



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500  
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830  
TTY 202 / 418-2555  
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>  
<ftp.fcc.gov>

DA 08-140

Released: January 22, 2008

## WIRESLINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET APPROVAL OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE RURAL HEALTH CARE PILOT PROGRAM INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS

On November 16, 2007, the Commission adopted the *Universal Service Rural Health Care Pilot Program Selection Order (2007 RHC PP Selection Order)*,<sup>1</sup> which selected 69 organizations to participate in the Rural Health Care Pilot Program (Pilot Program), established by the Commission on September 26, 2006.<sup>2</sup> As a result, selected participants will be eligible to receive funding for up to 85 percent of the costs associated with: (1) the construction of a state or regional broadband networks and the advanced telecommunications and information services provided over those networks; (2) connecting to Internet 2 or National LambdaRail (NLR); and (3) connecting to the public Internet.<sup>3</sup> The *2007 RHC PP Selection Order* also requires selected participants to file certain forms, reports, and related information (the “information collection requirements”) with the Commission and/or the Universal Service Administrative Company.<sup>4</sup>

On December 7, 2007, the Commission requested emergency approval of the information collection requirements from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).<sup>5</sup> On January 17, 2008, the Commission received OMB approval.<sup>6</sup> Filing procedures and instructions for the information collections are detailed in the *2007 RHC PP Selection Order*.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See *Rural Health Care Support Mechanism*, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order, 22 FCC Rcd 20,360 (2007) (*2007 RHC PP Selection Order*).

<sup>2</sup> See *Rural Health Care Support Mechanism*, WC Docket No. 02-60, Order, 21 FCC Rcd 11,111 (2006).

<sup>3</sup> See *2007 RHC PP Selection Order*, 22 FCC Rcd at 20,361, para. 2.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> See *Universal Service – Rural Health Care Program/Rural Health Care Pilot Program*, 72 Fed Reg. 235 (December 7, 2007).

<sup>6</sup> The Commission will also publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing OMB approval of the information collections.

<sup>7</sup> See generally *2007 RHC PP Selection Order*, 22 FCC Rcd 20,360.

For further information, please contact Jennifer Prime, Wireline Competition Bureau, [Jennifer.Prime@fcc.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Prime@fcc.gov), (202) 418-7400.

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