

**NECA's Weekly Federal Regulatory Summary**

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**November 11, 2019 HIGHLIGHTS**

- The FCC issued a [memorandum opinion and order, declaratory ruling, and order of proposed modification](#) ([news release](#)) approving, with conditions, the transfer of control applications filed by T-Mobile and Sprint.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau [granted](#) petitions filed by [Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative](#) and [Consolidated Communications Networks](#) seeking waiver of their obligations to provide service to a specific number of locations as part of the rural broadband experiments program.
- Commissioner Starks [spoke](#) at the Broadband Communities Conference to discuss internet inequality. He suggested the FCC conduct a data-driven 10-year look-back on how the High-Cost/CAF program has performed in bringing broadband to remote areas.
- USTelecom, AT&T, et al. [offered suggestions](#) on the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau [seeks comment](#) on Inter-Community Telephone's [petition for waiver](#) of certain Part 51 rules to implement the merger of affiliated rate-of-return study areas (ICTC and Absaraka Cooperative Telephone) in North Dakota. Comments are due November 19, 2019.
- The FCC [granted](#) Verizon's formal complaint that alleged Wide Voice's tariff contained tandem-switched transport rates that exceed those authorized by the FCC's ICC and benchmark rules.
- The USDA [announced](#) it invested \$4.2 million in high-speed broadband infrastructure that will create or improve rural e-connectivity for rural households and farms in Oklahoma. It also [invested](#) \$23.7 million in high-speed broadband infrastructure in North Carolina. The funding is through the [USDA's ReConnect pilot program](#).
- The Wireline Competition Bureau [announced](#) the deadline for election to participate in Stage 2 mobile support for the Uniendo a Puerto Rico fund and the Connect USVI Fund is December 9, 2019.
- The FCC [rescheduled](#) the November 19, 2019 [Open Meeting](#) to November 22, 2019.
- NTCA [offered suggestions](#) on the supply chain [draft report and order](#), which will be considered at the November 22, 2019 Open Meeting.

**Other Key Upcoming Dates**

- Nov. 22 - Comments due on the [15<sup>th</sup> Broadband Deployment Report NOI](#) to assess the availability of advanced telecommunications capability to all Americans in a reasonable and timely fashion. Replies are due December 9, 2019.
- Dec. 5 - Comments [due](#) on the effectiveness of the FCC's [2012 tribal engagement further guidance](#), steps to assist parties with their engagement efforts, and on pending petitions for reconsideration. Replies are due January 6, 2020.

## USF Reform

- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued an [order](#) on November 7, 2019, granting two petitions filed by [Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative](#) and [Consolidated Communications Networks, Inc.](#), seeking waiver of their obligations to provide service to a specific number of locations as part of the rural broadband experiments program. The Bureau said petitioners demonstrated the required number of locations exceeds the actual number of locations that the petitioners have been able to identify within their respective study areas. The Bureau also said in granting these waiver requests, it made pro-rata adjustments to the petitioners' support amounts and directed USAC to prorate reductions in future payments for the remainder of the support term.
- Commissioner Starks [spoke](#) at the Broadband Communities Conference on October 31, 2019, to discuss internet inequality. He suggested the FCC conduct a data driven 10-year look-back on how the High-Cost/CAF program has performed in bringing broadband to remote areas. He asserted this study is not an attempt to undermine this program or make fundamental changes, and that he seeks to understand where the FCC has been most successful so that it can improve this program. He also said broadband access must be affordable as well and discussed the importance of the Lifeline program.
- USTelecom, AT&T, CenturyLink, Consolidated, Frontier, Verizon and Windstream [met with](#) Office of Economics and Analytics and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on November 7, 2019, to discuss USTelecom's comments and replies filed in the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund proceeding. They suggested the FCC use the RDOF to: invest today in terrestrial broadband to provide a foundation for the future of rural connectivity—wired and wireless; clearly define transition roles and responsibilities at the program's outset; use lessons learned from the CAF Phase II auction to ensure reasonable accountability, while ensuring the program is not bogged down with unnecessary requirements; and reduce the risk of known inaccurate location data.
- West River Telecommunications Cooperative and Consortia Consulting [spoke with](#) Wireline Competition Bureau staff on November 5, 2019, to discuss West River's [petition for waiver](#) of the July 17, 2019 due date for providing notification directly to the FCC regarding A-CAM II elections.
- The Utilities Technology Council [met with](#) Commissioner Starks and his chief of staff on November 1, 2019, to urge the FCC to enable opportunities for utilities to compete for access to broadband funding that will be made available through the RDOF. UTC also explained that some utilities are restricted by state law from providing broadband services on a retail basis and they are therefore unable to obtain ETC status and urged the Commission to permit such utilities to apply for and obtain access to broadband funding under RDOF without obtaining ETC status. UTC also expressed opposition to CTIA's [petition for declaratory ruling](#), claiming it seeks to expand pole attachment regulation to include light poles and prevents utilities from negotiating terms and conditions for pole attachments.

