October 23, 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- The FCC issued the agenda for its October 24, 2017 Open Meeting. The FCC will consider, among other things, a Report and Order that would enable law enforcement and security personnel to obtain quick access to blocked Caller ID information to investigate threatening calls and an NPRM and NOI on nationwide number portability.

- The Commission placed an item on circulation entitled AT&T Corp. v. Iowa Network Services, Inc. d/b/a Aureon Network Services, MO&O.

- The FCC announced comments are due November 8, 2017 on specific parameters and procedures to implement the Mobility Fund Phase II challenge process. Reply comments are due November 29, 2017. The Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force and the Wireline Competition and Wireless Telecommunications Bureaus announced they will host a webinar about the proposed MF-II challenge process on November 1, 2017.

- Replies were filed on the proposed application and bidding procedures for the CAF Phase II auction.
- Inteliquent discussed AT&T’s Petition for forbearance from tariffing requirements for tandem switching and transport and toll-free database query charges and the request to refresh the record on the 2011 ICC Transformation FNPRM.

- NTCA discussed rural call completion and a recent rise in complaints. NTCA urged the FCC to keep current recordkeeping and reporting requirements until an effective replacement is implemented.

- NTCA filed a letter on the draft NPRM and NOI on nationwide number portability. NTCA is concerned that if the proper questions are not asked upfront, NNP implementation’s benefits could be lost in a mix of consumer confusion, reduced service quality, misrouted calls, and increased call completion problems.

- NTCA filed a Petition seeking a temporary waiver of the updated minimum service standards applicable to fixed, wireline broadband internet access service eligible for Lifeline support.

- The House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology announced it will hold a hearing on October 25, 2017, on FCC oversight.

- The Report and Order that eliminated rules from which the FCC granted unconditional forbearance for all carriers in the 2013 USTelecom Forbearance Orders will be effective November 20, 2017.

Other Key Upcoming Dates

- Oct. 24 - Replies due on Gila River’s Petition for Expedited Waiver of the National Average Cost Per Loop freeze decision and its two submissions of revised information for the same purpose.
- Oct. 24 - Replies due on the FNPRM that seeks comment on how to collect better and more accurate information on Form 477. FR, Order
- Oct. 26 - Comments due on updating the record on ICC reform issues on regarding the network edge for traffic that interconnects with the PSTN, tandem switching and transport, and transit. Replies due November 13, 2017.

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

- The FCC issued a Public Notice (attachment) on October 18, 2017, announcing comments are due November 8, 2017, on the specific parameters and procedures to implement the Mobility Fund II challenge process. The challenge process will begin with a new, one-time collection of current, standardized coverage data on qualified 4G LTE service, which will be used, in conjunction with subsidy data from USAC, to establish the map of areas presumptively eligible for MF-II support. This Public Notice describes the steps the Commission intends to use to process the coverage and subsidy data and create that map. The Public Notice also proposes specific parameters for the data that challengers and respondents will submit as part of the challenge process, as well as a process for validating challenges. Reply comments are due November 29, 2017.

- The Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force and the Wireline Competition and Wireless Telecommunications Bureaus released a Public Notice on October 19, 2017, announcing they will host a webinar about the proposed Mobility Fund Phase II challenge process on November 1, 2017. Topics to be covered include the proposed procedures for generating the initial map of areas eligible for MF-II support and the proposed procedures for challenges. The web address, login, and dial-in information can be found on the “MF-II Challenge Process Webinar” event page.

