USF Reform  Open Internet  Broadband  IP Transition  USF  Call Completion  Misc.  Upcoming Events

September 11, 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Commission will consider nine items at its September 26, 2017 Open Meeting, including an NPRM that proposes to amend the rules to allow for use of auctions to assign certain toll free numbers and other means to modernize the administration and assignment of toll free numbers; an NOI seeking comment on the provision of 911 by enterprise communications systems that serve businesses, hotels, educational institutions, and government entities; and a Report analyzing the state of competition in the mobile wireless industry.

- The FCC rescheduled the date of the October Open Meeting from October 26 to October 24, 2017.

- The FCC invited parties to update the record on issues raised in the 2011 Intercarrier Compensation Transformation FNPRM regarding the network edge for traffic that interconnects with the PSTN, tandem switching and transport, and transit. Comments will be due 30 days from publication in the Federal Register; reply comments due 45 days from FR publication.

- The FCC issued a Public Notice, releasing instructions for filing middle-mile network maps pursuant to the Alaska Plan Order. The initial map submissions will be due by March 1, 2018.

- NTCA and Vantage Point Solutions responded to WISPA’s ex parte on the propagation data the FCC included as Appendix A to its Public Notice seeking comment on RoR study areas that are potentially overlapped fully by unsubsidized competitors.

- Great Plains Communications, the Consolidated Companies, and Parrino Strategic Consulting urged the Commission to increase A-CAM model funding to $200 per location. Great Plains, Consolidated, and Vantage Point Solutions filed a paper on satellite broadband versus wireline broadband.

- Comments are due October 9, 2017, on Gila River Telecommunications’ Petition for Expedited Waiver of the National Average Cost Per Loop freeze. Replies are due October 24.

- The FCC issued a Report and Order, eliminating certain rules from which the Commission granted unconditional forbearance for all carriers in the 2013 USTelecom Forbearance Order.

- Comments are due on October 5, 2017, on NECA’s 2018 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service HCLS Formula.

- The Wireline Competition Bureau granted a brief, limited waiver of the filing deadline, until November 17, 2017, for states, or ETCs not subject to the jurisdiction of a state, to certify to the proper use of federal high-cost USF support under section 54.314(d).

Other Key Upcoming Dates

- Sept. 13 - Comments due on NTCA and USTelecom’s Petition for Forbearance from application of USF contributions obligations on broadband internet access transmission services. Replies due September 28, 2017.
- Sept. 13 - Comments due on the NOI on methods to authenticate telephone calls against illegal robocallers.
- Sept. 19 - Replies due on the NPRM to amend the Caller ID rules to allow disclosure of blocked Caller ID information to aid law enforcement.
- Sept. 25 - Replies due on the Second FNPRM on rural call completion.
- Sept. 26 - Replies due on the Second NOI that explores methods by which reassigned telephone number data could be made available to callers to avoid making unwanted calls to consumers.

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

- The FCC released a [Public Notice](#) on September 7, 2017, seeking comments on Gila River Telecommunications’ Petition for Expedited Waiver of the National Average Cost Per Loop freeze and its two submissions of revised information for the same purpose. In 2014, the Commission decided to stop adjusting the NACPL and reduce the reimbursement percentages proportionately. Gila River claimed the effect of this decision will be to reduce GRTI’s HCLS by approximately $184 per loop annually. Comments are due October 9, 2017; replies are due October 24, 2017.

- The FCC issued a [Public Notice](#) on September 8, 2017, releasing instructions for filing middle-mile network maps pursuant to the Alaska Plan Order. The Alaska Plan requires participants to submit fiber and microwave network middle-mile maps covering eligible areas and to update such maps if the recipient deployed middle-mile facilities in the prior calendar year that are or will be used to support their service in eligible areas. The FCC has approved performance commitments from Alaska Plan participants that reflect the availability of terrestrial middle mile at the time of the initial commitment, but provided that if more capable middle-mile facilities became available during the course of the Plan, participants may be required to increase their commitments in those areas. The initial map submissions will be due by March 1, 2018, and any updates to the map will be due on March 1 every year under the plan thereafter, and must be submitted in the HUBB portal.