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## ICC

- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [public notice](#) on November 5, 2019, seeking comment on Inter-Community Telephone's [petition for waiver](#) of certain Part 51 rules to recalculate the rate bands and charges for local switching, tandem switching and dedicated transport services for two commonly owned study areas in North Dakota, ICTC and Absaraka Cooperative Telephone. It also seeks a waiver to recalculate for the same combined study areas the 2011 interstate switched access revenue requirement and 2011 rate-of-return carrier base period revenue necessary to determine CAF ICC support. Comments are due November 19, 2019.
- The FCC issued a [memorandum opinion and order](#) on November 8, 2019, granting Verizon's formal complaint alleging Wide Voice violated sections 201(b) and 203 by filing, and billing Verizon under, a tariff containing tandem-switched transport rates that exceed those authorized by the FCC's intercarrier compensation and benchmark rules. The FCC agreed with Verizon the tandem-switched transport

rates in Wide Voice's tariff purport to allow Wide Voice to assess charges that the FCC's rules and orders do not authorize, and found those rates are unlawful and void *ab initio* (from the beginning). The FCC required Wide Voice to amend its tariff in accordance with this order within 60 days. The FCC said at Verizon's request, it bifurcated the case into separate liability and damages phases, and deferred consideration of damages issues until a subsequent phase of this proceeding.

- [Aureon Network Services](#) and [AT&T](#) filed initial briefs with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on November 1, 2019, in the case addressing their petitions for review ([Aureon, AT&T](#)) of several FCC orders on Aureon's tariff. AT&T seeks review of the November 2018 [second order on reconsideration](#) denying [its petition](#) of the August 2018 [order on reconsideration](#) affirming the FCC's findings that Aureon's 2013 tariff was not deemed lawful, but that Aureon's 2012 tariff remained in effect unless and until AT&T can establish Aureon employed improper accounting practices to conceal potential rate of return violations. Aureon seeks review of a [2017 Order](#) granting AT&T's complaint against Aureon for charging AT&T for CEA service on traffic destined for CLECs engaged in access stimulation, and review of the August 2018 [order on reconsideration](#).
- AT&T and the Local Exchange Carriers of Michigan and/or Prime Circuits (LEC- MI) filed a [supplement](#) to their [joint statement](#) on discovery and scheduling on November 5, 2019, in the case addressing AT&T's [formal complaint](#) against LEC- MI, which alleged LEC-MI improperly billed AT&T at least \$1,054,897 in end office access charges on aggregated 8YY traffic that AT&T paid.

