



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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STREAMLINED RESOLUTION OF REQUESTS UNDER THE SECURE AND TRUSTED COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

WC Docket No. 18-89

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) conditionally grants, pursuant to delegated authority, petitions filed by four recipients in the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program (Program) requesting extensions of their removal, replacement, and disposal (RRD) terms. Specifically, for the reasons explained below, the Bureau grants these requests conditioned on enhanced reporting by the recipients to ensure they continue to make progress and will complete their RRD work within the extended term.

The Secure Networks Act authorizes the Commission to grant Program recipients individual six-month RRD term extension requests on a case-by-case basis.¹ To grant an individual extension, the Commission must find 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.”² In order to ensure prompt removal, replacement, and disposal in accordance with the goals of the Secure Networks Act and the Commission’s rules, the Bureau will only grant requests for an extension where the Program recipient demonstrates the delay is due to factors beyond its control.³

Term extension requests must demonstrate the specific obstacles faced by the recipient; how those obstacles, through no fault of the recipient, affected the recipient’s ability to meet its term deadline; steps taken by the recipient to mitigate the impacts of the obstacles; and how the recipient expects to meet a future deadline if an extension is granted.⁴ Requests must include thorough explanations and documentary support where appropriate (e.g., documentation from a vendor as evidence of supply chain delays, details on the specific impact of adverse weather conditions, documentation of permitting delays).⁵ Providing adequate explanation and support is imperative given that recipients were granted full funding well over a year ago.⁶ The Bureau will deny requests that lack adequate support.

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(6)(C).

² 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).

³ *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Second Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 14284, 14355-56, para. 173 (2020).

⁴ See, e.g., *Streamlined Resolution of Requests Under the Secure And Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, 40 FCC Rcd 1323, 1324 (WCB 2025).

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ See *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Availability of Additional Funding for the Rip-and-Replace Program*, WC Docket 18-89, Public Notice, 40 FCC Rcd 2520 (WCB 2025).

We hereby grant the petitions listed below for an extension of a recipient's RRD term.⁷ To ensure recipients are making all possible progress, we require that recipients to which we grant an extension in this Public Notice include in all future status updates⁸ a timeline and detailed description of actions they have undertaken to resolve the problems identified in their granted extension requests.⁹

Recipient – Copper Valley Wireless, LLC, SCRP0001157

Grounds for individual term extension – Copper Valley Wireless, LLC (Copper Valley) has removed and disposed of all covered equipment in its network and completed replacement activities at its tower sites, but seeks a four-month extension based on, among other things, supply chain delays.¹⁰ The “sole remaining element” of its RRD work is “the installation, integration, testing, and commercial launch of two redundant Packet Data Network (‘PDN’) Gateways that complete the Core Network[.]”¹¹ According to Copper Valley, however, delivery of the PDN gateways was delayed due to the difficulties of shipping to Alaska, and even after the gateways were received and installed, two other factors caused additional delay.¹² First, an IP-addressing scheme spanning Copper Valley's network, the Rural Independent Network Alliance's hosted Core, and the Mavenir platform needs to be established.¹³ Second, those same three entities must work together to enable external access to the PDN gateways.¹⁴ Copper Valley cannot perform either task alone, and Mavenir's project timeline shows the integration and testing phase extending beyond Copper Valley's current RRD deadline.¹⁵ Copper Valley asserts that a four-month extension should be adequate to finish its RRD work.¹⁶

New RRD term expiration date – Copper Valley'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 August 8, 2026, to December 8, 2026 conditioned upon Copper Valley providing the necessary additional detail in its future status updates described in DA 26-345.¹⁷

⁷ See *Streamlined Resolution of Requests Under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, 39 FCC Rcd 460, 462 (WCB 2024) (announcing that the Bureau may, via a Public Notice, periodically dispose of petitions that seek an extension of a recipient's RRD term, do not involve complicated and/or controversial issues, and can be addressed in a manner consistent with Commission and/or Bureau precedent). This Public Notice does not take positions on the merits of grounds raised by requestors other than those identified and discussed herein.

⁸ See 47 CFR § 1.50004(k) (requiring recipients to file quarterly status updates with the Bureau until the recipient has filed a final certification).

⁹ See *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 26-435 at 2 (WCB May 1, 2026) (*May 1, 2026 Term Extensions Order*).

¹⁰ Request of Copper Valley Wireless, LLC for A Four (4) Month Extension of Its Removal, Replacement, and Disposal Term, WC Docket No. 18-89, at 1 (filed July 31, 2026) (Copper Valley Petition for Extension).

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² *Id.* at 3.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ *Id.* at 3-4.

