

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of
Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by
Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment
WT Docket No. 17-79

ORDER

Adopted: May 26, 2017

Released: May 26, 2017

Revised Comment Date: June 15, 2017

Revised Reply Comment Date: July 17, 2017

By the Acting Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau:

1. By this Order, we grant the Joint Motion filed by CTIA, Competitive Carriers Association, and the Wireless Infrastructure Association (Petitioners) on May 24, 2017, and extend the deadlines for filing comments and reply comments in response to the Wireless NPRM/NOI (in WT Docket No. 17-79) to June 15, 2017, and July 17, 2017, respectively. This will harmonize the pleading cycle of the above captioned proceeding with the pleading cycle established for the Wireline NPRM, NOI, and RFC (in WC Docket No. 17-84).

2. On May 24, 2017, the Petitioners filed their Joint Motion, seeking a brief modification of the pleading cycle of the Wireless NPRM/NOI to match that of the Wireline NPRM, NOI, and RFC. Petitioners request that the pleading cycles of these two proceedings be aligned, so that for both proceedings, comments would be due on June 15, 2017 and reply comments would be due on July 17, 2017. Petitioners contend that a number of factors support their request, including that both proceedings share a common objective to address and remove federal, state, and local regulatory barriers

1 CTIA, Competitive Carriers Association, and the Wireless Infrastructure Association, Joint Motion to Align Comment Dates, WT Docket No. 17-79. (filed May 24, 2017) (Joint Motion).

2 Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Notice of Inquiry, WT Docket No. 17-79, FCC 17-38 (rel. Apr. 21, 2017) (Wireless NPRM/NOI). Dates for filing comments and reply comments for the Wireless NPRM/NOI were set at June 9, 2017 and July 10, 2017, respectively. See Federal Communications Commission, Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, 82 Fed. Reg. 21761 (May 10, 2017).

3 Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Notice of Inquiry, and Request for Comment, FCC 17-37, WT Docket No. 17-84 (rel. Apr. 21, 2017) (Wireline NPRM, NOI, and RFC). Dates for filing comments and reply comments in the Wireline NPRM, NOI, and RFC were set at June 15, 2017 and July 17, 2017, respectively. See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Deadlines for Filing Comments and Reply Comments in the Wireline Infrastructure Proceeding, Public Notice, WC Docket No. 17-84, DA 17-473 (WCB May 16, 2017).

4 Joint Motion at 1.

5 Id.

that impede the deployment of network infrastructure needed to provide high-speed broadband nationwide.”<sup>6</sup> Further, Petitioners assert that “many issues that the Commission raises in the items affect both wireless and wireline providers.”<sup>7</sup> Petitioners argue that “[g]iven the many overlapping questions, issues, and proposals in the two proceedings, unified comment dates will benefit commenters and the Commission.”<sup>8</sup> Petitioners state that the requested extension will permit commenters to respond to issues through a single filing in both dockets, the Commission will receive fewer and more concise filings that can address overlapping issues at one time, and no party will be adversely affected by this modification.<sup>9</sup>

3. Section 1.46 of the Commission’s rules provides that “[i]t is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted.”<sup>10</sup> Upon review, we agree that it is in the public interest to align the pleading cycles of these two proceedings by granting a brief extension of the *Wireless NPRM/NOI* pleading cycle. We find that such an extension of the *Wireless NPRM/NOI* comment and reply comment filing deadlines will allow parties to better consider how these proceedings interrelate, thereby providing the Commission with a more thorough record in each proceeding, and will not cause undue delay to the Commission’s consideration of the issues contained therein.

4. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to sections 4(i), 4(j), 5, and 303(r) of the Communications Act, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j), 155, and 303(r), and sections 0.131, 0.331, 1.46, and 1.415 of the Commission’s rules, 47 CFR §§ 0.131, 0.331, 1.46, and 1.415, that the Joint Motion to Align Comment Dates filed by CTIA, Competitive Carriers Association, and the Wireless Infrastructure Association on May 24, 2017, IS GRANTED, and the deadlines for filing comments and reply comments in response to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and the Notice of Inquiry in WT Docket No. 17-79 are extended to June 15, 2017, and July 17, 2017, respectively.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Neşe Guendelsberger  
Acting Chief  
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

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<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 2.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* at 3.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> 47 CFR § 1.46.