



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

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

DA 26-958

Released: September 9, 2026

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON NECA 2027 MODIFICATION OF THE AVERAGE SCHEDULE COMPANY UNIVERSAL SERVICE HIGH COST LOOP SUPPORT FORMULA

WC Docket Nos. 05-337 and 10-90

Comment Date: October 9, 2026

Reply Comment Date: October 26, 2026

On August 31, 2026, the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) filed its 2027 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service High Cost Loop Support Formula.¹ The proposed formula, if approved, would take effect on January 1, 2027, and remain in effect through December 31, 2027. The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on the proposed formula.

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

- *Electronic Filers:* Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs>.
- *Paper Filers:* Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
 - Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S. Postal Service. **All filings must be addressed to 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 must be sent to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

¹ NECA 2027 Modification of the Average Schedule Universal Service High-Cost Loop Support Formula, WC Docket No. 05-337 (filed Aug. 31, 2026).

- *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 & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530.

In addition, we request that one copy of each pleading be sent to each of the following:

- (1) Gilbert Smith, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, e-mail: Gilbert.Smith@fcc.gov; and
- (2) Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, e-mail: Charles.Tyler@fcc.gov.

Availability of Documents. Comments, reply comments, and *ex parte* submissions will be publicly available online via ECFS.²

The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.³ 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 rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 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.

For further information, please contact Gilbert Smith, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at Gilbert.Smith@fcc.gov, (202) 418-7400.

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² Documents will generally be available electronically in ASCII, Microsoft Word, and/or Adobe Acrobat.

³ 47 CFR §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*