

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

In the Matter of
Bridging the Digital Divide for Low-Income Consumers
WC Docket No. 17-287

ORDER

Adopted: January 23, 2018

Released: January 23, 2018

By the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau:

1. In this Order, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) grants in part the National Hispanic Media Coalition’s (NHMC) request for an extension of time to file comments and reply comments in response to the 2017 Lifeline Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) and Notice of Inquiry (NOI) that the Commission adopted on November 16, 2017.1 Based on the record before us, we find that good cause exists to grant a four-week extension of time for commenters to file comments and reply comments in this proceeding.

2. When the Commission released the 2017 Lifeline NPRM and NOI, it initially set deadlines of January 24, 2018 for comments and February 23, 2018 for reply comments.2 On January 17, 2018, NHMC filed a Motion for Extension of Time, requesting an eight-week extension of the comment and reply comment deadlines.3

3. Section 1.46 of the Commission’s rules provides that “[i]t is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time are not routinely granted.”4 We find, however, that there is good cause to extend the due date for filing comments and reply comments in response to the 2017 Lifeline NPRM and NOI. Extending the comment deadline by four weeks will ensure that all parties have adequate time to review and respond to the issues and questions raised in the 2017 Lifeline NPRM and NOI. We expect that this extension will result in a more robust record to inform the Commission’s decision-making. However, we are not persuaded that there exists good cause to grant the full eight-week extension of time requested. We believe that a four-week extension of both the comment period and reply comment period will allow commenters sufficient time to prepare their comments and reply comments without unduly delaying the Commission’s resolution of the issues raised in the 2017 Lifeline NPRM and NOI.

4. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to sections 4(i), 4(j), and 5(c) of the Communications Act, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j), and 155(c), and sections 0.91, 0.291, 1.46 and 1.415 of the Commission’s rules, 47 CFR §§ 0.91, 0.291, 1.46 and 1.415 that the National Hispanic

1 Bridging the Digital Divide for Low-Income Consumers et al., Fourth Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration, Memorandum Opinion and Order, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Notice of Inquiry, WC Docket No. 17-287 et al. (rel. Dec. 1, 2017) (2017 Lifeline NPRM and NOI).

2 Id. at 1.

3 NHMC Motion for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 17-287 et al. at 4 (filed Jan. 17, 2018).

4 47 CFR §1.46.

Media Coalition's Motion for Extension of Time filed on January 17, 2018 IS GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN PART, and the deadline for filing comments in WC Docket No. 17-287 is extended until February 21, 2018, and the deadline for filing reply comments is extended until March 23, 2018.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Kris Anne Monteith
Chief
Wireline Competition Bureau