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## Broadband

- The USDA [announced](#) on November 5, 2019, it invested \$4.2 million in high-speed broadband infrastructure that will create or improve rural e-connectivity for rural households and farms in Oklahoma. The funding is through the [USDA's ReConnect pilot program](#) and Oklahoma Western Telephone will use this funding to deploy a FTTH broadband network capable of simultaneous transmission rates of 100 Mbps or greater. The funded service areas include 312 households and 20 farms.
- The USDA [announced](#) on November 6, 2019, it invested \$23.7 million in high-speed broadband infrastructure that will create or improve rural e-connectivity for 8,749 rural households in North Carolina. The funding is through the [USDA's ReConnect pilot program](#) and Star Telephone Membership Corporation will use this funding to deploy a FTTH broadband network capable of simultaneous transmission rates of 100 Mbps or greater. The funded service area also includes 19 businesses, 10 educational facilities, and three critical community facilities.
- Chairman Pai sent a [letter](#) to Rep. Mike Quigley (D- Ill.) on November 1, 2019, in response to his [letter](#) on equipment rental fees for broadband service. Pai said with respect to jurisdiction over fees for equipment, the FCC does not regulate the fees charged and such matters lie within the purview of other agencies, such as the FTC, but it does require broadband Internet access providers to disclose their commercial terms of service, including prices for services. Pai said informal complaints received by the FCC raising potentially unfair or deceptive billing practices by ISPs have been referred to the FTC.
- The FCC issued a [public notice](#) on November 6, 2019, to announce the reauthorization of the Intergovernmental Advisory Committee and to solicit nominations for membership on the IAC. The mission of the IAC is to provide advice to the FCC on telecommunications issues, including broadband, which affect local, state and Tribal governments that are within the jurisdiction of the FCC. The term of operations for the reauthorized IAC will be limited to two years and will commence with its first meeting. Nominations for membership are due by December 6, 2019.
- USTelecom, ITTA, WISPA and AT&T, CenturyLink, Verizon, Consolidated and Frontier [met with](#) Chairman Pai's rural broadband advisor and legal advisors to Commissioners Carr and Rosenworcel on November 4 and 5, 2019, to discuss the Digital Opportunity Data Collection proceeding. They suggested the FCC to move forward with an order to implement creation of the Broadband Serviceable

Location Fabric, and recommended the FCC bifurcate the fabric creation from the polygon/reporting portion of the proceeding and adopt an order so that the administrative steps necessary to create the fabric can begin without delay. They said the data set in the fabric could be used to update census block location counts prior to the RDOF Phase I auction, and for other related USF proceedings where location discrepancies have become an issue.

- The [order](#) deleting a subsection of the FCC's rules implementing the small wireless facilities exemption and a cross-reference to that subsection contained elsewhere in the FCC's rules was [published](#) in the Federal Register. The order was issued by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau in response to the [decision](#) by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit that vacated those portions of the FCC's March 2018 [second report and order](#) exempting certain small wireless facilities from federal environmental and historic preservation review. The Bureau said as a result of the court's decision deployments of small wireless facilities are subject to the federal environmental and historic preservation review to the same extent as larger wireless facilities. The order is effective December 5, 2019.
- The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and the Wireline Competition Bureau issued an [order](#) on November 8, 2019, partially granting a [motion](#) by the National League of Cities, et al. that requested an extension of time to file reply comments on WIA's petitions for [rulemaking](#) and [declaratory ruling](#) regarding section 6409(a) of the Spectrum Act of 2012, and CTIA's [petition for declaratory ruling](#) regarding section 6409 and the rules implementing section 224 of the Communications Act. Replies are now due on November 20, 2019.
- The National League of Cities, the United States Conference of Mayors, et al. filed a [motion](#) on November 4, 2019, requesting an extension of time to file reply comments on WIA's petitions for [rulemaking](#) and [declaratory ruling](#) regarding section 6409(a) of the Spectrum Act of 2012, and CTIA's [petition for declaratory ruling](#) regarding section 6409 and the rules implementing section 224 of the Communications Act. They asserted the record contains at least 30 individual comments, totaling more than 1,700 pages of comments and related exhibits, and requested an extension of time to file reply comments until December 4, 2019.
- The Benton Institute for Broadband and Society released a [report](#) on November 5, 2019, entitled *Broadband for America's Future: A Vision for the 2020s*. The report, authored by Jonathan Sallet, Senior Fellow, suggested federal money should help build future-proof networks in places where people do not have robust broadband choices, and government should ensure middle-mile facilities they fund are open to any broadband provider and that affordable services are among the broadband offerings. It also suggested policymakers should encourage broadband competition to help lower prices, improve services, and spur innovation and the federal government should expand its support to community institutions. [press release](#)
- The State Educational Technology Directors Association released a [report](#) on November 6, 2019, entitled *Broadband Imperative III: Driving Connectivity, Access and Student Success*. The report suggested, among other things, the federal government continue to expand federal funding options to support state, regional and district broadband networks, districts and schools increasing bandwidth capacity to and throughout each campus, and communities in providing access points at anchor institutions, such as libraries and community centers. [press release](#)

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## Open Internet

- The Federal Trade Commission [announced](#) on November 5, 2019, AT&T Mobility [will pay](#) \$60 million to settle litigation with the FTC over allegations that it misled millions of its smartphone customers by charging them for "unlimited" data plans while reducing their data speeds. As part of the settlement, AT&T is prohibited from making any representation about the speed or amount of its mobile data, including that it is "unlimited," without disclosing any material restrictions on the speed or amount of data.