- Replies were filed October 18, 2017, on the proposed application and bidding procedures for the CAF Phase II auction. The Rural Coalition suggested the Commission simplify the auction by: eliminating or substantially modifying its proposal to allow package bidding; prohibiting bidders from switching tiers between rounds; and allowing proxy bidding. It urged the Commission to: modify the anti-collusion rules such that small providers are able to use consultants; prohibit the use of certain technologies in latency or speed tiers in which the technologies are not commercially available; prevent providers from bidding for more locations than they can serve; implement a robust financial screen; adopt a 70% take-rate assumption; and require high-latency providers to follow the ITU framework and use conversation-opinion tests to validate the performance levels of their proposed service. It also said the Commission should not expand the eligible spectrum bands available where doing so could interfere with other ongoing Spectrum Frontiers proceedings and incentive auction repacking. AT&T said it believes the Commission got it right with its proposed auction procedures. It agreed with commenters that the Commission should not adopt a rule to modify unilaterally a bidder’s package through operation of the so-called minimum scale percentage. It noted one commenter analyzed the Commission’s data and found on average that the Commission’s cost model overstates the actual number of locations in CAF-eligible census blocks by approximately 20%, and recommended the Commission address this known issue, as well as any minimum subscription rate assumption, prior to the auction. Microsoft reiterated its support for the use of both licensed and unlicensed spectrum bands for last mile service, and urged the Commission to add TV White Spaces spectrum to the list of suitable spectrum bands. Microsoft also supported the broader proposals set forth by WISPA to make the eligibility rules technology neutral by allowing a broad range of wireless bands and technologies that can be used alone or in combination with other wireless and wireline technologies. The Rural Wireless Association opposed the use of package bidding, saying it would benefit large carriers to the detriment of small wireless carriers and rural consumers, and urged the FCC to adopt its proposal to use census block groups, rather than census tracts, as the minimum geographic bidding area. RWA also urged the FCC to: address the concerns about the auction’s complexity and the proposed anti-collusion rules; allow successful CAF II bidders impacted by the “locations gap” that exists between the model-indicated locations and the actual number of locations to utilize three forms of relief; expand the definition of “location” to better meet facts on the ground; modify its proposed auction eligibility requirements; and not impose additional requirements on spectrum-based applicants. CTIA urged the Commission to ensure the rules treat all potential applicants on a technology neutral basis, saying it should not impose more stringent short-form requirements on wireless applicants, especially a requirement for propagation maps of limited value at the short-form stage of the CAF-II auction. The American Cable Association proposed the Commission: prohibit package bidding and tier shifting between rounds, but adopt its Activity Rule proposal to limit “switching” of areas between rounds to a 10 percent switching percentage; reject the proposed five-point financial screen; and enable bidders to share auction experts without violating the Commission’s anti-collusion requirements. It attached a paper by Professor Peter Cramton, from the University of Maryland and the University of Cologne, who ACA...
retained to evaluate the Commission’s proposed auction design and procedures. Public Notice. All replies available to date.

• Vantage Point Solutions filed a letter on October 20, 2017, to update the record regarding its comments filed on the CAF Phase II auction process, which claimed there is a substantial “locations gap” between the number of locations the CACM says exist and the actual number of locations. VPS explained that as part of its third argument, it noted that in-field geocoding had uncovered a locations gap in excess of 25% for one carrier, but it now appears the locations gap for this carrier may be lower than estimated. It said the final locations gap for this carrier will likely end up being less than 15%. Accordingly, VPS is updating the record with more accurate information.

• Frontier filed a letter on October 17, 2017, in response to the letter filed by the West Virginia Broadband Enhancement Council on the application and bidding procedures for the CAF Phase II auction. Frontier claimed the Council’s proposed solution is misplaced and inappropriate, and said the solution to further enhancing broadband availability in rural West Virginia is not to attack the only company trying to serve these areas but to increase funding available for marginally economic and non-economic areas.

Back to Highlights

ICC

• The Commission placed an item on circulation on October 20, 2017, entitled AT&T Corp. v. Iowa Network Services, Inc. d/b/a Aureon Network Services, MO&O.

• Inteliquent met with Wireline Competition Bureau staff on October 11, 2017, to discuss AT&T’s Petition for forbearance from tariffing requirements for tandem switching and transport and toll-free database query charges, and the request to refresh the public record on the 2011 ICC Transformation FNPRM. Inteliquent said AT&T’s Petition identified some important areas that need further reform, but argued the Commission should address those concerns in a thoughtful manner that takes account the movement of access stimulation from one exchange to another and the legitimate role of other participants in the system, including tandem providers and rural telephone companies, among others.

Call Completion

• NTCA met with Chairman Pai’s Wireline Advisor on October 18, 2017, to discuss the continued problem of calls not completing to rural consumers and the sudden uptick in complaints over the last few weeks. NTCA claimed the only thing that has worked to mitigate the rural call completion problem was the visibility provided by the Commission’s November 2013 Order and the safe harbor. NTCA urged the Commission not to repeal the current record keeping and reporting requirements until an effective replacement is implemented, and it recommended that if the Commission repeals the current requirements, it should require providers to actively manage their networks and least cost routers, consistent with the ATIS best practices, and require providers to limit the number of intermediate providers that handle a call.

