

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Implementation of Pay Telephone)	
Reclassification and Compensation)	
Provisions of the Telecommunications)	
Act of 1996)	CC Docket No. 96-128
)	
Petition for Rulemaking or, in the)	
Alternative, Petition to Address Referral)	
Issues in Pending Rulemaking)	

ORDER

Adopted: March 21, 2007

Released: March 21, 2007

Revised Filing Dates:

Comments Due: May 2, 2007

Reply Comments Due: May 23, 2007

By the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau:

1. On March 1, 2007, Martha Wright, *et al.* (Petitioners) filed an alternative rulemaking proposal¹ asking the Commission to establish benchmark rates for long distance prison inmate calling services as an alternative to the approach the Petitioners previously proposed in an earlier petition for rulemaking.² On March 2, 2007, the Commission established a pleading cycle for comments on the Alternative Proposal.³

2. On March 20, 2007, the Ad Hoc Coalition for the Right to Communicate, the Innocence Project, and the Sentencing Project (Interested Parties) filed a Joint Motion to Extend Time to File Public Comments.⁴ In support of its motion, the Interested Parties explain that the current deadline does not allow enough time for them to collect information from their numerous members to adequately comment.⁵ In addition, the Interested Parties believe that an extension of time will best serve the public

¹ Implementation of the Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Petitioners' Alternative Rulemaking Proposal, CC Docket No. 96-128 (filed Mar. 1, 2007) (Alternative Proposal).

² Implementation of the Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Petition for Rulemaking or, in the Alternative, Petition to Address Referral Issues in Pending Rulemaking, CC Docket No. 96-128 (filed Nov. 3, 2003).

³ *Comment Sought on Alternative Rulemaking Proposal Regarding Issues Related to Inmate Calling Services*, Public Notice, CC Docket No. 96-128, DA 07-961 (WCB rel. Mar. 2, 2007).

⁴ Implementation of Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Joint Motion to Extend Time to File Public Comments, CC Docket No. 96-128 (filed Mar. 20, 2007).

⁵ *Id.* at 3.

interest by allowing a complete and thorough analysis of the complex issues presented in the Alternative Proposal.⁶ Finally, the Interested Parties contend that an extension will not prejudice other parties because the item has not yet been acted on by the Commission. The motion requests that the Commission extend the time for comments by 30 days to May 2, 2007 and the time for reply comments by 36 days to May 23, 2007.⁷

3. We agree that providing additional time to file comments and reply comments will facilitate the development of a more accurate and complete record in this proceeding. We note that it is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted.⁸ Given the numerous parties involved and the complexity of the issues, however, we find that good cause exists to provide all parties an extension of time from April 2, 2007 to May 2, 2007 for filing comments in this proceeding and from April 17, 2007 to May 23, 2007 for filing reply comments in this proceeding.

4. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to section 4(i), 4(j), and 5(c) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j), 155(c), and section 0.91, 0.291, and 1.46 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.291, 1.46, the pleading cycle established in this matter shall be modified as follows:

Comments Due: May 2, 2007

Reply Comments Due: May 23, 2007

5. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Joint Motion to Extend Time to File Public Comments is GRANTED, as set forth herein.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Thomas J. Navin
Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau

⁶ *Id.* at 3-4.

⁷ *Id.* at 1.

⁸ 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).