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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES THE AUGUST 23, 2022 OPENING OF THE ELAP PARTICIPANT REPLY FILING WINDOW

WC Docket No. 10-90

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) announces the opening of a 30day reply period for the Eligible Locations Adjustment Process (ELAP), beginning **Tuesday, August 23, 2022, 12:01 AM ET and ending Friday, September 22, 2022, 11:59 PM ET**. During this reply period, Connect America Fund (CAF) Phase II auction support recipients participating in the ELAP (Participants) whose ELAP information has been challenged by a registered stakeholder may access and review all certified information submitted by that stakeholder and submit additional information opposing the challenge.¹

If a Participant does not oppose the stakeholder challenge, the Participant need not submit any additional information during this reply period. We emphasize, however, that a Participant will not have an additional opportunity after the end of the reply period to address any of the stakeholder's information.² If a Participant chooses to submit a reply, it must submit a location data file that indicates the specific challenged locations that the Participant will address in its reply. It must also submit either a methodology file or one or more evidence files that addresses the eligibility of the referenced location(s) but may submit both. Participants must certify, under penalty of perjury, the truth and accuracy of information submitted in the reply.³

Participants must submit replies using the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) ELAP module at https://forms.universalservice.org/portal/login.

An ELAP Participant Reply Guide is available for download at: https://www.usac.org/high-cost/funds/caf-phase-ii-auction/eligible-locations-adjustment-process-elap/.

For technical questions, directly contact USAC at elap@usac.org or at (844) 357-0408.

We remind Participants that all Stakeholder information submitted in the ELAP module is presumptively confidential and protected from disclosure and use by the terms and conditions of the

¹ Wireline Competition Bureau Seeks Comment on Procedures to Identify and Resolve Location Discrepancies in Eligible Census Blocks Within Winning Bid Areas, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, 34 FCC Rcd 10395, 10399, 10409-410, paras. 13, 42 (WCB 2019). Participants that have been challenged and that were not previously notified of such challenge will be notified after the closure of the ELAP stakeholder filing window on August 18, 2022 and before the opening of the reply period.

² See id. at 10399, para. 13.

³ See id. at 10400, para. 14.

Bureau's Protective Order.⁴ Participants are also reminded that they are bound by all applicable federal and state restrictions on the disclosure of private and confidential third-party information.⁵

For further information on this Public Notice, please contact Heidi Lankau, <u>Heidi.Lankau@fcc.gov</u>, Divya. Shenoy, <u>Divya.Shenoy@fcc.gov</u>, and/or Nissa Laughner, <u>Nissa.Laughner@fcc.gov</u>, all Attorney Advisors in the Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission.

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⁴ *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Protective Order, 36 FCC Rcd 5605,5608, para. 9 (WCB 2021). Persons seeking access to confidential ELAP information must agree to "use this information solely for the preparation and conduct of [the ELAP] proceeding before the Commission and any subsequent judicial proceeding arising directly from this proceeding and, except as provided [for in the Protective Order],"and "[to] not use such documents or information for any other purpose, including without limitation business, governmental, or commercial purposes, or in other administrative, regulatory or judicial proceedings." *See id.*

⁵ See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the April 1, 2021 Opening of the Connect America Fund Phase II Auction Eligible Locations Adjustment Process, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, 36 FCC Rcd 5612, 5615 (WCB 2021).