Broadband

• Reply comments, in addition to those reported in a previous edition of REGScan, were filed on the Thirteenth Section 706 Report NOI on the appropriate metrics and benchmarks by which to measure the deployment of both fixed and mobile services to evaluate the extent to which American consumers have access to advanced telecommunications capabilities. EveryoneOn recommended the FCC not lower the standard speed benchmark to enable residences, businesses, and anchor institutions to function properly. The Consortium for School Networking supported the 2014 E-rate Modernization Order’s broadband goals, which feature a near-term benchmark of 100 Mbps per 1000 students and a long-term target of 1 Gbps per 1000 students. All replies available to date.
Charter Communications met with Chairman Pai’s Legal Advisor on October 12, 2017, to suggest the FCC approach the issues in the wireline and wireless infrastructure proceedings holistically and support infrastructure investment in a technology-neutral manner. Charter also suggested reforms to the FCC’s pole-attachment process must balance the streamlining of new deployment and the rights of existing attachers, and said section 214 discontinuance proposals should not have the unintended effect of creating regulatory burdens on non-discontinuing providers.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association met with Legal Advisors to Chairman Pai, Commissioners O’Rielly and Clyburn and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on October 17, 2017, to discuss its reply comments on the wireline infrastructure NPRM. NRECA discussed impediments to broadband deployment in rural communities, especially those served by rural electric cooperatives. NRECA claimed deploying broadband to the rural communities served by electric cooperatives is simply more expensive due to the lower population density, and not caused by unregulated pole attachment rates.

NCTA met with Wireline Competition Bureau staff on October 18, 2017, to discuss cable investments and pole attachments, saying the current regulatory regime has enabled cable operators and all types of other providers to deploy fiber optic networks in a reasonably efficient manner, while at the same time protecting the safety and reliability of communications and electric networks and the services running over these networks, including 911 service. NCTA argued any significant disruption to this regime would not be in the public interest. It discussed overlashing, one-touch make ready, pole attachment transparency, and municipal fees.

The National Association of Counties, National League of Cities, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors sent a letter to Chairman Pai on October 19, 2017, to urge the FCC to fully consider local perspectives in the NPRMs on wireline and wireless infrastructure deployment. They requested the FCC provide for an appropriate level of local government representation on the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee. They also suggested, among other things, the FCC enhance the scope of the BDAC’s mission to consider the broadband industry’s responsibility for the broader deployment of wired and wireless broadband services while increasing network quality and lowering the costs to all Americans, including those in rural and low-income areas.

Open Internet

Verizon met with FCC General Counsel staff on October 16, 2017, to discuss regulation for broadband services. Verizon asserted Title II regulation of broadband services is harmful to investment and innovation, and said the FCC should ensure any regulatory framework that applies to broadband internet access services recognizes that these services are inherently interstate. Verizon encouraged the FCC to create a uniform, national framework for broadband that promotes investment and innovation, and ensures that states and localities do not undermine that framework with a patchwork of contrary state or local regulation of broadband.

Tech Knowledge met with Wireline Competition Bureau, General Counsel, and Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau staff on October 12, 2017, to discuss open internet issues. It asserted the FCC should conclude that broadband internet transmissions are not telecommunications and said resolving the issue as a matter of law would have the benefit of foreclosing the application of Title II to broadband internet transmissions absent Congressional action.

The National Hispanic Media Coalition met with Wireline Competition Bureau and General Counsel staff and Legal Advisors to Commissioners Carr, Clyburn and Rosenworcel on October 11, 2017, to discuss its motion to make informal Open Internet complaint documents part of the record, and to set a pleading cycle for comment on them. NHMC asserted omissions to documents produced in response to its FOIA request for consumer complaints make it impossible to conclude how the underlying complaints were ultimately resolved.
- New America’s Open Technology Institute and Free Press met with Commissioner Rosenworcel and her Legal and Policy Advisors on October 16, 2017, to discuss the legal validity of and need for the Commission’s reclassification decision in the 2015 Open Internet Order. They claimed there are flaws in the arguments offered by carriers and in the NPRM, asserting they rely on interpretations unsupported by the Act and rejected by the D.C. Circuit and on seeming irregularities in the commenting process and the Commission’s approach to this proceeding.

**Back to Highlights**

**IP Transition**

- Verizon met with staff from the Wireline Competition and Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureaus on October 17, 2017, to discuss accessibility issues possibly implicated by the transition from copper facilities to fiber and the Commission’s proposals on service discontinuance and copper retirement processes. Verizon said it is not aware of any systemic issue in Verizon’s networks that would cause end-users difficulties in using TTY or other assistive technologies after migrating from copper facilities to fiber. Verizon encouraged the Commission to pursue efforts to streamline and simplify the service discontinuance and copper retirement processes, including allowing new attachers to use a One-Touch Make-Ready process to deploy on utility poles in order to help speed broadband deployment.