- The Digital Justice Foundation filed a [petition](#) with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on October 31, 2019, seeking a panel rehearing and rehearing en banc, of the October 1, 2019 [decision](#) that upheld most of the FCC's Restoring Internet Freedom [order](#). The DJF asked the court to vacate the order's transparency rule and declare the 2015 transparency rule remains in effect.
- Mozilla filed a [motion](#) with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit on November 5, 2019, to ask for a 28-day extension to file petitions for rehearing and rehearing *en banc* of the October 1, 2019 [decision](#) that upheld most of the FCC's Restoring Internet Freedom [order](#). Mozilla said further time is required for counsel to review the decision, identify potential issues upon which they might seek further review, and research whether the issues satisfy the court's requirements for rehearing or rehearing *en banc*.

## Universal Service

- The [report and order and order on reconsideration](#) that allocated \$950 million in fixed and mobile high-cost universal service support for stage 2 of the Uniendo a Puerto Rico Fund and the Connect USVI Fund in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands was [published](#) in the Federal Register on November 7, 2019. The order is effective December 9, 2019, except for sections 54.313, 54.316, 54.1503, 54.1505, 54.1508, and 54.1513 through 54.1515, which are subject to OMB approval.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [public notice](#) on November 7, 2019, to announce the deadline for election to participate in Stage 2 mobile support for the Uniendo a Puerto Rico fund and the Connect USVI Fund is December 9, 2019. Additionally, mobile providers must submit their Disaster Response and Recovery Plans along with their elections for Stage 2 mobile support and must receive Bureau approval of their respective Disaster Recovery and Response Plans prior to authorization to receive Stage 2 support.
- CTIA filed a [letter](#) on November 5, 2019, to assert the impending increase in minimum service standards for mobile wireless data from 2 GB to 8.75 GB, as well as the phase-down in support for voice services, will hinder eligible low-income consumer's ability to choose Lifeline supported mobile wireless services. CTIA suggested the FCC grant its [petition](#) asking the FCC to pause the December 1, 2019 implementation of an increase in the minimum required broadband data usage allowance and the phasedown in support for voice services, consistent with TracFone's proposed modifications.
- The National Lifeline Association and Q Link [met with](#) Chairman Pai's advisor on October 31, 2019, to urge the FCC to grant CTIA, et al.'s [petition](#) that asked the FCC to pause the December 1, 2019 implementation of an increase in the Lifeline minimum required broadband data usage allowance and the phasedown in Lifeline support for voice services. NLA and Q Link also filed a [letter](#) on November 6, 2019, to urge the FCC to grant CTIA, et al.'s [petition](#).
- Consumer Action filed a [letter](#) on November 8, 2019, on the implementation of the December 1, 2019, minimum service standards for Lifeline-supported mobile broadband. CA expressed support for TracFone's [proposal](#) for the FCC to enforce a monthly broadband data allowance of 3 GB beginning December 1 in lieu of the 8.75 GB, but said the increase should be contingent on a commitment by the FCC to freeze the voice subsidy at its current level and take no other steps affecting Lifeline until the state of the Lifeline marketplace report is completed.
- Hewlett Packard Enterprises, Aruba, a Hewlett Packard Enterprise Company, and the Alpine Group [met with](#) Commissioner Carr's advisor on October 30, 2019, to discuss the need for schools and libraries to use E-Rate funds for network security as a necessary component of broadband and internal connections.
- Cisco Systems and Aruba, a Hewlett Packard Enterprise Company [met separately with](#) Advisors to Chairman Pai and Commissioners O'Rielly and Carr on November 4, 2019, Cisco Systems, Inc. to discuss issues related to E-Rate Category Two support. They also reiterated the importance of including advanced network security solutions in the eligible services list for 2020.

