

Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500 Internet: <u>www.fcc.gov</u> TTY: 888-835-5322

DA 23-1129 Released: December 4, 2023

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES EFFECTIVE AND COMPLIANCE DATES FOR CERTAIN ACCESS ARBITRAGE RULES

WC Docket No. 18-155

On April 21, 2023, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) released the *Access Arbitrage Second Report and Order* adopting new rules to close perceived loopholes in our Access Stimulation Rules.¹ On June 1, 2023, a summary of the *Access Arbitrage Second Report and Order* was published in the Federal Register, and on July 3, 2023, the rules adopted became effective,² except sections 51.914(d) and 51.914(g), which contain information collections and required approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act.³ The Commission directed the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB) to announce the effective and compliance dates for sections 51.914(d) and 51.914(g) by Public Notice following OMB approval.⁴

On November 7, 2023, OMB approved the information collection requirements associated with the revised Access Stimulation Rules.⁵ By this Public Notice, WCB announces that the notice of OMB approval was published in the Federal Register on December 1, 2023.⁶ The Federal Register notice also added reference to section 51.914(d) in sections 51.914(e) and 51.914(f).⁷ The Federal Register notice announced that the effective date for the changes to section 51.914(d)-(g) is January 2, 2024.⁸ Compliance is required by February 16, 2024.⁹

⁴ Id.

⁷ *Id.* at 83829.

⁸ Id. at 83828.

¹ Updating the Intercarrier Compensation Regime to Eliminate Access Arbitrage, WC Docket No. 18-155, Second Report and Order, FCC 23-31, at 2, para. 3 (Apr. 21, 2023) (Access Arbitrage Second Report and Order).

² FCC, Updating the Intercarrier Compensation Regime to Eliminate Access Arbitrage, 88 Fed. Reg. 35743, 35743 (June 1, 2023).

³ Access Arbitrage Second Report and Order at 54, para. 104.

⁵ Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Reginfo.gov, Notice of Office of Management and Budget Action, OMB Control No. 3060-0298 (Nov. 7, 2023) (referenced in Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Reginfo.gov, OMB Control Number History, OMB Control No. 3060-0298, <u>https://www.reginfo.gov/</u> <u>public/do/PRAOMBHistory?ombControlNumber=3060-0298#</u> (last visited Nov. 30, 2023) (approved without change)).

⁶ FCC, Updating the Intercarrier Compensation Regime to Eliminate Access Arbitrage, 88 Fed. Reg. 83828 (Dec. 1, 2023).

⁹ *Id.*; see Access Arbitrage Second Report and Order at 54, para. 104 (stating that the compliance date will be 45 days after the effective date).

For additional information regarding this matter, please contact Susan Bahr, Wireline Competition Bureau, Pricing Policy Division, at (202) 418-0573 or <u>Susan.Bahr@fcc.gov</u>.

- FCC -