



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 20-1020

Released: September 3, 2020

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON NECA 2021 MODIFICATION OF THE AVERAGE SCHEDULE COMPANY UNIVERSAL SERVICE HIGH COST LOOP SUPPORT FORMULA

WC Docket No. 05-337

Comment Date: October 5, 2020

Reply Comment Date: October 20, 2020

On August 28, 2020, the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) filed its 2021 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service High Cost Loop Support Formula.¹ The proposed formula, if approved, would take effect on January 1, 2021, and remain in effect through December 31, 2021. The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on the proposed formula.

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, interested parties may file comments on or before the dates indicated above.² All pleadings are to reference **WC Docket No. 05-337**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), or by filing paper copies.³

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.
- Filings can be sent 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.
- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington DC 20554

¹ NECA 2021 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service High-Cost Loop Support Formula, WC Docket No. 05-337 (filed Aug. 28, 2020).

² 47 CFR §§ 1.415, 1.419.

³ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998).

- Effective March 19, 2020, and until further notice, the Commission no longer accepts any hand or messenger delivered filings. This is a temporary measure taken to help protect the health and safety of individuals, and to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19.⁴

In addition, we request that one copy of each pleading be sent to each of the following:

- (1) Abdel Eqab, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, e-mail: Abdel-Hamid.Eqab@fcc.gov; and
- (2) Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, e-mail: Charles.Tyler@fcc.gov.

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).

Availability of Documents. Comments, reply comments, and *ex parte* submissions will be publicly available online via ECFS.⁵

The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.⁶ 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 further information, please contact Abdel Eqab, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-7400 or TTY (202) 418-0484.

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⁴ See *FCC Announces Closure of FCC Headquarters Open Window and Change in Hand-Delivery Policy*, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 2788 (Mar. 19, 2020).

⁵ Documents will generally be available electronically in ASCII, Microsoft Word, and/or Adobe Acrobat.

⁶ 47 CFR §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*