared by Dr. Mark Rysman and several other analyses, which were based on the original data set in the business data services proceeding. USTelecom asserted the data collection upon which the Commission’s conclusions and proposals are grounded is severely flawed because it omits 9 million business locations with Metro-Ethernet coverage. USTelecom also said the Bureau’s assertion that most of the new data relates only to “best efforts” services rather than BDS is simply wrong, asserting exclusion of the new reported data severely distorts the presence of BDS competition.

- BT America met with the FCC’s General Counsel and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on June 21, 2016, to discuss the state of UK regulation, including as described in the WIK-Consult study benchmarking international Ethernet regulation and services filed by BT in its February 2016 reply comments.

- Comments were filed on June 20, 2016, on the NPRM on FY 2016 regulatory fees. NTCA supported updated full time employee calculations in order to inform a more equitable distribution of regulatory fee responsibilities across the spectrum of industry participants. AT&T opposed the Commission’s proposal to increase the per-subscriber DBS regulatory fee from 12 cents to 27 cents, to include the costs of its proposed move to new facilities in the regulatory fee increase, and the proposed increase on RespOrgs. CenturyLink urged the FCC to adopt one of ITTA’s proposals to combine wireless voice and wireline services into the Interstate Telecommunications Service Provider category or to re-assign certain Wireline Competition Bureau full-time equivalents to other fee categories for regulatory fee purposes. Frontier said the FCC must address what it says is the disproportionate regulatory fee burden experienced by ITSPs and their customers, and said including wireless voice providers in the ITSP category would reduce this disparity. Frontier said, alternatively, the Commission could consider requiring all providers of interstate telecommunications service to contribute to the ITSP regulatory fee category. CTIA said further reform should adhere to two core principles; regulatory fees should reflect the work conducted by Commission staff, and the fee mechanism must be rational, transparent, and administrable. ACA said the Commission should create full regulatory fee parity for all payors in the Cable/IPTV fee category, or at a minimum double the proposed FY 2016 DBS baseline fee level and commit to raising it again in FY 2017 to achieve full parity with the fees assessed on cable operators and IPTV providers. Level 3 asserted the FCC’s existing methodology for assessing regulatory fees on terrestrial International Bearer Circuits is difficult to administer, not competitively neutral, and incents
noncompliance with the Commission’s regulatory fee requirements. Level 3 recommended the Commission adopt a flat-fee assessment methodology for terrestrial IBCs. EchoStar Satellite and Hughes Network Systems urged the FCC to retain the same regulatory fee schedule for all earth stations licensed by the International Bureau. Replies are due July 5. List of all comments available to date.

- The FCC published in the Federal Register on June 23, 2016, the Order revising section 1.13 of the FCC rules on providing notice to the Commission on filing petitions for review. The FCC revised section 1.13(a)(1) to require that parties petitioning for review of a Commission decision under 47 U.S.C. § 402(a) must email the Commission in order to take advantage of the random selection procedures described in 28 U.S.C. § 2112 (judicial lottery). The FCC also amended the note to section 1.13 to encourage service by email of petitions for review under 47 U.S.C. § 402(a) by petitioners that are not seeking to participate in a judicial lottery pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2112. The FCC revised section 1.13(b), which applies to parties appealing certain licensing-related FCC actions under 47 U.S.C. § 402(b), to authorize and encourage service of notices of appeal on the General Counsel by email. The Order is effective July 25, 2016.

- USTelecom, CTIA, Verizon, CenturyLink, AT&T, Comcast, NCTA, and T-Mobile met with Chairman Wheeler’s Counsel and Legal Advisors to Commissioners O’Rielly, Pai, and Rosenworcel on June 17, 20, and 21, 2016, to discuss the LNP transition. They expressed the importance of the Commission promptly voting to approve the Master Services Agreement between the NAPM and iconectiv, and said there are mounting costs to consumers for every day the transition is delayed. They noted that all segments of the industry support the MSA, and claimed those opposed to approval of the MSA and moving forward with the transition have had ample opportunity to be a part of the process. They also said the cost savings in selecting iconectiv are exponential and would provide significant savings not only to companies of all sizes, but more importantly to consumers.

