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

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 14-801

Released: June 11, 2014

NEW FORM 477 FILING INTERFACE WILL BEGIN ACCEPTING DATA AS OF JUNE 30, 2014 ON JULY 31, 2014; DEADLINE TO SUBMIT DATA IS OCTOBER 1, 2014

WC Docket No. 11-10

On June 27, 2013, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) adopted a Report and Order modernizing and improving the collection of data on broadband and voice services through Form 477. The Commission announced its intention to begin collecting data under the revised rules as of June 30, 2014, pending approval of the changes to Form 477 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. OMB approved the Form 477 modifications on June 4, 2014.

The significant changes to Form 477 adopted in the *Form 477 Order* – in particular, the collection of large volumes of fixed and mobile broadband deployment data previously collected by NTIA – necessitated the development of a new Form 477 filing interface. This new interface must be able to accept, process, and validate these data, which include fixed deployment by census block and mobile deployment shapefiles, securely and efficiently. We are currently testing the site to ensure that it meets these expectations and requirements. To allow ample time to complete this testing process and resolve any technical issues, the Commission is adjusting the Form 477 filing window, which typically runs from July 1 to September 1 for data as of June 30 each year. ⁵ Given the ongoing development and testing, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) will delay the filing window for Form 477 data as of June 30, 2014 to open July 31, 2014, with submissions due by October 1, 2014. The later filing deadline will also provide filers with additional time to compile and format their data in accordance with the new requirements.

Interested parties can learn more about the updated Form 477 from information the Bureau has published previously. On August 26, 2013, the Bureau released the Form 477 Data Specification, which provides guidance to filers on the data they will be required to submit in accordance with the *Form 477*

¹ Modernizing the FCC Form 477 Data Program, WC Docket No. 11-10, Report and Order, 28 FCC Rcd 9887 (2013) (Form 477 Order).

² Additional Information for Form 477 Filers on New Data Submission Interface, WC Docket No. 11-10, Public Notice, 29 FCC Rcd 3174 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2014); FCC, Changes Coming to the Form 477 Data Collection, http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/changes-coming-form-477-data-collection.

³ Form 477 Order, 28 FCC Rcd at 9926, para. 89.

⁴ Once an announcement of OMB approval of the modifications to Form 477 has been published in the Federal Register, the information collection requirements in the *Form 477 Order* will become effective. *See id.* at 9927, para. 95.

⁵ FCC Form 477 Instructions, Section IV.A., *available at* http://transition.fcc.gov/form477/inst.htm#hotlink5; http://transition.fcc.gov/form477/.

Order.⁶ The Bureau also, in a March 27, 2014 Public Notice, provided guidance on how filers will submit data using the new filing interface.⁷ The Bureau will make additional resources available to filers – including updated web pages, instructions, systems guide, and frequently asked questions – in advance of the July 31, 2014 launch of the new filing interface. The Bureau also plans to conduct an instructional webinar for filers shortly after that date.

Additional information on the revised Form 477 data collection can be found at http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/changes-coming-form-477-data-collection. For additional information on this proceeding, contact Chelsea Fallon or Ken Lynch of the Industry Analysis and Technology Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418-0940, (202) 418-0484 (tty).

- FCC -

FCC NOTICE REQUIRED BY THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. § 3507), the FCC is notifying the public that it received OMB approval on June 4, 2014 for the collection of information contained in the Commission's rules at 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.7001, 1.7002, 43.01 and 43.11. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is **3060-0816**, expiring on June 30, 2017. The annual reporting burdens for this collection of information, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the required data, and completing and reviewing the collection of information are estimated to be: 2,002 respondents, 387 hours per response, 2 responses per year, for a total annual burden of 1,549,548 hours; there are no annual costs. If you have any comments on this burden estimate, or how we can improve the collection and reduce the burden it causes you, please write to Leslie F. Smith, Federal Communications Commission, Room 1-C216, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC, 20554. Please include the OMB Control Number 3060-0816 in your correspondence. We will also accept your comments regarding the Paperwork Reduction Act aspects of this collection via the Internet if you send them to leslie.smith@fcc.gov or call (202) 418-0217. You may also e-mail your comments to: PRA@fcc.gov.

Under 5 C.F.R. § 1320, an agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act that does not display a currently valid OMB Control Number. This collection has been assigned OMB Control Number 3060-0816.

THE FORGOING NOTICE IS REQUIRED BY THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995, PUBLIC LAW 104-13, OCTOBER 1, 1995, 44 U.S.C. SECTION 3507.

⁶ Wireline Competition Bureau Releases Data Specification for Form 477 Data Collection, WC Docket No. 11-10, Public Notice, 28 FCC Rcd 12665 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2013).

⁷ Additional Information for Form 477 Filers on New Data Submission Interface, WC Docket No. 11-10, Public Notice, 29 FCC Rcd 3174 (Wireline Comp. Bur. 2014).