- NTCA and Vantage Point Solutions filed a [letter](#) on September 6, 2017, to respond to WISPA’s August 25, 2017 [ex parte](#) on the propagation data the FCC included as Appendix A to its Public Notice seeking comment on RoR study areas that are potentially overlapped fully by unsubsidized competitors. They claimed WISPA is proposing that WISPs be held to a lesser standard in providing details regarding the actual coverage capabilities of their networks, and asserted if WISPA’s proposal were adopted, no one would be able to independently verify the overlap claims of an individual fixed wireless competitor unless more detail were provided as part of the filing. They said the standards suggested in the Public Notice represent a reasonable starting point, and the Commission should also require fixed wireless competitors to submit details of their duplexing methodology as well as shapefiles for the signal coverage and transmitter sites consistent with DA 16-563. NTCA and Vantage Point encouraged the Commission to employ standards and processes like those in DA 15-1193 and DA 16-563 for the purpose of validating wireless coverage claims in the context of identifying possible 100 percent competitive overlap.

- Great Plains Communications, the Consolidated Companies, and Parrino Strategic Consulting met with Commissioner Rosenworcel’s Legal Advisor on September 6, 2017, on behalf of the Nebraska companies to urge the Commission to increase A-CAM model funding to $200 per location to increase the number of rural locations served and to ensure that customers in all areas of the country have access to broadband. They argued additional A-CAM funding in mid-western and western states will increase their overall GDP and provides the best long-term network solution. They also met with Commissioner O’Rielly’s Legal Advisor on September 7, 2017, to discuss similar issues.

- Great Plains Communications, Consolidated Companies, and Vantage Point Solutions filed a [letter](#) on September 5, 2017, submitting a whitepaper, entitled “Satellite Broadband Remains Inferior to Wireline Broadband,” which they claim demonstrates both current and planned satellite broadband falls short of wireline broadband in most key performance standards. They indicated the sponsoring companies underwrote this paper, which follows a November 2013 analysis on satellite performed by Vantage Point, to provide factual, data-driven documentation on the advantages and disadvantages of satellite broadband.

- Gila River Telecommunications met separately with Commissioners Clyburn and Rosenworcel’s Legal Advisors on September 5, 2017, to reiterate the importance of modifying the rate-of-return carrier operations expense limitation rule for carriers serving primarily Tribal locations.

- The FCC issued a [Public Notice](#) on September 7, 2017, announcing the details for the September 11, 2017 webinar on the CAF Phase II auction process as well as instructions for later viewing. The web address, login, and dial-in information can be found on the “CAF II Auction Process Webinar” [event](#).
During the event, those watching the live video stream may email questions to auction903@fcc.gov. After the event, a recording of the workshop will be available for streaming from the event page. The FCC reminded potential auction participants that comments on the proposed procedures are due September 18, 2017; reply comments are due October 18, 2017.

The FCC published a Notice in the Federal Register on September 8, 2017, announcing the effective date for the Mobility Fund Phase II Challenge Process Order is October 10, 2017, except for the new or modified information collection requirements in the challenge process that require OMB approval. The Order adopted the parameters for the Mobility Fund Phase II challenge process, which will begin with a new, one-time collection of standardized, up-to-date 4G LTE coverage data from mobile wireless providers. Interested parties will have an opportunity to contest an initial determination that an area is ineligible for MF–II support, and providers will then have an opportunity to respond to challenges.

The FCC issued a Public Notice on September 8, 2017, inviting parties to update the record on issues raised by the Commission in the 2011 Intercarrier Compensation Transformation FNPRM regarding the network edge for traffic that interconnects with the PSTN, tandem switching and transport, and transit (the non-access traffic functional equivalent of tandem switching and transport). Comments will be due 30 days from publication in the Federal Register; reply comments will be due 45 days from FR publication.

The Free State Foundation filed a letter on September 7, 2017, to submit into the Restoring Internet Freedom proceeding a paper authored by James E. Prieger, Professor of Economics and Public Policy at the Pepperdine University School of Public Policy and a member of the Free State Foundation’s Board of Academic Advisors, entitled What Do Economists Know About Net Neutrality Regulation – Quite a Lot, and the FCC Should Pay Attention. The paper focuses on the economic analysis of key net neutrality rules, such as bans on paid prioritization of internet traffic, blocking or throttling traffic, or disallowance of fees to deliver traffic to the “edge” of the network.

