



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 15-499

Released: April 28, 2015

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON BARCONNECTS, LLC'S PETITION FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER

WC Docket No. 09-197
WC Docket No. 10-90
WC Docket No. 14-259

Comments Due: May 12, 2015
Replies Due: May 19, 2015

The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on a petition filed by BARConnects, LLC (BARConnects).¹ BARConnects seeks designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier for the 64 census blocks in Virginia where BARC Electric Cooperative was provisionally selected as a winning bidder for the rural broadband experiments.² BARConnects is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BARC Electric Cooperative.³

Interested parties may file **comments on or before Tuesday, May 12, 2015**, and **replies on or before Tuesday, May 19, 2015**. All pleadings must reference **WC Docket Nos. 09-197, 10-90, and 14-259**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies.⁴

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties that choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Because more than one docket number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for the additional docket 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.

¹ Petition of BARConnects, LLC for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the Commonwealth of Virginia, WC Docket Nos. 09-197, 10-90, 14-259 (filed Apr. 22, 2015) (BARConnects Petition).

² See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Additional Provisionally Selected Bidders for Rural Broadband Experiments and Sets Deadlines for Submission of Additional Information*, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 14-259, Public Notice, DA 15-288 at Attach. (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. Mar. 4, 2015).

³ BARConnects Petition at 2.

⁴ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- 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 must be disposed of before 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).

All filings must be addressed to the Commission’s Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. Parties should also send a copy of their filings to Heidi Lankau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-B511, Washington D.C. 20554, or by e-mail to Heidi.Lankau@fcc.gov.

Documents are available for public inspection and copying during business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554. Furthermore, the documents may be viewed in and downloaded from ECFS.

The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s ex parte rules.⁵ 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 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 additional information on this proceeding, please contact Heidi Lankau (Heidi.Lankau@fcc.gov) of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-7400.

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⁵ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*