



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500
Internet: www.fcc.gov

DA 26-520

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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON AT&T'S PETITION FOR PREEMPTION AND DECLARATORY RULING

WC Docket No. 26-125

Comments Due: June 22, 2026

Reply Comments Due: July 7, 2026

The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on a Petition for Preemption and Declaratory Ruling filed by AT&T Services, Inc. (AT&T).¹ In its Petition, AT&T requests that the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) declare that “any California law or regulation that interferes with or otherwise conditions AT&T’s ability to discontinue [Plain Old Telephone Service (POTS)] as authorized by the Commission is preempted,”² following the Commission’s March 2026 *Network and Services Modernization Order*.³ Specifically, AT&T requests that the Commission “declare that its approval of AT&T’s Discontinuance Applications preempts the [California Public Utilities Commission’s Carrier of Last Resort] rules, tariffing requirements, General Orders, Mass Migration Guidelines, LifeLine participation rules, and any other state requirements to the extent they impede AT&T from fully discontinuing POTS to existing customers in the Affected Service Area, such that AT&T may proceed with discontinuance without securing any additional state authorization.”⁴

Filing Requirements. Interested parties may file comments on or before the dates shown on the first page of this document.⁵ All comments must reference WC Docket No. 26-125. Comments may be filed using the Commission’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).⁶

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.

¹ AT&T Services, Inc., Petition for Declaratory Ruling, WC Docket No. 26-125 (filed May 20, 2026), <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/1052056507747/1> (AT&T Petition).

² AT&T Petition at 9.

³ AT&T Petition at 2; *Reducing Barriers to Network Improvements and Service Changes*, WC Docket No. 25-209, Report and Order, FCC 26-19 (Mar. 27, 2026).

⁴ AT&T Petition at 48 (emphasis removed). Concurrently with its Petition, AT&T filed two discontinuance applications with the Commission seeking to discontinue residential and business POTS in certain areas in California. *Id.* at 6 n.10.

⁵ See 47 CFR §§ 1.1, 1.3, 1.45.

⁶ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Red 11322 (1998).

- Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by U.S. Postal Service. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.
- Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
- Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
- Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express may be addressed to 45 L Street, NE, Washington, DC 20554.

Ex Parte Rules. The proceeding this Public Notice initiates 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 presenter's 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). In proceedings governed by section 1.49(f) 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). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

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 and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530.

Additional Information. For additional information on this proceeding, contact Michele Berlove, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at 202-431-6345, or Michele.Berlove@fcc.gov.

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⁷ 47 CFR § 1.1200 *et seq.*