



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Timeline for Completion of Urban Rates Survey

WC Docket No. 10-90

On April 3, 2013, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) adopted an Order setting the form and content for a survey of urban rates for fixed voice and fixed broadband residential services, required by the *USF/ICC Transformation Order*.¹ The information collected in this survey will be used to establish a rate floor for voice services that eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) receiving high-cost loop support (HCLS) or frozen high-cost support must meet to receive their full support amounts, and to develop benchmarks to help evaluate whether rates for fixed voice and broadband services in rural areas are reasonably comparable to offerings in urban areas.

To obtain statistically valid samples, the Bureau will be collecting the rates offered by providers of fixed services identified using the most recent FCC Form 477 data in 500 urban Census tracts. There will be separate samples for fixed voice and fixed broadband services. Because some providers serve many urban Census tracts, these providers may receive surveys for multiple Census tracts.

Notifications that a provider is required to complete a survey will be sent via email to each selected provider's FCC Form 477 contact person and certifying official on or around **December 16, 2013**. The survey consists of an online reporting form which will be accessible only to the selected providers. The email notification will provide detailed information on how to access and complete the survey online report form and how to obtain technical assistance. Completed surveys will be due on **January 17, 2014**.

Additional information on the urban rates survey, including the orders referenced in this Public Notice, can be found on the Commission's urban rate survey webpage at <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/urban-rate-survey-data>. Specific questions regarding the urban rates survey should be sent to UrbanRateSurvey@fcc.gov. You can also contact the Industry Analysis and Technology Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, by calling (202) 418-0940, (202) 418-0484 (tty). For additional information about this Public Notice, please contact Jay Schwarz at (202) 418-0948 or Jay.Schwarz@fcc.gov.

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¹ *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Order, 28 FCC Rcd 4242 (Wireline Comp. Bur. and Wireless Telecom. Bur. 2013); see *Connect America Fund; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers; High-Cost Universal Service Support; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Lifeline and Link-Up; Universal Service Reform—Mobility Fund*; WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 07-135, 05-337, 03-109, CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 96-45, GN Docket No. 09-51, WT Docket No. 10-208, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 26 FCC Rcd 17663 (2011)(*USF/ICC Transformation Order*), *pets. for review pending sub nom. In re: FCC 11-161*, No. 11-9900 (10th Cir. argued Nov. 19, 2013).