INCOMPAS met with Legal Advisers to Chairman Pai and Commissioners Rosenworcel, Carr, and O’Rielly, and General Counsel staff on September 6 and 7, 2017, to discuss its Motion to modify the protective orders in recent merger proceedings to permit interested commenters in the Restoring Internet Freedom proceeding to use certain confidential and highly confidential materials collected in those proceedings to provide the Commission with critical information and analysis. INCOMPAS said it offered to work with the Commission to gather interested stakeholders and agree on a process for reviewing confidential and highly confidential information in those mergers that are relevant to the issues raised in the NPRM, while maintaining the confidentiality of that material.

The Wireline Competition and Wireless Telecommunications Bureaus issued an Order on September 5, 2017, granting in part the Motion filed by New America’s Open Technology Institute, et al. requesting an extension of the deadline for filing comments on the Thirteenth Section 706 Report Notice of Inquiry. Comments and reply comments are due September 21, 2017, and October 6, 2017, respectively.

Commissioner Pai spoke at the Institute for Policy Innovation’s Hatton W. Sumners Distinguished Lecture series on September 7, 2017, and discussed a number of issues, including broadband deployment and Open Internet. He said the Commission has many tools to help expand digital
opportunity and the most powerful tool is to establish rules that maximize private investment in high-speed networks. He said the FCC’s examination of whether it should change its internet regulations to encourage greater deployment and bring digital opportunity to more Americans is just one part of a comprehensive review of how to encourage the construction of next-generation networks. He also said the FCC has begun to examine how state and local government processes can affect the speed and cost of infrastructure deployment.

- Public Knowledge met with Chairman Pai’s Legal Advisor on September 6, 2017, to assert the record does not support the Commission’s presumptive conclusion that streamlining the copper retirement and discontinuance rules would accelerate wireline broadband deployment. PK claimed the FCC neither articulated a policy justification nor conducted an economic analysis to warrant its proposals. PK urged the FCC to maintain its current copper retirement and notification rules, and preserve the functional test as required by section 214(a). PK claimed despite the transition to fiber and wireless networks, the FCC’s most recent data shows that almost half of all businesses and nearly 20 percent of consumers nationwide rely on an incumbent carriers’ switched access line for service.

- BT Americas met with Legal Advisors to Commissioners Carr and O’Reilly on August 30, 2017, to discuss its concerns with streamlining proposals in the accelerating wireline broadband deployment proceeding and the Commission’s proposed actions in the Restoring Internet Freedom proceeding. BT also met separately with Commissioner Clyburn’s Legal Advisor and Wireline Competition Bureau staff to discuss similar issues. It claimed that even the current rules regarding section 214 applications for discontinuance of services may be insufficient to ensure an orderly, managed transition from TDM to IP services, and encouraged the Commission to adopt rules that ensure transparency and a methodical, organized transition.

- AT&T filed a letter on September 5, 2017, to respond to Ultratec's ex parte letter on the provision of TTYs using fiber and VoIP connections. AT&T agreed with Ultratec that retiring copper and replacing it with fiber facilities does not affect the provision of TTY. AT&T said it is not clear from the context to which types of VoIP services Ultratec is referring, and claimed to the extent Ultratec is referring to all VoIP services generally, AT&T does not believe Ultratec’s blanket performance characterizations are correct regarding all interconnected VoIP services.

- WISPA met with Commissioner Carr and his Legal Advisor on September 7, 2017, to discuss broadband deployment and ways to close the digital divide. WISPA claimed the FCC's 2015 framework for Citizens Broadband Radio Service should be maintained, suggesting the CBRS rules will help bridge the digital divide, and said other mid-band spectrum should be allocated in a manner that best supports connecting the unserved. It argued the FCC must ensure that smaller providers using fixed wireless have a real opportunity to participate in the CAF Phase II auction. WISPA also said the FCC should eliminate burdensome regulations, claiming the record demonstrates that Title II rules have constrained small businesses from investing and deploying broadband service.