- JSI, on behalf of Lakeland Communications Group, filed a [notice of consolidation](#) of Lakeland's commonly-owned study areas in Wisconsin, on November 5, 2019. JSI said the notice of consolidation will be effective January 1, 2020.
- Red Spectrum filed a [supplement](#) on November 7, 2019, to its [petition](#) seeking ETC designation within the exterior boundaries of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation. The supplement provides further clarification and details regarding Red Spectrum's request to be designated as an ETC to offer Tribal Lands Lifeline services to qualifying Tribal residents throughout its Tribal service area, including Tribal Lands Lifeline-Only services in ETC areas outside of the CAF Phase II census block group for which it has been awarded high-cost support.
- SI Wireless filed a [notice of relinquishment](#) of its ETC designation in Tennessee on November 5, 2019, to be effective January 6, 2020. SI said the services it offers are available from other wireline and wireless providers in the Commonwealth so its subscribers will not be unduly harmed as they will be able to transition to new providers and continue to receive Lifeline discounts.
- GCI sent a [letter](#) to the Managing Director and the Wireline Competition Bureau Chief at the FCC and the Office of Management and Budget on November 6, 2019, to urge the Commission to issue a public notice suspending the effective date of the rules adopted in the Promoting Telehealth in Rural America [order](#). GCI asserted the Federal Register [summary](#) failed to identify every proposed information collection in the order that is subject to review and approval under the PRA. It recommended the Commission immediately issue a public notice stating that the rules adopted in the order will not go into effect on November 12, 2019, providing time for the Commission to evaluate all adopted requirements and identify all that require OMB approval.

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## Misc.

- The FCC issued a [memorandum opinion and order, declaratory ruling, and order of proposed modification](#) ([news release](#)) on November 5, 2019, which approved, with conditions, the transfer of control applications filed by T-Mobile and Sprint. The FCC found the transaction will help close the digital divide and advance United States leadership in 5G. The FCC said T-Mobile and Sprint have committed within three years to deploy 5G service to cover 97% of the American people, and within six years to reach 99% of all Americans, and includes deploying 5G service to cover 85% of rural Americans within three years and 90% of rural Americans within six years. The FCC also found the transaction would not harm competition, would enhance competition in rural America, and that the parties' divestiture of Boost Mobile would address the potential for reduced competition for price-conscious consumers in urban areas. The FCC also proposed modification to construction deadlines related to DISH licenses, which would facilitate the implementation of certain measures in the Department of Justice's consent decree.
- The FCC [rescheduled](#) the November 19, 2019 [Open Meeting](#) to November 22, 2019. The FCC will consider seven items, including a [report and order, FNPRM, and order](#) that would ensure that USF support is not used to purchase equipment or services from companies posing a national security threat to the integrity of communications networks or the communications supply chain, and a [NPRM](#) on updating its unbundling and resale rules to reflect the marketplace realities of intermodal voice and broadband competition.
- INCOMPAS [spoke with](#) Chairman Pai and his advisor on November 1 and 4, 2019, to express opposition to the draft [NPRM](#) on updating the FCC unbundling and resale rules, which will be considered at the FCC's November 22, 2019 Open Meeting. It said its opposition is consistent with its previous filings in the USTelecom forbearance petition proceeding (WC docket no. 18-141), wherein INCOMPAS asserted the current regime enables and promotes broadband deployment by both competitors and incumbents. It asked that the FCC pause further consideration of these issues.
- The FCC's Office of Economics and Analysis filed a [letter](#) on November 4, 2019, to enter into the supply chain docket, excerpts from an August 2019 report from the Dell'Oro Group entitled *Mobile RAN*

*Quarterly Report 2Q2019*. The OEA said because the report is not available to the public without a fee, it is submitting into the record the portions relevant to this proceeding, with the author's approval.

