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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES AVAILABLILTY OF CONNECT AMERICA FUND PHASE II WEBINAR RECORDINGS

WC Docket No. 10-90

As a part of its open, transparent and deliberative process to implement Connect America Fund Phase II (Phase II), ¹ the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) presented three webinars about Phase II to state public utility commissions on September 11, 12, and 25, 2013. The Bureau posted the staff presentations associated with the webinars on the Commission's website last month. ² Today, the Bureau announces that audio recordings for all three webinars are available at http://www.usac.org/hc/about/outreach/online-learning.aspx.

The first webinar, titled "Connect America Phase II: Update on Implementation," provides an overview of Phase II and the Bureau's progress in implementing Phase II.

The second webinar, titled "Connect America Cost Model Overview," addresses the Connect America Fund Phase II cost model. The webinar provides an overview of the model, the resources available to better understand the model, and information on how to access the model.

¹ Connect America Fund Phase II will provide ongoing support to areas served by price cap carriers, including areas currently lacking broadband-capable infrastructure, using "a combination of a forward-looking broadband cost model and competitive bidding." *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 26 FCC Rcd 17663, 17673-74, paras. 23-25 (2011), *pets. for review pending sub nom. In re: FCC 11-161*, No. 11-9900 (10th Cir. filed Dec. 8, 2011).

² See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Availability of Staff Presentations Regarding Connect America Phase II, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, DA 13-1919 (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. Sept. 17, 2013); Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Availability of Additional Staff Presentation Regarding Connect America Fund Phase II, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, DA 13-2015 (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. Sept. 30, 2013). These staff presentations were also submitted into the record in WC Docket No. 10-90. See Letter from Michael J. Jacobs, Legal Advisor to the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Sept. 17, 2013); Letter from Michael J. Jacobs, Legal Advisor to the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Sept. 30, 2013).

The third webinar, titled "Connect America Fund Phase II Challenge Process," describes the process by which parties can challenge whether an area is served by an unsubsidized competitor for purposes of determining eligible areas for Phase II funding.³

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).

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³ See Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90, Report and Order, 28 FCC Rcd 7211 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2013) (adopting the framework for the Phase II challenge process).