- CTIA met with Legal Advisors to Chairman Pai and Commissioner Carr on August 31 and September 1, 2017, to discuss siting policies at the federal, state, and local levels and their role helping to ensure the U.S.’s 5G leadership. CTIA asserted timely action across all levels of government will be essential to creating capacity for today’s 4G LTE networks and building out the nation’s next-generation wireless networks. CTIA urged the Commission to modernize local review of wireless infrastructure applications; clarify actions that prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting wireless service; and ensure that application fees and fees for use of public rights-of-way are cost-based, fair, and reasonable. CTIA also met with Commissioner Clyburn’s Legal Advisor on September 6, 2017, to discuss similar issues.

- Blue Lake Rancheria filed comments on September 5, 2017, on the Wireless Broadband Deployment NOI, noting these comments were hand-delivered to the FCC at the Tribal Consultation held in Flagstaff, Arizona on August 22, 2017. Blue Lake claimed the NPRM/NOI is heavily-weighted to the concerns of developers and there is very little discussion of the concerns of tribes. It requested certain sub-topics be considered under separate, additional consultation, particularly local government approvals replacing the need for tribal and historic preservation review, which the Tribe finds unacceptable. It also suggested a supplemental NPRM/NOI or RFI to obtain in-depth information on tribal needs related to broadband infrastructure. It suggested many of the barriers could be minimized
and streamlined with a utility regulation approach, and also urged the FCC to preserve and protect net
neutrality.

Back to Highlights

Universal Service

- The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs will hold a hearing on September 14, 2017, entitled FCC’s Lifeline Program: A Case Study of Government Waste and Mismanagement. Witnesses include FCC Chairman Pai; Seto Bagdoyan, Director of Audit Services, Forensic Audits and Investigative Service, U.S. Government Accountability Office; and Vickie S. Robinson, Acting Chief Executive Officer and General Counsel USAC.

- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice on September 5, 2017, seeking comment on NECA’s 2018 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service High Cost Loop Support Formula. If approved, the formula would take effect January 1, 2018, and remain in effect through December 31, 2018. Comments are due October 5, 2017; replies are due October 20, 2017.

- The Wireline Competition Bureau released an Order on September 6, 2017, granting on its own motion a brief, limited waiver of the filing deadline for states or ETCs not subject to the jurisdiction of a state to certify to the proper use of federal high-cost USF support under section 54.314(d) of the Commission’s rules. The Bureau said because states only recently could access through the High Cost Universal Broadband portal the Phase II geospatial information reported to USAC on July 3, 2017, a waiver is justified. States or ETCs must now file the section 54.314 certification with USAC by November 17, 2017.

- The Wireline Competition Bureau released an Order on September 7, 2017, granting in part Telrite Corporation’s request for a temporary waiver of the Lifeline Program’s non-usage and recertification rules for Lifeline customers residing in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Bureau said good cause exists to waive for 90 days sections 54.405(e)(3), 54.405(e)(4), 54.407(c)(2), and 54.410(f) for ETCs serving Lifeline subscribers residing in the U.S. Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico. It said strict compliance with these rules would be impracticable and would risk de-enrollment of Lifeline subscribers in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

- The Wireline Competition Bureau released an Order on September 8, 2017, granting in part iwireless’ request for a temporary waiver of the Lifeline Program’s non-usage and recertification rules for Lifeline customers residing in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The Bureau said good cause exists to waive for 90 days sections 54.405(e)(3), 54.405(e)(4), 54.407(c)(2) and 54.410(f) for ETCs serving Lifeline subscribers residing in the U.S. Virgin Islands or Puerto Rico. It said strict compliance with these rules would be impracticable and would risk de-enrollment of Lifeline subscribers in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

- The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held a hearing on September 6, 2017, entitled Addressing the Risk of Waste, Fraud and Abuse in the Federal Communications Commission’s Lifeline Program. Seto Bagdoyan of the GAO discussed key findings of the recent GAO Lifeline report, and said while the FCC and USAC have implemented some controls to improve subscriber eligibility verification, weaknesses remain. Chris Nelson, Commissioner of the South Dakota PUC said the states must remain involved in the ETC designation process, and it should be a priority to make sure the federal Lifeline program can work synergistically with the 23 states that have state Lifeline programs. Other testimony was given by: Deborah Collier of Citizens Against Government Waste, Jeffrey Eisenach, Ph.D., and Jessica J. Gonzalez of Free Press.