**Universal Service**

- The FCC announced on October 17, 2017, it reached a settlement with Verizon for possible violations of the FCC’s competitive bidding rules for the E-rate program, following an investigation into Verizon’s involvement with New York City schools’ use of the E-rate program. The FCC said Verizon agreed to pay $17.68 million to resolve parallel investigations by the FCC and U.S. Department of Justice, $17.325 million of which will be repaid to the USF. The FCC said Verizon has further agreed to withdraw any rights it may have to hundreds of millions of dollars in requested and undisbursed E-rate support, and will operate under a compliance plan for three years.

- Commissioner Clyburn spoke at a Media Institute luncheon on October 17, 2017, to discuss broadband, Lifeline, and media issues. She said the FCC has laser-focus on the deployment of infrastructure, but has blurred vision when it comes to addressing issues surrounding affordability or the elimination of other barriers to broadband adoption outside of the infrastructure context.

- To date, no replies filed on NECA’s 2018 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service High Cost Loop Support Formula. Public Notice

- NTCA filed a Petition on October 20, 2017, seeking a temporary waiver of the updated minimum service standards applicable to fixed, wireline broadband internet access service eligible for Lifeline support. NTCA requested the Commission temporarily waive the strict application of the new minimum service speed standard and grandfather existing BIAS customers currently subscribing to 10 Mbps download/1 Mbps upload service. NTCA said because the increase in speed to 15 Mbps download/2 Mbps upload will almost certainly come with an increase in monthly rates that may be unaffordable for some low-income consumers, the updated minimum speed standard could have the unintended consequence of forcing some low-income rural consumers to discontinue their service.

- Puerto Rico Telephone filed an emergency Petition for temporary suspension and waiver of the recertification process for Lifeline customers with anniversary dates in January, February, and March 2018 until April 1, 2018. It said these subscribers are being affected by network and power outages and significant displacement in the wake of Hurricane Maria, and a limited suspension and waiver will protect consumers who are unlikely to receive and respond to USAC’s recertification notifications, which would cause their Lifeline service to be discontinued at a time when it is most needed.
• The California PUC filed a letter on October 13, 2017, to provide additional information on its Motion 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 CPUC provided an update on the status of the transfer of printing and mailing services and the RFP for a new California Lifeline Administrator. It also provided a list of things it needs to do and a timeline to implement federal eligibility changes.

• Compass Global filed a letter on October 18, 2017, withdrawing its 2010 Application for Review of an Order denying its request for waiver of the FCC Form 499-A revision filing deadline. Compass said the appeal has become moot due to ensuing events.

• Citizens Against Government Waste met with Chairman Pai and his Legal Advisor on October 18, 2017, to discuss Lifeline. CAGW said because the USF program will remain part of the communications strategy for the country, it is important to reduce waste and abuse of the Lifeline program. It also discussed the potential use of television white space channels to help bridge the digital divide, and discussed comments filed on the Open Internet.

• The E-Rate Management Professionals Association met with Wireline Competition Bureau staff on October 12, 2017, to discuss the E-rate program, including procedures for managing the transition of service from one service provider to another, fiber cost-allocations for excess fiber, transparency, and Category 2 budgets.

Misc.

• The FCC issued the agenda for its October 24, 2017 Open Meeting. The FCC will consider: a Report and Order that would enable law enforcement and security personnel to obtain quick access to blocked Caller ID information to investigate threatening calls and amend the FCC’s rules to allow non-public emergency services to obtain blocked Caller ID information associated with calls requesting assistance; an NPRM and NOI on industry models to move toward complete nationwide number portability to promote competition between all service providers and increase network routing efficiencies; an NPRM on changes to the Priority Access License rules in the 3550-3700 MHz (3.5 GHz) band; a Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration on hearing aid compatibility; a Report and Order that would eliminate the international service providers’ Traffic and Revenue Reports and streamline the Circuit Capacity Reports; a Report and Order eliminating the rule that requires each AM, FM, and TV broadcast station to maintain a main studio located in or near its community of license; and an NPRM on updates to section 73.624(g) and section 73.3580.

