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ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AHEAD OF RESUMPTION OF OPERATIONS AND EXTENSION OF FILING DEADLINES

On September 30, 2025, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a Public Notice providing guidance on FCC operations in the event of a partial lapse in funding. ¹ The FCC also released a Plan for Orderly Shutdown Due to Lapse of Congressional Appropriations. ² Many of the Commission's regular services were unavailable or unsupported due to the lapse in appropriations.

Given the unprecedented length of the shutdown, we anticipate that the public will have an exceptionally large number of filings and submissions that they will want to provide the FCC over a relatively short period of time as we resume normal operations. Therefore, we provide the following guidance:

First, FCC staff will work in good faith with parties to resolve and address issues that arise with an influx of new filings and requests. We anticipate that complications may arise in some cases. FCC staff will bring a flexible, commonsense approach to resolving the range of issues that may arise upon re-opening in these circumstances.

Second, to help ease burdens on filers and staff, the FCC will extend filing deadlines, as needed. In our September 30, 2025 Public Notice, we stated that all filings that would have been due during the suspension of operations would become due on the business day following the resumption of normal operations.³ By this Public Notice, we now further extend deadlines for all filings that would have been due from October 1, 2025, through November 17, 2025. The deadline for all such filings is now extended at least until Tuesday, November 18, 2025. The FCC and components of the FCC will issue further guidance prior to November 18, 2025, that will provide additional flexibility on filing deadlines for certain specific systems, matters, and programs, including the FCC's Universal Licensing System and Equipment Authorization System.

We hereby waive the Commission's rules to the extent necessary to effectuate this extension. This extension of filing deadlines does not apply to filings in the Network Outage Reporting System (NORS) and Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS) or to filings related to spectrum auction activities authorized by section 309(j).

¹ See Public Notice, Impact of Potential Lapse in Funding on Commission Operations, DA 25-922 (rel. Sept. 30, 2025) (September 30 Public Notice).

² See FCC Plan for Orderly Shutdown Due to Lapse of Congressional Appropriation (rel. Sept. 30, 2025), available here: https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-shutdown-plan-september-2025.

³ September 30 Public Notice.

Third, any Special Temporary Authorities (STAs) that would have expired from October 1, 2025, through November 17, 2025, are extended at least until November 18, 2025, except to the extent that such STAs relate to activities authorized under section 309(j).

Fourth, until such further guidance is issued, we ask parties to limit filings and submissions except where immediate authority is needed and to refrain from submitting filings seeking additional relief from filing deadlines for the time being.

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