¹⁶ *Id.* at 5.

¹⁷ *May 1, 2026 Term Extensions Order* at 2.

Recipient – Country Wireless, LLC, SCRP0001017

Grounds for individual term extension – Country Wireless, LLC (Country Wireless) seeks a short extension based on, among other things, supply chain delays.¹⁸ Country Wireless states that its five remaining tower sites are located on structures where the tower owner allows work only by crews it has certified, and the pool of such crews serving northern Wisconsin is small.¹⁹ Country Wireless asserts that the certified crew originally scheduled for these sites withdrew, and it then had to find a replacement crew.²⁰ Country Wireless has since reached an agreement with a replacement certified crew, but that crew's earliest installation availability is September 2026, after Country Wireless's current deadline.²¹ Country Wireless accordingly seeks an extension to November 8, 2026, which is the current RRD deadline for most other Priority 1 recipients, and states that it expects to finish all its RRD work by then.²²

New RRD term expiration date – Country 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 August 31, 2026, to November 8, 2026 conditioned upon Country Wireless providing the necessary additional detail in its future status updates described in DA 26-345.²³

Recipient – NfinityLink Communications, Inc., SCRP0001173

Grounds for individual term extension – NfinityLink Communications, Inc. (NfinityLink) seeks a six-month extension based on, among other things, supply chain delays and delays caused by a ransomware attack. NfinityLink states that it has “experienced significant delays in the delivery of critical generators and backup power systems” that “were the direct result of global supply chain disruptions[.]”²⁴ NfinityLink also says it encountered delays when its core network replacement equipment did not support the necessary software protocols, then further delays when a vendor missed its delivery date for the proper equipment and NfinityLink had to find another vendor. That vendor will require significant lead time (up to 12 months) to provide the equipment due to limited supply caused by data center buildout activities across the country.²⁵ Similarly, NfinityLink experienced delays on power supply equipment that was defective when delivered and for which working equipment had to be delivered over a period of eight months.²⁶ Finally, NfinityLink states it was the victim of a ransomware attack that has been resolved but delayed its schedule by six weeks.²⁷ NfinityLink has taken steps to mitigate all these problems, but seeks an extension due to the cumulative effect of the delays.

¹⁸ Country Wireless, LLC Petition for Extension, WC Docket No. 18-89, at 1 (filed Aug. 11, 2026); Country Wireless, LLC Supplement to Petition for Extension, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed Aug. 27, 2026) (Country Wireless Supplement).

¹⁹ Country Wireless Supplement at 2.

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ *Id.*

²² *Id.*

²³ *May 1, 2026 Term Extensions Order* at 2.

²⁴ NfinityLink Communications, Inc. Request for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89, at 3 (filed Aug. 20, 2026) (NfinityLink Petition for Extension).

²⁵ *Id.* at 4-6.

²⁶ *Id.* at 7-8.

²⁷ *Id.* at 7.

New RRD term expiration date – NfinityLink’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 September 8, 2026, to March 8, 2027 conditioned upon NfinityLink providing the necessary additional detail in its future status updates described in DA 26-345.²⁸

Recipient – Velocity Communications, Inc., SCRP0001136

Grounds for individual term extension – Velocity Communications, Inc. (Velocity) seeks a 180-day extension based on, among other things, supply chain delays. Velocity is using Cells-on-Wheels (COWs) as part of its replacement network, but states that COWs are not widely available in the U.S. market due to demand from overlapping federal- and state-funded broadband deployment programs.²⁹ Velocity states it identified COW replacement options 18 months before its original deadline and remained continuously engaged with multiple vendors, but that supply remains very limited.³⁰ Velocity sought to mitigate delays by, among other things, “maintain[ing] active engagement with coreNOC [its equipment integrator] throughout the review period and pursu[ing] cost-reduction measures in its replacement network deployment plan, including negotiating unit pricing and evaluating backup power alternatives.”³¹ Velocity “expects to complete all remaining RRD obligations within the requested 180-day extension period.”³²

New RRD term expiration date – Velocity’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 August 6, 2026, to February 2, 2027 conditioned upon Velocity providing the necessary additional detail in its future status updates described in DA 26-345.³³

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.³⁴

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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²⁸ *May 1, 2026 Term Extensions Order* at 2.

²⁹ Velocity Communications, Inc. Request for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89, at 1-2 (filed July 22, 2026) (Velocity Petition for Extension).

³⁰ *Id.* at 2.

³¹ *Id.*

³² *Id.*

³³ *May 1, 2026 Term Extensions Order* at 2.

³⁴ 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).