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FCC ANNOUNCES EFFECTIVE DATE OF RULES EXTENDING OUTAGE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS TO INTERCONNECTED VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL SERVICES

PS Docket No. 11-82

On February 21, 2012, the Commission released a *Report and Order* in PS Docket No. 11-82 (*VoIP Outage Order*)¹ in which the Commission extended the outage reporting requirements of Part 4 of its rules² to interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) services. The *VoIP Outage Order* states that the Commission will make the reporting rules effective 90 days after the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approves the information collection and will notify providers of the exact date by public notice after it receives the approval of OMB.³ A summary of the *VoIP Outage Order* was published in the Federal Register on April 27, 2012.⁴ OMB approved the information collection on September 17, 2012.⁵ A summary of the expanded information collection was published in the Federal Register on May 3, 2012.⁶ OMB approval of the expanded information collection was published in the Federal Register on October 17 2012.⁷ Accordingly, the effective date of the rules adopted in the *VoIP Outage Order* is December 16, 2012. The Commission will begin accepting reports of VoIP service outages on December 17, 2012.

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¹ The Proposed Extension of Part 4 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Outage Reporting to Interconnected Voice Over Internet Protocol Service Providers and Broadband Internet Service Providers, PS Docket No. 11-82, Report and Order, 27 FCC Rcd 2650 (2012).

² 47 C.F.R. Part 4.

³ See VoIP Outage Order, 27 FCC Rcd at 2673, para. 57.

⁴ See 77 Fed. Reg. 25088 (Apr. 27, 2012).

⁵ Notice of Office of Management and Budget Action, OMB Control No. 3060-0484 approved (Sept. 17, 2012). OMB approved a revision of a currently approved collection. *Id*.

⁶ See 77 Fed. Reg. 26278 (May 3, 2012).

⁷ See 77 Fed. Reg. 63757 (Oct. 17, 2012).