- Chairman Pai sent [letters](#) to Sens. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Tom Cotton (R-Ark.) on October 30, 2019, to respond to their [letter](#) expressing concern on the FCC's legacy authorizations to Chinese state-owned telecommunications companies operating in the United States. Pai said the FCC denied China Mobile USA's application earlier this year and said he has directed the International Bureau to review existing authorizations held by other Chinese state-owned telecommunications companies.
- NTCA filed a [letter](#) on November 8, 2019, on the supply chain [draft report and order](#), which will be considered at the FCC's November 22, 2019 Open Meeting. NTCA suggested the FCC either: defer the effective date of the prospective ban until financial assistance for removal and replacement is available; or permit at least limited support and maintenance activities and use of spares and patches to address covered equipment failures pending the availability of financial assistance for removal and replacement. It said, alternatively, the FCC should clarify that, as long as an operator can reasonably show that it utilized resources other than USF support to pay for basic support and maintenance efforts and use of spares and patches, such activities will be permitted.
- ATIS [announced](#) on November 6, 2019, the launch of a new working group to extend the development of 5G best practices and guidelines for the purpose of creating supply chain standards that can be operationalized in the public and private sectors.
- The Rural Wireless Association filed a [letter](#) on November 4, 2019, to express concern with the portion of the supply chain [draft report and order](#) stating the Commission intends to prohibit USF recipients from using USF funds to maintain, improve, modify, or otherwise support equipment or services provided by covered companies. RWA asserted there are legitimate concerns associated with the proposal to extend the prohibition to include basic maintenance of currently operational 3G and 4G/LTE mobile wireless networks. RWA suggested the Commission consider instituting some type of services or network maintenance testing program, similar to the FCC's existing device certification regime. RWA also [met separately with](#) advisors to Commissioners Starks and O'Rielly and Rosenworcel, and Wireline Competition Bureau staff on November 5 and 6, 2019, to discuss the impact of the supply chain [draft report and order](#) on its members that have deployed Huawei and ZTE equipment and who are also reliant on USF support to maintain and support their existing wireless network.
- Huawei filed a [written ex parte](#) on November 8, 2019, to submit a rebuttal report to a report the FCC referenced in its draft supply chain [draft report and order](#). Huawei asserted it previously submitted expert law reports on Chinese laws and claimed the FCC's proposal does not examine these reports.
- Huawei filed a written [ex parte](#) on November 1, 2019, to provide a report that analyzes how security is addressed in 5G standards. Huawei asserted the proposed rule prohibiting the use of universal funds for the purchase of equipment or services from providers identified as a national security risk would cause harm to carriers, especially those in rural or remote areas.
- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [public notice](#) on November 7, 2019, to announce the opening of docket no. 19-309, entitled Modernizing Suspension and Debarment Rules. The FCC will consider an [NPRM](#) in this docket at its November 22, 2019 Open Meeting.
- The FCC issued four public safety and telehealth [reports](#) from its Intergovernmental Advisory Committee on November 7, 2019 on multilingual alerts, plans for alert initiation, disaster resiliency, and clearing the way for telemedicine. The Commission said the reports aim to assist state, local, Tribal, and territorial officials and other stakeholders by offering recommendations and best practices to improve emergency alerting, bolster communications reliability during disasters, and promote the use of telemedicine
- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [public notice](#) on November 6, 2019, seeking comment on a section 214 application filed by James A. Smith, Timothy J. Smith, and Oregon Telephone Corporation, requesting consent to transfer control of Helix Telephone from James A. Smith and Timothy J. Smith to

OTC. James A. Smith and Timothy J. Smith each hold 50% of the stock of Helix. Comments are due November 20, 2019; reply comments are due November 27, 2019.

- Comments were filed on November 6, 2019, on the [NPRM](#) proposing procedural changes that would streamline certain FCC administrative hearings. The [New Civil Liberties Alliance](#) said the Commission should advance a rule that permits regulated parties to voluntarily waive their right to full hearings on their own initiative and only then adjudicate by written record—instead of mandating such an approach. [NCTA](#) suggested the Commission, among other things, expand the use of written hearings but continue to use live hearings when doing so would serve the interests of justice and continue to rely on ALJs as presiding officers in all hearings. The [Administrative Conference of the United States](#) suggested the Commission consult its publication *entitled Federal Administrative Adjudication Outside the Administrative Procedures Act* and its recently revised *Model Adjudication Rules* as additional resources in this proceeding. Replies are due November 21, 2019. [FR](#)
- The Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [public notice](#) on November 7, 2019, granting Jive Communications application for authorization to obtain NANP telephone numbers directly from the numbering administrators for its iVoIP service. This proceeding will be closed 60 days from the date of this public notice if there are no further filings.
- The Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau issued three orders on November 5, 2019, addressing slamming complaints against Telplex Communications. In the first [order](#), the Bureau found Telplex changed complainant's telecommunications service providers without obtaining authorization and verification from the complainant. In the other [two orders](#), the Bureau found Telplex responded fully to and took action to resolve the complaints.
- Commissioner Starks [announced](#) on November 6, 2019, Austin Bonner has joined his office as a legal advisor, covering wireline and public safety issues. Bonner was formerly an associate with the law firm of Harris, Wiltshire and Grannis.