• The FCC released an Order on October 13, 2017, to establish procedures for the filing of access charge tariff revisions and Tariff Review Plans for ILECs subject to price cap regulation, pursuant to the Business Data Services Order. Price cap LECs are required to make such filings to implement the new productivity offset (or X-factor) adopted in the Order, to become effective on December 1, 2017. The Order sets an effective date of December 1, 2017, for tariff filings made on 15 days’ notice and sets an effective date of December 4, 2017, for tariff filings made on 7 days’ notice. The Order also makes available revised TRP worksheets to support any necessary rate revisions reflected in price cap LEC business data tariffs. Filings made on 15-days’ notice are due November 16; petitions are due November 24; and replies are due November 28. Filings made on seven-days’ notice are due November 27; petitions are due November 29; and replies are due November 30, 2017.

• NTCA filed a letter on October 16, 2017, on the draft NPRM and NOI on nationwide number portability implementation, which will be considered at the FCC’s October 24, 2017 Open Meeting. NTCA is concerned that if the proper questions are not asked upfront, NNP implementation’s benefits could be lost in a mix of consumer confusion, reduced service quality, misrouted calls, and increased call completion problems, and could impose new incremental obligations, particularly with respect to call routing.
• The House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology announced it will hold a hearing on October 25, 2017, on FCC oversight. The hearing will address Title II regulation, media issues, reforming the Lifeline program, the recently marked up FCC reauthorization bill, and the Commission’s response and preparedness efforts in the wake of the recent natural disasters. All five current FCC Commissioners will testify at the hearing.

• The FCC published in the Federal Register on October 20, 2017, the Report and Order issued on September 8, 2017, that eliminated certain rules from which the Commission granted unconditional forbearance for all carriers in the 2013 USTelecom Forbearance Orders, and eliminated references to telegraph service from certain sections of the Commission’s rules. The Order affected rules in Parts 36, 42, 54, 63, and 64, and is effective November 20, 2017.

• The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice on October 19, 2017, announcing the inflation-adjusted 2016 revenue thresholds used for classifying carrier categories for various accounting and reporting purposes. The revenue threshold between Class A carriers and Class B carriers is increased to $157 million, and the revenue threshold between larger Class A carriers and mid-sized carriers is increased to $9.32 billion.

• The FCC released a transcript and summary of the September 18, 2017 Consumer Advisory Committee meeting. The CAC adopted a recommendation from its Robocalls Working Group regarding blocking of unwanted calls.

• Verizon, T-Mobile, AT&T, USTelecom, Voice on the Net Coalition, and CTIA met with Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau staff on October 12, 2017, to discuss the proposed caller ID Report and Order, which will be considered at the October 24, 2017 Open Meeting. They recommended that caller ID information only be provided to law enforcement, who can then determine what security personnel may be appropriate recipients of the information. They said, alternatively, if the FCC perceives a need for carriers to provide information to security personnel, the rules should make clear that the information should be provided “as directed by law enforcement.”

• Neustar met with Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau staff on October 12, 2017, to discuss robocalls to reassigned telephone numbers, and whether the FCC should mandate the creation of a database of reassigned numbers. Neustar said it does not believe an FCC-mandated database will achieve greater coverage than solutions already available in the marketplace, nor will it be able to address aged datasets that require a deep historical understanding of disconnect behavior.

• Reply comments, in addition to those reported in a previous edition of REGScan, were filed on October 13, 2017, 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. Consumers Union, et al. said enhanced cramming and slamming protections should apply to all voice customers and the proposed default freeze on carrier switches should protect consumers from slamming without infringing on the competitiveness of the long-distance market. CWA said the FCC should convene a workshop to gather information regarding the impact of telecommunications companies’ sales incentives and performance management practices on cramming and slamming of unauthorized charges on customers’ bills. CTIA said the FCC should only adopt new rules where there is demonstrated harm or market failure requiring regulatory intervention, and the FCC should narrowly tailor any such rules to address the problem at hand. The Billing Services Group North America said neither the notice itself nor the record contains compelling fact-based reasoning or substantive data in support of changing the Commission’s rules. All replies available to date.

