



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 06-1184
Released: June 2, 2006

IOWA TELECOM SERVICES, INC. SEEKS FORBEARANCE FROM OR WAIVER OF THE COMMISSION'S UNIVERSAL SERVICE RULES TO PERMIT IT TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT UNDER THE HIGH-COST MECHANISM FOR NON-RURAL CARRIERS

PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 05-337

Comments Due: July 3, 2006

Reply Comments Due: July 18, 2006

By this public notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on two petitions filed on May 8, 2006, by Iowa Telecom Services, Inc. (Iowa Telecom).¹ In the first petition, Iowa Telecom requests forbearance, pursuant to Section 10 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, from enforcement of Sections 36.01-631, 54.305, 54.309, 54.313, and 54.314 of the Commission's rules to the extent necessary to permit Iowa Telecom to be eligible for high-cost universal service support under the non-rural high-cost mechanism. In the second petition, Iowa Telecom requests waiver of Sections 36.01-631, 54.305, 54.309, 54.313, and 54.314 of the Commission's rules to the extent necessary to accomplish the same purpose. Iowa Telecom requests that the forbearance or waiver be effective "until such time as the FCC adopts a final successor regime to the *Rural Task Force Order* that allows rural price cap carriers such as Iowa Telecom to receive loop support based on its network's forward-looking economic costs."²

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using: (1) the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing

¹ *Iowa Telecom Petition for Interim Waiver of the Commission's Universal Service High-Cost Loop Support Mechanism*, WC Docket No. 05-337 (filed May 8, 2006) (Iowa Telecom Forbearance Petition); *Iowa Telecom Petition for Interim Waiver of the Commission's Universal Service High-Cost Loop Support Mechanism*, WC Docket No. 05-337 (filed May 8, 2006) (Iowa Telecom Waiver Petition).

² Iowa Telecom Forbearance Petition, at 1; Iowa Telecom Waiver Petition, at 1; *see also Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Fourteenth Report and Order and Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, *Multi-Association Group (MAG) Plan for Regulation of Interstate Services of Non-Price Cap Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers*, CC Docket No. 00-256, Report and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 11244 (2001) (*Rural Task Force Order*).

System (ECFS), (2) the Federal Government's eRulemaking Portal, or (3) by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/> or the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the website for submitting comments.
- For ECFS filers, if multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

The Commission's contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

You may submit comments, identified by the above noted docket number, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Federal Communications Commission's Web Site: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- People with Disabilities: Contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.) by e-mail: FCC504@fcc.gov or phone: 202-418-0530 or TTY: 202-418-0432.

In addition, one copy of each pleading must be sent to each of the following:

- (1) The Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, www.bcpweb.com; phone: (202) 488-5300 fax: (202) 488-5563; and
- (2) Antoinette Stevens, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-B521, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: antoinette.stevens@fcc.gov.

Filings and comments are also available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. They may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CYB402, Washington, D.C. 20554, telephone: (202) 488-5300, fax: (202) 488-5563, or via e-mail www.bcpweb.com.

This matter shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.³ Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentations must contain summaries of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented generally is required.⁴ Other rules pertaining to oral and written *ex parte* presentations in permit-but-disclose proceedings are set forth in section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules.⁵

For further information, please contact Ted Burmeister at (202) 418-7389.

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³47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

⁴*See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).

⁵47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).