



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 13-1677
Released: July 31, 2013

COMMENT DEADLINES EXTENDED IN SPECIAL ACCESS PROCEEDING

WC Docket No. 05-25
RM-10593

New Comment Date: March 19, 2014
New Reply Comment Date: April 30, 2014

On December 11, 2012, the Commission adopted a Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking requiring providers and purchasers of special access and certain entities providing “best efforts” service to submit data and information for a comprehensive evaluation of the special access market.¹ In the Further Notice, the Commission sought comment on possible changes to its rules for granting pricing flexibility for the special access services provided by incumbent local exchange carriers in price cap areas; parties were expected to provide comments on rule changes after the Commission collected data for the market analysis.² The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) is working diligently to implement the collection, which is contingent on the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) approval per the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA).³ The Bureau expects to begin collecting data towards the end of this year or early next year after OMB approval is received.

Collection of the data is necessary before parties can comment on the questions posed in the Further Notice. Accordingly, we extend the deadline for filing comments and reply comments so that

¹ See *Special Access for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers; AT&T Corporation Petition for Rulemaking to Reform Regulation of Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier Rates for Interstate Special Access Services*, WC Docket No. 05-25, RM-10593, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 27 FCC Rcd 16318 (2012) (Further Notice).

² *Id.* at 16352, para. 80. Comments were due August 19, 2013; reply comments were due September 30, 2013. See *Special Access for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers; AT&T Corporation Petition for Rulemaking to Reform Regulation of Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier Rates for Interstate Special Access Services*, 78 Fed. Reg. 2600 (Jan. 11, 2013).

³ Since the release of the Further Notice, the Bureau has met with industry about the adopted questions and received comments during the initial phase of PRA review, which concluded on April 15, 2013. See *Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission, Comments Requested*, 78 Fed. Reg. 9911 (Feb. 12, 2013). The Bureau also released a Public Notice on June 28, 2013, seeking comment on a draft Protective Order for handling confidential information obtained by the collection. See *Wireline Competition Bureau Seeks Comment on Protective Order for Special Access Data Collection*, WC Docket No. 05-25, RM 10593, Public Notice, DA 13-1470 (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. June 28, 2013). Those comments were due on July 29, 2013. *Id.*

parties may prepare their comments after the data are collected and made available for review.⁴ The new comment date is March 19, 2014, and the new reply comment date is April 30, 2014.

For further information regarding this proceeding, contact William Layton, Pricing Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 202-418-0868 or William.Layton@fcc.gov.

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⁴ 47 C.F.R. § 0.91(m).