• Chairman Pai announced on October 19, 2017, the appointment of Thomas M. Johnson, Jr. as FCC General Counsel. Mr. Johnson will join the Commission next week from his position as Deputy Solicitor General for the West Virginia Attorney General. Pai also said when Mr. Johnson joins the FCC, Acting General Counsel Nick Degani will transition back to his role as Senior Counsel for Chairman Pai.
Upcoming Filing Dates

- Oct. 23 - PRA comments due on information collections relating to Telecommunications Reporting Worksheets and Related Collections, FCC Forms 499–A and 499–Q. Notice

- Oct. 23 - Comments due on the sufficiency of budgets for Category Two services under the E-rate program. Replies are due November 7, 2017. Public Notice

- Oct. 23 - Comments due on Telapex’s Petition for Waiver of sections 51.909(a), 51.917(b)(1), and 51.917(b)(7), to allow it to recalculate the rate bands and charges for local switching, tandem switching, and dedicated transport services for two commonly-owned and merged study areas in the same state, Franklin Telephone and Delta Telephone. Replies are due November 7, 2017. Public Notice

- Oct. 23 - Due date for entities to submit contact information for the filing of 4G LTE coverage data. Public 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

- Oct. 24 - Replies due on the FNPRM that seeks comment on how to collect better and more accurate information on Form 477. FR, Order

- Oct. 24 - Comments due on request filed by the U.S. Department of Justice asking for access to the information contained in each Number Resource Utilization and Forecast report from December 2015 through the present submitted by wireless carriers and LNP data related to wireless telecommunications carriers from January 2016 to the present. Public Notice

- Oct. 26 - Comments due on Invoxio’s application seeking authorization to obtain North American Numbering Plan telephone numbers directly from the Numbering Administrators for its iVoIP service. Public Notice

- Oct. 26 - Comments due on the NPRM proposing to streamline and consolidate the procedural rules governing formal complaints filed under section 208, pole attachment complaints filed under section 224, and formal advanced communications services and equipment complaints filed under sections 255, 716, and 718. Replies are due November 13, 2017. FR

- Oct. 26 - Comments due on updating the record on ICC reform issues raised in the 2011 ICC Transformation FNPRM regarding the network edge for traffic that interconnects with the PSTN, tandem switching and transport, and transit. Replies are due November 13, 2017. Public Notice, Notice

- Oct. 27 - Nominations due for six members for the USAC Board of Directors. 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. Public Notice

- Nov. 7 - Replies due on the sufficiency of budgets for Category Two services under the E-rate program. Public Notice

- Nov. 7 - Replies due on Telapex's Petition for Waiver of sections 51.909(a), 51.917(b)(1), and 51.917(b)(7), to allow it to recalculate the rate bands and charges for local switching, tandem switching, and dedicated transport services for two commonly-owned and merged study areas in the same state, Franklin Telephone and Delta Telephone. Public Notice
• Nov. 8 - Comments due on the specific parameters and procedures to implement the MF-II challenge process. Replies due November 29, 2017. Public Notice (attachment)

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

• Nov. 13 - Comments due on the NPRM allowing the FCC to assign toll-free numbers by auction, on a first-come, first-served basis, by an alternative assignment methodology, or by a combination of methodologies. Replies are due December 12, 2017. Federal Register

• Nov. 13 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection on the application for Mobility Fund Phase I Support, FCC Form 680. Notice

• Nov. 13 - PRA comments due on a revised information collection associated with new forms for the Lifeline program for consumer enrollment and certification, recertification, and one-per household verification. This revision also implements the transition to payment of the Lifeline reimbursement to ETCs based on data from USAC’s NLAD database. Notice

• Nov. 13 - Replies due on updating the record on ICC reform issues raised in the 2011 ICC Transformation FNPRM regarding the network edge for traffic that interconnects with the PSTN, tandem switching and transport, and transit. Public Notice, Notice

• Nov. 14 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection on actual speeds and performance of fixed and mobile broadband connections delivered to consumers by ISPs. Notice

• Nov. 27 - PRA comments due on revisions to a currently approved information collection to meet the requirement that certain carriers with high cost reporting obligations file information about their locations which meet their broadband deployment obligations via USAC’s electronic portal. Notice

• Nov. 29 - Replies due on the specific parameters and procedures to implement the MF-II challenge process. Public Notice (attachment)

• Dec. 5 - PRA comments due on a new information collection associated with the Mobility Fund Phase II challenge process. Notice

• Dec. 12 - PRA comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with qualified 4G LTE coverage data collection for Mobility Fund Phase II. Notice

• Dec. 12 - Replies due on the NPRM allowing the FCC to assign toll-free numbers by auction, on a first-come, first-served basis, by an alternative assignment methodology, or by a combination of methodologies. Federal Register

• Dec. 15 - PRA comments due on an extension of a previously approved information collection associated with Form 480 (Rural Call Completion Data). Notice

• Jan. 4 - Due date for the filing of 4G LTE coverage data pursuant to the Mobility Fund II Challenge Process Order. Public Notice