



PUBLIC NOTICE

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**INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING ACCESS CHARGE FILINGS INTRODUCING BROADBAND-
ONLY LOOP SERVICE FOR CARRIERS CONSIDERING ELECTING A-CAM SUPPORT**
WC Docket No. 16-317

This Public Notice provides further instructions to rate-of-return regulated incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs) regarding access charge tariff filings introducing Consumer Broadband-only Loop service. Rate-of-return LECs choosing to offer Consumer Broadband-only Loop service beginning January 3, 2017, whether on a tariffed or detariffed basis, are required to file pertinent access charge tariffs and/or Tariff Review Plan (TRP) worksheets on December 19, 2016 or December 27, 2016, depending on the type of changes proposed.¹

On November 2, 2016, the Wireline Competition Bureau announced that 216 rate-of-return companies had submitted letters electing 274 separate offers of Alternative Connect America Cost Model (A-CAM) support in 43 states.² The Bureau totaled the amount of model-based support for electing carriers and determined that model-based support and transition payments would exceed the overall 10-year budget set by the Commission by more than \$160 million annually.³ The Bureau requested input on what measure or combination of measures should be considered to address the high level of interest in A-CAM model-based support.⁴ The record submitted is currently under consideration.

Because consideration of this record is ongoing, the list of carriers to be authorized to receive A-CAM support will not be finalized in time to prepare for the December filing. Accordingly, all rate-of-return LECs that wish to introduce Consumer Broadband-only Loop service, including those that elected the initial offer of A-CAM support, should prepare and file information assuming that they will be receiving Connect America Fund Broadband Loop Support (CAF BLS) rather than model-based support as of January 1, 2017. We recognize that support will change for those carriers that ultimately are

¹ See *Access Charge Tariff Filings Introducing Broadband-only Loop Service*, Order, Docket No. 16-317, 33 FCC Rcd 11017 (WCB Oct. 6, 2016) (*Broadband-only Loop Service TRP Order*); see also *Access Charge Tariff Filings Introducing Broadband-only Loop Service*, Order on Reconsideration, Docket No. 16-317 (WCB Nov. 4, 2016).

² See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Results of Rate-of-Return Carriers That Accepted Offer of Model Support*, Public Notice, Docket No. 10-90 (WCB Nov. 2, 2016).

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.*

authorized to receive A-CAM support. Further detail regarding the implementation of any requirements for such carriers will be provided once those carriers are authorized to receive such support.⁵

For further information, please contact either Robin Cohn or Douglas Slotten, Pricing Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1540.

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⁵ Because different requirements apply depending on whether a carrier elects CAF BLS or model-based support, rate and/or support adjustments may be appropriate once the elections are finalized. Carriers electing support under the Alaska Plan (see 47 CFR § 54.306) shall implement such elections consistent with receiving such support. *See Connect America Fund et al.*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., 31 FCC Rcd 10139, 10154-55, para. 46 (2016).