By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) grants, pursuant to delegated authority, the following petitions requesting to extend certain deadlines under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program (Reimbursement Program).

As directed by the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019, as amended (Secure Networks Act), the Commission established the Reimbursement Program to reimburse providers of advanced communications services with ten million or fewer customers for reasonable costs incurred in the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment or services from their networks that pose a national security risk, i.e., communications equipment or services produced or provided by Huawei Technologies Company (Huawei) or ZTE Corporation (ZTE), that were obtained by providers on or before June 30, 2020. The Reimbursement Program is funded by a $1.9 billion congressional appropriation, which is less than the $5.6 billion in collective funds requested by applicants to the program. Because demand exceeded available funding, the Secure Networks Act...
required the Bureau to implement a prioritization scheme where funding was allocated first to approved applicants with 2,000,000 or fewer customers (Priority 1 applicants). Because demand from Priority 1 applicants alone exceeded the congressional appropriation, Commission rules required that allocations to Priority 1 applicants be pro-rated on an equal basis. Consequently, recipients received funding allocations for approximately 39.5% of their reasonable and supported estimated costs for removing, replacing, and disposing of covered communications equipment and services.

Reimbursement Program recipients must complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment and services within one year from the initial disbursement of funds to the recipient. Pursuant to section 4(d)(6)(C) of the Secure Networks Act, the Commission may grant recipients extensions of this term on an individual basis. The Commission delegated authority to the Bureau to grant or deny individual petitions for an extension of a recipient’s term. The Bureau “may grant an extension for up to six months after finding, that due to no fault of such recipient, such recipient is unable to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal by the end of the term” and “may grant more than one extension request to a recipient if circumstances warrant.” This can occur, for example, due to the lack of funding to fully reimburse recipients, which can require recipients to revise their plans in ways that cause them to need more time to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment, in addition to delays in receiving the necessary equipment to replace their covered equipment, which likewise can require a recipient to need more time to meet its obligations under the Reimbursement Program. The detailed rationales for these decisions are explained in the Bureau’s prior orders.

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and disposal of covered communications equipment and services” and identifying that, across all filed applications, applicants sought a total of “approximately $5.6 billion in gross program support”).


5 The Commission’s rules provide that “[i]f there is insufficient funding to fully fund all requests in a particular prioritization category, then the [Bureau] will pro-rate the available funding among all eligible providers in that prioritization category.” 47 CFR § 1.50004(f)(1); see also 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(5)(A) (“[T]he Commission shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that reimbursement funds are distributed equitably among all applicants for reimbursements under the Program according to the needs of the applicants, as identified by the applications of the applicants.”).

6 See 47 CFR § 1.50004(f)(1); see also SCRP Granted Applications Public Notice at 2-3.


9 See 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(6)(C); 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) (“Individual extensions. Prior to the expiration of the removal, replacement and disposal term, a Reimbursement Program recipient may petition the Wireline Competition Bureau for an extension of the term. The Wireline Competition Bureau may grant an extension for up to six months after finding, that due to no fault of such recipient, such recipient is unable to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal by the end of the term. The Wireline Competition Bureau may grant more than one extension request to a recipient if circumstances warrant.”).

10 See, e.g., Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-875, para. 7 (WCB Sept. 22, 2023) (Stealth Extension Order) (granting an extension based on supply chain issues); Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-938, paras. 12-16 (WCB Oct. 10, 2023) (WorldCell et al. Extension Order) (granting extensions based in both funding issues and supply chain issues); Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-1016, paras. 12-16 (WCB Oct. 27, 2023) (Point/ST Wireless Extension Order) (granting extensions based on both funding issues and supply chain issues); Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-1110, paras. 8-11 (WCB Nov. 28, 2023) (Triangle Telephone/Triangle Communication Extension Order) (granting extension of time requests by Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association Inc. and Triangle (continued….)
The Bureau strongly encourages recipients that intend to file a petition for an extension to do so as promptly as possible after determining that their circumstances meet the standard for an extension established in the statute and the Commission’s implementing rules, and well in advance of the recipient’s deadline, so the Bureau is able to fully consider and grant or deny the petition before the recipient’s term expires.

Consistent with the Commission’s goal of streamlining its internal review processes, and further pursuant to our delegated authority, we announced in our January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice that we would, with that Public Notice, begin issuing a Public Notice, as necessary but not more frequently than monthly, disposing of pending petitions which seek an extension of an applicants’ removal, replacement, and disposal terms that do not involve complicated and/or controversial issues in a manner consistent with Commission and/or Bureau precedent. Accordingly, we hereby grant the pending petitions listed below for an extension of a recipient’s term to remove, replace, and dispose of its covered equipment.

Recipient – Advantage Cellular Systems, Inc., SCRP0001177

Grounds for individual term extension – Advantage Cellular Systems, Inc. (Advantage Cellular) requests a six-month extension of its deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2). Advantage Cellular Communication System, Inc. based on supply chain issues; Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-1196, para. 5 (WCB Dec. 21, 2023) (GigSky, Inc. Extension Order) (granting extension of time request by GigSky, Inc. based on funding issues).


