



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 08-2102

Released: September 17, 2008

COMMENT SOUGHT ON STATE OF IOWA PETITION FOR WAIVER OF AND RELIEF FROM E-RATE RULES ON BEHALF OF VICTIMS OF IOWA STORMS AND FLOODS

PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

CC Docket No. 02-6

Comment Date: October 1, 2008

Reply Comment Date: October 8, 2008

On August 21, 2008, the State of Iowa (Iowa) filed a petition for waiver of and relief from rules pertaining to the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism, also known as the E-rate program.¹ In the late spring and summer of 2008, Iowa experienced tornadoes and heavy rainfall that resulted in extensive flooding. Iowa estimates the replacement costs for E-rate eligible services in damaged schools and libraries to be approximately \$3 million.² Iowa requests relief similar to the E-rate program relief that was granted to Hurricane Katrina victims.³ Among other things, Iowa requests that the Commission:

- re-open the Funding Year 2008 FCC Form 471 filing window for all applicants affected by the storms and floods in Iowa;
- allow affected eligible entities to receive 90 percent discounts for reconstruction and/or temporary services;
- waive the technology plan approval requirement for services requested within the window; and
- extend applicable form deadlines for affected entities.⁴

Interested parties may file **comments on or before October 1, 2008** and **reply comments on or before October 8, 2008**. All pleadings are to reference **CC Docket No. 02-6**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.⁵

¹ See Petition for Waiver and Relief of E-Rate Rules on Behalf of Victims of Iowa Storms and Floods, CC Docket No. 02-6 (filed Aug. 22, 2008) (Iowa Petition).

² Iowa Petition at 3.

³ *Id.* at 3; see *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, Rural Health Care Support Mechanism, Lifeline and Link-Up*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 02-6, WC Docket Nos. 02-60, 03-109, Order, 20 FCC Red 16883, 16904 (2005).

⁴ Iowa Petition at 5-6.

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. 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).

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 5B-521, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: antoinette.stevens@fcc.gov; and
- (3) Anita Cheng, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W. Room 5-A445, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: anita.cheng@fcc.gov.

⁵ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998).

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.⁶ 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.⁷ 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.⁸

For further information, please contact Anita Cheng, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at 202-418-7400 or TTY (202) 418-0484.

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⁶ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

⁷ *See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).

⁸ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).