



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 20-1168

Released: October 06, 2020

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON TWO TDS TELECOMMUNICATIONS LLC PETITIONS FOR WAIVER OF SECTION 54.316 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES

WC Docket No. 14-58

Comment Date: October 21, 2020

Reply Comment Date: November 5, 2020

The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on two petitions filed by TDS Telecommunications LLC (TDS Telecom) requesting waiver of section 54.316 of the Commission's rules, to the extent necessary, to enable TDS Telecom to demonstrate compliance with its Connect America Fund Alternative Connect America Cost Model (A-CAM) buildout obligations.¹ In the TDS California Waiver Petition, TDS Telecom seeks waiver of the first interim deployment milestone for its A-CAM related service obligations in California until July 1, 2021.² In the TDS Waiver Petition, TDS Telecom seeks waiver of the Commission's rules to allow it to count towards its buildout milestones locations to which TDS Telecom alleges it previously deployed broadband but failed to report to the Universal Service Administrative Company through the High Cost Universal Broadband portal.³

Filing Requirements. Interested parties may file comments on or before the date indicated on the first page of this document.⁴ All filings must refer to **WC Docket No. 14-58**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).⁵

- 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.

¹ California Petition of TDS Telecommunications for Waiver of Section 54.316 of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 10-90, et al., CC Docket 01-92 (filed Sep. 30, 2020) (TDS California Waiver Petition) <https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/10930987110926/Final%20-%20Redacted%20-%20TDS%20Telecom%20-%20California%20Waiver%20Request%209-30-20.pdf>, Petition of TDS Telecommunications LLC for Waiver of Section 54.316 of the Commission's Rules, WC Docket No. 10-90, et al., CC Docket 01-92 (filed Oct. 1, 2020) (TDS Waiver Petition) <https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/1001187181099/Final%20-%20Public%20-%20Redacted%20-%20TDS%20Telecom%20-%20HUBB%20Waiver%20Request%2010-1-2020.pdf>; 47 CFR § 54.316.

² TDS California Waiver Petition at 1.

³ TDS Waiver Petition at 1-2.

⁴ See 47 CFR §§ 1.2, 1.405, and 1.419.

⁵ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- 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.
- 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-19.⁶

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 & Government Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice, 202-418-0432 (tty)).

Ex Parte Rules. This proceeding shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.⁷ 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 presenters 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 section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules. In proceedings governed by section 1.49(f) of the rules 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).⁸ Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

Additional Information. For further information regarding this Notice, please contact Brian Cruikshank, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at Brian.Cruikshank@fcc.gov.

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⁶ See *FCC Announces Closure of FCC Headquarters Open Window and Change in Hand-Delivery Policy*, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 2788 (Mar. 19, 2020), <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-closes-headquarters-open-window-and-changes-hand-delivery-policy>.

⁷ See 47 CFR §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

⁸ *Id.* § 1.1206(b).