- TracFone Wireless met with Commissioner O’Rielly’s Legal Advisor on September 7, 2017, to discuss concerns regarding forthcoming changes to the minimum service standards established in the 2016 Lifeline Order. As an alternative to the minimum standards set to become effective December 1, 2017, TracFone proposed the Commission allow Lifeline providers to meet the minimum standards through a “units” plan that would afford Lifeline customers flexibility to utilize their wireless Lifeline service as they
choose rather than as prescribed by Commission regulation. TracFone also said under the units proposal, Lifeline providers would be providing quantities of voice telephony service or mobile broadband service sufficient to comply with the minimum standards.

- The California PUC filed a motion on September 5, 2017, seeking an extension of time to implement changes to the Commission’s Lifeline eligibility rules, sections 54.400 (j)1 and 54.409(a), that were adopted in the 2016 Lifeline Order. The Commission previously granted the CPUC’s request to extend the implementation date of these rules from December 2, 2016, to October 31, 2017. The CPUC said due to unforeseen circumstances and staffing constraints it is requesting additional time, until December 31, 2018, to implement changes to the federal eligibility rules.

- Q-Link Wireless met with Legal Advisors to Chairman Pai and Commissioners Clyburn and Rosenworcel and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on September 6, 2017, to discuss USAC’s recently announced plans for implementing the National Verifier and the ways Q-Link claims the plans will harm consumers, unnecessarily increase administrative costs for USAC, and disrupt automated enrollment processes. Q-Link provided information it says will simplify the enrollment process for consumers, ensure that consumers receive required reduced USAC administrative costs as compared with its existing plans, and strengthen protections against fraud and abuse beyond USAC’s current National Verifier design.

- The Lifeline Connects Coalition spoke by phone with Wireline Competition Bureau staff on August 31, 2017, to discuss statements made by USAC staff during a Lifeline program update webinar suggesting ETCs should not include on their reimbursement requests any Lifeline subscribers who are in a non-usage cure period on the snapshot date. The Coalition said this statement is inconsistent with guidance provided previously by Commission staff, which is currently reflected on USAC’s website. The Coalition also said it disagreed with a National Verifier blog post that suggested for all enrollments the only proper method of completing the required certification statements is to initial them, and checkmarks are never acceptable. The Coalition said pursuant to the federal E-SIGN Act, subscribers are permitted to utilize click-through functionality, including checkmarks, to memorialize initials and signatures necessary to complete the individual certifications on electronic Lifeline enrollment and recertification forms.

Misc.

- The Commission announced the tentative agenda for its September 26, 2017 Open Meeting on September 7, 2017. It will consider: an NPRM that proposes to eliminate rules requiring certain broadcast and cable entities to maintain paper copies of FCC rules; a Report and Order that modernizes cable TV technical rules to reflect the cable industry’s use of digital transmission systems; a Third Report and Order that will relax or eliminate certain rules pertaining to AM broadcasters employing and maintaining directional antenna arrays; a Report and Order and FNPRM that recommends updating and streamlining rules on the licensing of the next generation of non-geostationary, fixed-satellite service systems; an NPRM seeking comment on revisions to the wireless hearing aid compatibility annual reporting requirement; an NPRM that proposes to amend the rules to allow for use of auctions to assign certain toll free numbers and other means to modernize the administration and assignment of toll free numbers; an NOI seeking comment on the provision of 911 by enterprise communications systems that serve businesses, hotels, educational institutions, and government entities; a Report analyzing the state of competition in the mobile wireless industry; and an enforcement action.

- The FCC announced on September 5, 2017, that the date of the October Open Meeting is rescheduled from October 26 to October 24, 2017.

- The Commission issued a Report and Order on September 8, 2017, eliminating certain rules from which the Commission granted unconditional forbearance for all carriers in the 2013 USTelecom
Forbearance Order, and eliminating references to telegraph service from certain sections of the Commission’s rules. This Order affects rules in Parts 36, 42, 54, 63, and 64.

