Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 13-2285

Release Date: November 27, 2013

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU REMINDS PARTIES OF DEADLINES FOR FILING OPPOSITIONS AND REPLIES REGARDING THE ALASKA COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS APPLICATION FOR REVIEW OF PARAGRAPH 41 OF THE CONNECT AMERICA PHASE II SERVICE OBLIGATIONS ORDER

WC Docket No. 10-90

Oppositions Due: December 11, 2013

Replies to Oppositions Due: December 23, 2013

On October 31, 2013, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) released the *Connect America Phase II Service Obligations Order*, which adopted service obligation for price cap carriers that accept Connect America Fund Phase II support, and specified the metrics that will be used to determine if an area will be considered "served by an unsubsidized competitor" and therefore ineligible for Phase II support. On November 26, 2013, Alaska Communications Systems (ACS) filed an application for review of one aspect of the *Connect America Phase II Service Obligations Order*. Specifically, ACS requests that the Commission reverse or, in the alternative, stay the Bureau's statement in paragraph 41 of in the *Connect America Phase II Service Obligations Order* that it would entertain challenges from any competitive eligible telecommunications carrier that otherwise meets or exceeds the performance obligations established by that order and whose high-cost support is scheduled to be eliminated during the five-year term of Phase II.

Pursuant to the Commission's rules,⁴ oppositions shall be filed within 15 days after the application for review is filed and replies to oppositions shall be filed within 10 days after the opposition is filed. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).⁵

¹ Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90, Report and Order, DA 13-2115 (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. Oct. 31, 2013) (Connect America Phase II Service Obligations Order).

² Alaska Communications Systems, Application for Review of the Wireline Competition Bureau Decision in the October 31, 2013 FCC Report and Order, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Nov. 26, 2013) (Application for Review).

³ See Connect America Phase II Service Obligations Order, at para. 41.

⁴ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.115.

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

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy 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. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of <u>before</u> 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 must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington DC 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).

Additional Copies. In addition, we request that you send one copy of each pleading to each of the following:

- (1) Alexander Minard, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-B442, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: Ryan.Yates@fcc.gov; and
- (2) Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-A452, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: mailto:Charles.Tyler@fcc.gov.

The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules. Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be

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⁶ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 et seq.

found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (*e.g.*, .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

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