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## Upcoming Filing Dates

- Nov. 12 - Comments due on a [petition for waiver](#) filed by Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of Stanton, Iowa, of sections 51.917(b)(1), and 51.917(b)(7), to modify access rate bands and charges and 2011 base period revenue requirements. Replies are due November 22, 2019. [public notice](#)
- Nov. 14 - PRA comments due on a new information collection associated with the 833 code toll-free number auction. The FCC seeks comment on the letters of authorization in order to verify the relationship between the responsible organization and the potential subscriber, and on collecting data on secondary market transactions. [notice](#)
- Nov. 15 - Replies due on improving the FCC form 470 drop-down menu. Form 470 is used by E-Rate program applicants use to solicit bids from service providers for E-Rate eligible services. [public notice](#)
- Nov. 18 - Comments due on the establishment of a computer matching program the FCC and USAC will conduct with agencies from the States of South Carolina, Virginia, and Washington to verify the eligibility of applicants to and subscribers of the Lifeline program. [notice](#)
- Nov. 19 - Comments due on Inter-Community Telephone's [petition for waiver](#) of certain Part 51 rules to recalculate the rate bands and charges for local switching, tandem switching and dedicated transport services for two commonly owned study areas in North Dakota, ICTC and Absaraka Cooperative Telephone. [public notice](#)
- Nov. 20 - Comments due on a section 214 application filed by James A. Smith, Timothy J. Smith, and Oregon Telephone Corporation, requesting consent to transfer control of Helix Telephone from James A. Smith and Timothy J. Smith to OTC. Reply comments are due November 27, 2019. [public notice](#)



- Nov. 20 - Replies due on WIA's petitions for [rulemaking](#) and [declaratory ruling](#) regarding section 6409(a) of the Spectrum Act of 2012, and CTIA's [petition for declaratory ruling](#) regarding section 6409 and the rules implementing section 224 of the Communications Act. [public notice, order](#)
- Nov. 21 - Replies due on the [NPRM](#) proposing procedural changes that would streamline certain FCC administrative hearings. [FR](#)
- Nov. 22 - Replies due on a [petition for waiver](#) filed by Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of Stanton, Iowa, of sections 51.917(b)(1), and 51.917(b)(7), to modify access rate bands and charges and 2011 base period revenue requirements. [public notice](#)
- Nov. 22 - Comments due on the [15<sup>th</sup> Broadband Deployment Report Notice of Inquiry](#) that initiates the next annual assessment of the availability of advanced telecommunications capability to all Americans in a reasonable and timely fashion. Replies are due December 9, 2019.
- Nov. 22 - Comments due on the [FNPRM](#) on proposals to amend the FCC's schedule of regulatory fees for FY 2020. Reply comments are due December 23, 2019. [FR](#)
- Nov. 27 - Replies due on a section 214 application filed by James A. Smith, Timothy J. Smith, and Oregon Telephone Corporation, requesting consent to transfer control of Helix Telephone from James A. Smith and Timothy J. Smith to OTC. [public notice](#)
- Dec. 5 - Comments due on the effectiveness of the FCC's [2012 tribal engagement further guidance](#), steps the FCC can take to assist parties with their engagement efforts, and refreshing the record on pending petitions for reconsideration that were filed on the tribal engagement obligation reporting. Replies are due January 6, 2020. [public notice](#)
- Dec. 9 - Replies due on the [15<sup>th</sup> Broadband Deployment Report Notice of Inquiry](#) that initiates the next annual assessment of the availability of advanced telecommunications capability to all Americans in a reasonable and timely fashion.
- Dec. 16 - PRA comments due on a revision of a currently approved information collection associated with the [urban rates survey](#). [notice](#)
- Dec. 16 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with section 69.123, density pricing zone plans. [notice](#)
- Dec. 23 - Replies due on the [FNPRM](#) on proposals to amend the FCC's schedule of regulatory fees for FY 2020. [FR](#)
- Dec 24 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with FCC Form 833, application to participate in a toll-free number auction. [FR](#)
- Dec. 24 - PRA comments due on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with numbering resource optimization- phase 3. [FR](#)
- Jan. 6 - Replies due on the effectiveness of the FCC's [2012 tribal engagement further guidance](#), steps the FCC can take to assist parties with their engagement efforts, and refreshing the record on pending petitions for reconsideration that were filed on the tribal engagement obligation reporting. [public notice](#)

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