- The FCC issued a Notice in the Federal Register on September 7, 2017, seeking PRA comments on a revised information collection associated with the annual Tariff Review Plans. The revision is pursuant to the April 20, 2017 BDS Order, which adopted an X-factor of two percent and required price cap ILECs to make a one-time filing to revise their TRPs to implement the new X factor to become effective on December 1, 2017. The FCC said the only factor that changes in the revised TRPs is the X-factor; base period demand and the value of GDP–PI will stay constant for this particular filing. PRA comments are due October 10, 2017.

- The FCC issued a Public Notice on September 5, 2017, announcing the Commission released the FY 2017 Regulatory Fees Report and Order and announcing the opening of the automated filing and payment system for FY 2017 regulatory fees. It said while FY 2017 regulatory fees will not become effective until the Order is published in the Federal Register, regulatees at their own discretion may submit payments at any time before the effective due date of FY 2017 regulatory fees. Regulatory fee payments must be received by the Commission no later than 11:59 PM, Eastern Daylight Time, on September 26, 2017.

- The FCC issued a Regulatory Fact Sheet on September 6, 2017, providing information for interstate telecommunications service providers to help them prepare and pay their FCC regulatory fees. It noted the FCC also publishes industry-specific guidance in Who Owes Fees & What Is My FY 2017 Fee, which can be found here. It also noted it amended its rule regarding the TRS Fund to permit NECA to process regulatory fees on behalf of its pooling exchange carriers, but noted entities subject to regulatory fee payments should be reminded that the regulatee, not an agent such as NECA, is responsible for ensuring that payment is made in a timely manner. The FCC also issued a Public Notice specifying methods and procedures for FY2017 regulatory fee payments. Regulatory fee payments must be received by 11:59 PM, Eastern Daylight Time, on September 26, 2017.

- USTelecom filed a Reply on September 8, 2017, on the NPRM that proposes to eliminate the requirement that payphone operators conduct annual audits. USTelecom said evidence of the dramatic and continuing decline over the past decade in the number of payphone calls and the number of operational payphone and/or payphone lines in service is clear and undisputed, and requested the Commission recognize that the annual payphone call tracking system audit and quarterly CFO certification requirements are burdensome rules that have lived on long past their usefulness.

- Chairman Pai announced on September 8, 2017, Nicholas Degani will serve as the agency’s Acting General Counsel, following Jennifer Tatel’s departure from the agency. Degani joined the Commission in 2007 and has served as Senior Counsel to Chairman Pai and Wireline Legal Advisor to then-Commissioner Pai; has been detailed to the U.S. House of Representatives’ Committee on Energy and Commerce; and worked in the Wireline Competition Bureau and the Office of General Counsel.

Upcoming Filing Dates

- Sept. 11 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with the FCC’s Electronic Tariff Filing System. As of June 2011, all ILECs and CLECs were required to file tariff filings electronically. Notice

- Sept. 11 - Comments due on a list of 13 rate-of-return study areas identified as potentially having 100 percent overlapped by an unsubsidized competitor or combination of unsubsidized competitors. Replies are due October 10. Public Notice

- Sept. 11 - PRA comments due on a new information collection associated with changes made in the FCC’s February 2017 Part 32 Report and Order. Notice
• Sept. 11 - Comments due on a computer matching program the Commission and USAC will conduct with the Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the eligibility of applicants to and subscribers of the Lifeline program. Notice

• Sept. 13 - Comments due on NTCA and USTelecom’s Petition for Forbearance from application of contributions obligations on broadband internet access transmission services pending USF comprehensive contributions reform. Replies are due September 28, 2017. Public Notice

• Sept. 13 - Comments due on the NPRM that proposes to amend rules to prohibit carriers from misrepresenting themselves when placing telemarketing sales calls to consumers and placing unauthorized charges on their phone bills (slamming and cramming). Replies are due October 13, 2017. Notice

• Sept. 13 - Replies due on the NOI on methods to authenticate telephone calls against illegal robocallers.