13 See 47 CFR §§ 0.91, 0.291, 1.50004(h)(2).

14 Streamlined Resolution of Requests Under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, DA 24-88, at 3 (WCB Jan. 31, 2024) (January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice). This approach further speeds the disposition of petitions seeking extension of the removal, replacement, and disposal term and to ensure the continued efficient administration of the Reimbursement Program, while at the same time fulfilling our obligation to thoroughly review the record before us. Id. Prior to issuance of the January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice, we had resolved petitions for extensions of recipients’ removal, replacement, and disposal terms in stand-alone orders addressing each petition. The Bureau routinely resolves other matters in the manner of the January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice, as appropriate. See, e.g., Streamlined Process for Resolving Requests for Review of Decisions by the Universal Service Administrative Company, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 02-6, WC Docket Nos. 02-60, 06-122, 08-71, 10-90, 11-42, and 14-58, Public Notice, 29 FCC Rcd 11094 (WCB 2014) (stating that the Bureau will resolve certain Universal Service Fund matters in a streamlined public notice).

15 To the extent the requests cited in this Public Notice seek extensions of time based on grounds other than funding issues and supply chain issues, this Public Notice does not address those grounds. In addition, we expressly reject any suggestion in the requests that a recipient is required to meet its statutorily mandated removal, replacement, and disposal obligations only if full funding is made available by Congress. Recipients should be aware of the lack of full funding will not necessarily be a sufficient showing for repetitive extension requests, as recipients should continually be making progress toward completing their projects by the end of their removal, replacement, and disposal term. The Bureau will evaluate the sufficiency of each individual extension request at the time it is filed in determining whether to grant or deny it. A recipient’s obligation to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment or services exists regardless of the amount of funding it may receive through the Reimbursement Program pursuant to the Secure Networks Act. Within 10 days following the expiration of the removal, replacement, and disposal term, a recipient must file a final certification with the Commission indicating whether it has fully complied with all terms and conditions of the Reimbursement Program. 47 U.S.C. § 1603(e)(4)(A); 47 CFR § 1.50004(m)(1).

47 U.S.C. § 1603(e)(4)(A); 47 CFR § 1.50004(m)(1).
Cellular contends that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its current deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by supply chain issues, namely by unusually long delays for the delivery of necessary equipment and associated increases in the pricing for the equipment, and the lack of full funding for the required work, which has resulted in uncertainty, delays and additional costs. As a result of these factors, Advantage Cellular contends that it will need additional time to complete its work. The Bureau finds Advantage Cellular’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds, and accordingly grants the requested extension.

**New removal, replacement, and disposal term (RRD term) expiration date** – Advantage Cellular’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from March 10, 2024 to September 10, 2024.

**Recipient** – James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company, SCRP0001105

**Grounds for individual term extension** – James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company (James Valley) requests a second six-month extension of its deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2). James Valley contends that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its current deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding for the required work, which has resulted in uncertainty, delays and additional costs, and that it will need additional time to complete its work. The Bureau finds James Valley’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds, and accordingly grants the requested extension.

**New RRD term expiration date** – James Valley’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of

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17 See WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 5-7, paras. 11-15; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 5-6, paras. 12-14; GigSky Extension Order at 2, paras. 4-5; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 5 (as to the lack of full funding); see Stealth Extension Order at 3-5, paras. 6-11; WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 7-8, paras. 16-19; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 6-7, paras. 15-18; Triangle Extension Order at 4-5, paras. 8-11; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 4-5 (as to supply chain issues)

18 James Valley previously requested, and we granted, a six-month extension of its deadline on grounds of delays related to a lack of full funding for the required work. WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 5-7, paras. 12-15. The Commission has directed that the Bureau may grant more than one extension request to a recipient if circumstances warrant, and has stated that the Secure Networks Act does not provide any direct limit on the number of extensions that may be granted. 2020 Supply Chain Order, 35 FCC Rcd at 14355-56, para. 173. The Commission stated that extensions are “an important safety valve” for recipients to complete their network transitions. Id. However, recipients must fully demonstrate for each request that a delay is due to factors beyond its control so that the Bureau can assess whether a delay to remove, replace, and dispose of equipment and service posing a national security is warranted. Each extension request will be evaluated separately on its own merit and in light of circumstances at the time.


20 See WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 5-7, paras. 11-15; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 5-6, paras. 12-14; GigSky Extension Order at 2, paras. 4-5; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 5.
covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from April 8, 2024 to October 8, 2024.

Recipient – NE Colorado Cellular Inc., SCRP0001106; SCRP0001107; SCRP0001108; SCRP0001109; SCRP0001116; and SCRP0001117

Grounds for individual term extension – NE Colorado Cellular Inc. (NE Colorado) requests a six-month extension of its deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) as to each of the above-identified applications. NE Colorado contends that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its current deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding for the required work, and that it will need additional time to complete its work.21 The Bureau finds NE Colorado’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds,22 and accordingly grants the requested extension.