- iconectiv filed a letter on June 23, 2016, to respond to the LNP Alliance and the Wireless Future Program at New America’s Open Technology Institute on the LNP Administrator transition. iconectiv claimed the LNP Alliance and Wireless Future Program continue to make misleading claims about the impact on smaller providers of the LNPA transition and the proposed Master Services Agreement. iconectiv asserted smaller providers, including small telephone companies, small wireless carriers, and small interconnected VoIP providers, that pay fees directly to the LNPA will see their recurring costs, both allocated and direct, drop significantly, and said service bureaus that serve small providers similarly will see recurring charges drop.

- Neustar met with Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Wireline Competition Bureau, and General Counsel staff on June 16, 2016, to discuss law enforcement’s transition to the Enhanced Law Enforcement Platform service. Neustar said it will not be providing its LEAP service in regions where it is no longer the NPAC administrator for the reasons explained in its March 10, 2016 ex parte letter. Neustar also asserted there is an increased level of transition risk caused by the compressed timeline and substantial reduction in testing announced by the Transition Oversight Manager in April 2016, and urged the Commission staff to monitor closely the risks raised by the transition and data migration timelines.

- Comments were filed on June 22, 2016, on the preparation of the biennial report required by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010. CTIA said the FCC should report to Congress that wireless service providers and manufacturers are meeting the letter, spirit, and intent of the CVAA to provide accessible advanced communications services and equipment for people with disabilities. TIA asserted the FCC can, by continuing to ensure that it uses a flexible approach, increase the availability of ACS products and services that are accessible and usable by all consumers, including those with disabilities, and said the Commission should afford manufacturers maximum flexibility in meeting the requirements of the CVAA consistent with Congressional intent. Consumer Groups and the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Technology RERC said accessibility of ACS for deaf and hard of hearing people continues to lag as those services become more and more integrated into their daily lives.
Commissioner Clyburn announced the appointment of Claude Aiken as her Wireline Legal Advisor, and the departure of Rebekah Goodheart, who has served as the Commissioner’s Wireline Legal Advisor since 2013.

Upcoming Filing Dates

- **June 28** - Comments due on the FNPRM proposing a new competition-triggered deregulatory framework for the provision of business data services that classifies markets as either non-competitive or competitive. Replies due July 26.

- **July 5** - Replies due on NPRM on FY 2016 Regulatory Fees.

- **July 5** - Comments due on the proposed eligible services list for the E-rate program for funding year 2017. Replies due July 20. Public Notice

- **July 5** - Comments are due on Manhattan Telecommunications’ and Telnyx’s applications to obtain NANP telephone numbers directly from the Numbering Administrators for their iVoice service.

- **July 6** - Replies due on the NPRM on establishing privacy regulations for broadband ISPs to implement section 222 of the Communications Act. Public Notice.

- **July 7** - Replies due on Premier Communications and Winnebago Cooperative Telecom Association’s Petition for waiver of the study area boundary freeze. Public Notice

- **July 11** - PRA comments due on a revision to a currently approved collection associated with FCC Forms 497 (Lifeline and Linkup worksheet), 555 (Annual Lifeline ETC Certification Form), and 481 (Carrier Annual Report Data Collection Form). Notice

- **July 18** - PRA comments due on an extension to a currently approved collection associated with Part 52 rules on telephone number portability. Notice

- **July 18** - PRA comments due on an extension to a currently approved collection associated with Part 61 on tariff review plans. Notice

- **July 20** - Replies due on the proposed eligible services list for the E-rate program for funding year 2017. Public Notice

- **July 21** - Comments due on three sets of issues relating to the process for determining winning bidders in the CAF Phase II auction: how to apply weights to the different levels of performance adopted in the Order; measures to achieve the public interest objective of ensuring appropriate support for all of the states; and measures to achieve the public interest objective of expanding broadband on Tribal lands. Replies are due August 5.

- **July 26** - Replies due on the FNPRM proposing a new competition-triggered deregulatory framework for the provision of business data services that classifies markets as either non-competitive or competitive.

- **July 26** - PRA comments due on new information collections to address the requirements adopted in the March 2016 RoR USF Reform Order. This information collection addresses the new burdens associated with those reforms. Notice

- **Aug. 5** - Replies due on three sets of issues relating to the process for determining winning bidders in the CAF Phase II auction: how to apply weights to the different levels of performance adopted in the
Order; measures to achieve the public interest objective of ensuring appropriate support for all of the states; and measures to achieve the public interest objective of expanding broadband on Tribal lands.

- Aug. 22 - PRA comments due on the form and content of its survey of urban rates for fixed voice and fixed broadband residential services. Notice