• Sept. 14 - Comments due on including personally identifiable information (PII) that will be obtained and processed by the National Verifier. Notice

• Sept. 18 - Comments due on the proposed application and bidding procedures for the auction, including how interested parties can qualify to participate in the auction, how bidders will submit their bids, and how the FCC will process bids to determine the winners and support amounts. Replies due October 18, 2017. Public Notice

• Sept. 18 - PRA comments due on an emergency OMB processing of a new information collection of qualified 4G LTE coverage data for the Mobility Fund Phase II. Notice

• Sept. 19 - Replies due on the NPRM that proposes to amend the Caller ID rules to allow disclosure of blocked Caller ID information to aid law enforcement in investigating threatening calls. Notice

• Sept. 21 - Comments due on a Thirteenth Section 706 Report Notice of Inquiry on the appropriate metrics and benchmarks by which to measure the deployment of both fixed and mobile services in order to evaluate the extent to which American consumers have access to advanced telecommunications capabilities. Replies due October 6, 2017.

• Sept. 25 - Replies due on the Second FNPRM on rural call completion. Notice

• Sept. 25 - Comments due on the FNPRM that seeks comment on how to collect better and more accurate information on Form 477. Replies due October 10, 2017. FR

• Sept. 26 - Replies due on the Second Notice of Inquiry that explores methods by which reassigned telephone number data could be made available to callers to avoid making unwanted calls to consumers.

• Sept. 28 - Replies due on NTCA and USTelecom’s Petition for Forbearance from application of contributions obligations on broadband internet access transmission services pending USF comprehensive contributions reform. Public Notice

• Oct. 2 - Comments due on the Notice of Inquiry on potential opportunities for additional flexible access in spectrum bands between 3.7 and 24 GHz, particularly for wireless broadband services. Replies are due November 1, 2017.

• Oct. 2 - PRA comments due on a revision of a currently approved information collection associated with auctions for USF support. The Commission is revising the currently approved information collection to remove the information collection requirements that apply specifically to bidding for Mobility Fund Phase I and Tribal Mobility Fund Phase I support, and to retain only those information
collection requirements that apply generally to applicants seeking to participate in competitive bidding for universal service support. Notice

- Oct. 5 - Comments due on NECA’s 2018 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service High Cost Loop Support Formula. Replies are due October 20, 2017. Public Notice

- Oct. 6 - Replies due on a Thirteenth Section 706 Report Notice of Inquiry on the appropriate metrics and benchmarks by which to measure the deployment of both fixed and mobile services in order to evaluate the extent to which American consumers have access to advanced telecommunications capabilities.

- Oct. 9 - Comments due on Gila River Telecommunications’ Petition for Expedited Waiver of the National Average Cost Per Loop freeze decision and its two submissions of revised information for the same purpose. Public Notice. Replies are due October 24, 2017.

- Oct. 10 - Replies due on a list of 13 rate-of-return study areas identified as potentially having 100 percent overlapped by an unsubsidized competitor or combination of unsubsidized competitors. Public Notice

- Oct. 10 - Replies due on the FNPRM that seeks comment on how to collect better and more accurate information on Form 477. FR


- Oct. 13 - Replies due on the NPRM that proposes to amend rules to prohibit carriers from misrepresenting themselves when placing telemarketing sales calls to consumers and placing unauthorized charges on their phone bills (slamming and cramming). Notice

- Oct. 18 - Replies due on the proposed application and bidding procedures for the auction, including how interested parties can qualify to participate in the auction, how bidders will submit their bids, and how the FCC will process bids to determine the winners and support amounts. Public Notice

- Oct. 20 - Replies due on NECA’s 2018 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service High Cost Loop Support Formula. Public Notice

- Oct. 23 - PRA comments due on information collections relating to Telecommunications Reporting Worksheets and Related Collections, FCC Forms 499–A and 499–Q. This information collection requires contributors to the Federal Universal Service Fund, Telecommunications Relay Service Fund, and Numbering Administration to file a Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet on an annual basis (Form 499–A) and/or on a quarterly basis (Form 499–Q). Notice

- Oct. 24 - Replies due on Gila River Telecommunications’ Petition for Expedited Waiver of the National Average Cost Per Loop freeze decision and its two submissions of revised information for the same purpose. Public Notice

- Nov. 1 - Replies due on the Notice of Inquiry on potential opportunities for additional flexible access in spectrum bands between 3.7 and 24 GHz, particularly for wireless broadband services. Replies are due November 1, 2017.

- Nov. 9 - Replies due on the Public Notice seeking data, information, and comment for the Commission’s Nineteenth Report on the status of competition in the market for the delivery of video programming.

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