



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS PROVIDES FILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ROUTE POSITION LIST SUBMISSIONS FOR SUBMARINE CABLE LANDING LICENSEES

OI Docket No. 24-523, MD Docket No. 24-524

On July 8, 2026, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) announced that the rules adopted in the *Submarine Cable Landing License Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Submarine Cable First Report and Order)*¹ that did not go into effect on November 26, 2025, were now effective, as of July 8, 2026.² Pursuant to section 1.70007(x) of the Commission's rules, any licensee with a cable landing license granted prior to the effective date of the rule (July 8, 2026) must submit a route position list for its licensed submarine cable(s), consistent with the requirements under section 1.70005(e)(7)(iv) of the Commission's rules,³ no later than sixty (60) days after the effective date of these rules, which is **September 8, 2026**.⁴

Route Position List Requirements (47 CFR § 1.70007(x)). Each cable landing licensee must submit specific geographic location information regarding the exact location of the entire submarine cable system (U.S. and foreign portions), including the wet segment, the submarine cable as it reaches the beach manhole(s), the beach manhole(s), and the dry segments including the cable landing station(s) such as where the submarine line terminal equipment (SLTE) is located and/or from where it is operated.⁵ The route position list should include:

¹ *Review of Submarine Cable Landing License Rules and Procedures to Assess Evolving National Security, Law Enforcement, Foreign Policy, and Trade Policy Risks; Amendment of the Schedule of Application Fees Set Forth in Sections 1.1102 through 1.1109 of the Commission's Rules*, OI Docket No. 24-523, MD Docket No. 24-524, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 25-49 (rel. Aug. 13, 2025) (*Submarine Cable First Report and Order*); corrected by Erratum, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-414544A1.pdf> (OIA and OMD, rel. Sep. 16, 2025); corrected by Second Erratum, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-415107A1.pdf> (OIA and OMD, rel. Oct. 24, 2025).

² Federal Communications Commission, *Review of Submarine Cable Landing License Rules and Procedures to Assess Evolving National Security, Law Enforcement, Foreign Policy, and Trade Policy Risks*, 91 Fed. Reg. 42137 (July 8, 2026) (announcing the effective date of the final rules); see 47 CFR Subpart FF.

³ 47 CFR § 1.70005(e)(7)(iv).

⁴ 47 CFR § 1.70007(x).

⁵ 47 CFR §§ 1.70001(h), 1.70007(x), 1.70005(e)(7)(iv), 1.70005(f)(2). Section 1.70001(h) of the rules defines the term submarine cable system as "a cable system that carries bidirectional data and voice telecommunications traffic consisting of one or more submarine cable(s) laid beneath the water, and all associated components that support the operation of the submarine cable system end-to-end, including the segments up to the system's terrestrial

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- The name of the submarine cable system;
- The legal name(s) of each licensee(s) of the submarine cable;
- Full identification of each route position;
- The geographic coordinates (latitude and longitude) of each route position;
- The distance of the submarine cable (total distance and the distance between route positions); and
- Any other relevant information regarding the exact location of the submarine cable system, where available, including the water depth and burial depth.
- **Geographic Coordinates:** The route position list should clearly indicate the format of geographic coordinates (e.g., Degrees Minutes Seconds or Decimal Degrees) and the unit for measuring distance.

Filing Instructions for the Route Position List (47 CFR § 1.70007(x)). To the extent a cable landing licensee maintains an up-to-date route position list that fulfills the requirements, the licensee may submit a copy of the existing route position list.

- **Excel or CSV File.** Each cable landing licensee must submit the route position list as an Excel or CSV file in the relevant license file number in the International Communications Filing System (ICFS).⁶ The file should have clearly identifiable headers.
- The route position list should be submitted through the “Pleadings and Comments” tab in ICFS.
- **Lead Licensee.** Where there are multiple licensees for a submarine cable, only one cable landing licensee (i.e., lead licensee) should file the route position list for that submarine cable and identify the legal names of all joint licensees. The joint licensees should determine which licensee will file the route position list for the submarine cable.
- **Confidential Treatment.** To request confidential treatment of the route position list,⁷ the licensee must:
 - Select “Yes” in response to the question, “Is the filer requesting confidential treatment of an attachment(s) under section 0.459 of the Commission’s rules?”
 - Upload the confidential document and select the confidential checkbox for that document.
 - Upload a public redacted version.
 - Upload a public request for confidential treatment.
- **Petition for a Waiver.** Under section 1.70007(x) of the rules, a cable landing licensee may petition the Commission for waiver of the requirement, which may be granted only to the extent the licensee demonstrates that the required information is unavailable by the submission deadline.⁸ Any petition for a waiver must be submitted in the relevant license file number in ICFS **prior to September 8, 2026.**

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terminations at one or more Submarine Line Terminal Equipment (SLTEs) as well as the transponders that convert optical signals to electrical signals and vice versa.” 47 CFR § 1.70001(h).

⁶ FCC, *International Communications Filing System*, <https://www.fcc.gov/icfs>.

⁷ Under section 1.70005(f)(2) of the rules, information under section 1.70005(e)(7) and the exact location information of the wet segment as it approaches the shore, the submarine cable as it reaches the beach manhole, and the dry segment including the cable landing station(s), such as where the SLTE is located and/or from where it is operated, will be withheld from public inspection. 47 CFR § 1.70005(f)(2).

⁸ 47 CFR § 1.70007(x).

Questions Regarding Submarine Cable First Report and Order Filing Procedures. For any questions regarding the route position list requirements and filing procedures, contact Desiree Hanssen, Office of International Affairs, at (202) 418-0887 or Desiree.Hanssen@fcc.gov.

Questions Regarding ICFS. For questions or assistance regarding the Commission's International Communications Filing System, contact the ICFS Help Line at (202) 418-2222 or ICFSInfo@fcc.gov.

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