New RRD term expiration dates – NE Colorado’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED as follows:
- For File No. SCRP0001106, from March 9, 2024 to September 9, 2024;
- For File No. SCRP0001107, from April 6, 2024 to October 6, 2024;
- For File No. SCRP0001108, from April 6, 2024 to October 6, 2024;
- For File No. SCRP0001109, from April 6, 2024 to October 6, 2024;
- For File No. SCRP0001116, from April 6, 2024 to October 6, 2024; and
- For File No. SCRP0001117, from April 6, 2024 to October 6, 2024.

Recipient – Panhandle Telecommunication Systems Inc., SCRP0001033

Grounds for individual term extension – Panhandle Telecommunication Systems Inc. (Panhandle) requests a six-month extension of its deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2). Panhandle contends that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its current deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by supply chain issues, which are outside of its control and causing a delay in it completing some replacement and disposal work. It also asserts that the lack of full funding for the required work has resulted in uncertainty, delays, and additional costs and that Panhandle lacks the financial

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22 See WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 5-7, paras. 11-15; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 5-6, paras. 12-14; GigSky Extension Order at 2, paras. 4-5; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 5.
resources to address this within its currently assigned term. As a result of these factors, Panhandle contends that it will need additional time to complete its work. The Bureau finds Panhandle’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds, and accordingly grants the requested extension.

**New RRD term expiration date** – Panhandle’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from April 18, 2024 to October 18, 2024.

**Recipient** – Stealth Communications, LLC, SCRP0001138

**Grounds for individual term extension** – Stealth Communications, LLC (Stealth) requests a second six-month extension of its deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2). Stealth contends that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its current deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by supply chain issues impacting other deadlines, and that it will need additional time to complete its work. The Bureau finds Stealth’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds, and accordingly grants the requested extension.

**New RRD term expiration date** – Stealth’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from March 29, 2024 to September 29, 2024.

**Recipient** – TRANSTELCO INC., SCRP0001170

**Grounds for individual term extension** – TRANSTELCO INC. (TRANSTELCO) requests a six-month extension of its deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2). TRANSTELCO contends that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its current deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by supply chain issues, namely delays in delivery of necessary equipment that extend into February 2024, impacting

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24 See WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 5-7, paras. 11-15; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 5-6, paras. 12-14; GigSky Extension Order at 2, paras. 4-5; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 5 (as to the lack of full funding); see Stealth Extension Order at 3-5, paras. 6-11; WorldCell et al Extension Order at 7-8, paras. 16-19; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 6-7, paras. 15-18; Triangle Extension Order at 4-5, paras. 8-11; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 4-5 (as to supply chain issues).

25 Stealth previously requested, and we granted, a 6-month extension of its deadline on grounds of supply chain issues. Stealth Extension Order. See also supra note 18.


27 See Stealth Extension Order at 3-5, paras. 6-11; WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 7-8, paras. 16-19; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 6-7, paras. 15-18; Triangle Extension Order at 4-5, paras. 8-11; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 4-5.
other deadlines, and that it will need additional time to complete its work. The Bureau finds TRANSTELCO’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds, and accordingly grants the requested extension.

**New RRD term expiration date** – TRANSTELCO’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from March 25, 2024 to September 16, 2024.

**Recipient** – United Wireless Communications, Inc., SCRP0001104

**Grounds for individual term extension** – United Wireless Communications, Inc. (United Wireless) requests a six-month extension of its deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2). United Wireless contends that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its current deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by supply chain issues, namely delays in sourcing required materials and delays caused by labor shortages, and that it will need additional time to complete its work. The Bureau finds United Wireless’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds, and accordingly grants the requested extension.

**New RRD term expiration date** – United Wireless’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from April 21, 2024 to October 21, 2024.

The deadline for filing petitions for reconsideration or applications for review concerning the disposition of any of these extension requests is 30 days from the release date of this Public Notice.

For additional information concerning this Public Notice, please contact Ty Covey in the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at ty.covey@fcc.gov or (202) 418-1372.

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29 See Stealth Extension Order at 3-5, paras. 6-11; WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 7-8, paras. 16-19; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 6-7, paras. 15-18; Triangle Extension Order at 4-5, paras. 8-11; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 4-5.


31 See Stealth Extension Order at 3-5, paras. 6-11; WorldCell et al. Extension Order at 7-8, paras. 16-19; Point/SI Wireless Extension Order at 6-7, paras. 15-18; Triangle Extension Order at 4-5, paras. 8-11; January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice at 4-5.

32 See 47 CFR §§ 1.106(f), 1.115(d); see also 47 CFR § 1.4(b)(2) (setting forth the method for computing the amount of time within which persons or entities must act in response to deadlines established by the Commission).