

Connie Diaz

From: Eli Johnson
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2020 4:13 PM
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Cc: Kari Hicks; Garnet Hanly; Belinda Nixon; Amy Brett; Connie Diaz; Donald Johnson; Eli Johnson; William Holloway; Jill Springer; Leon Jackler
Subject: Verizon Wireless -- Section 106 Emergency Relief

The request from Verizon Wireless for Emergency Authorization for standard Section 106 review to proceed, dated August 10, 2020 and posted August 11, 2020, for TCNS#s 203223 and 203225 are granted via this email.

On June 25, 2020, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau issued a Public Notice announcing an electronic process for FCC licensees to apply for emergency authorization to resume standard historic preservation review for qualifying critical infrastructure projects during this COVID-19 crisis. *See Section 106 Emergency Authorizations During Covid-19*, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 5977 (WTB 2020). Verizon Wireless requested an emergency authorization [\[click here to view request\]](#) under this process based upon two of the criteria set forth in the Public Notice – “network congestion due to COVID-19 effects” and “needs of unserved/underserved areas due to COVID-19 effects.”

Standard Section 106 review will proceed for these projects in accordance with the procedures established in the *Second Report and Order*, notwithstanding State or Tribal Historic Preservation Office closures. *See Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment*, Second Report and Order, 33 FCC Rcd 3102, 3151, para. 111 (2018) (*Second Report and Order*), remanded in part sub nom., *United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians v. FCC*, 933 F.3d 728 (D.C. Cir. 2019). This authorization only applies to the extent that the Tribal offices cited in the request remain closed. Where a Tribal office was closed as a result of the pandemic, but now has reopened (as is the case with the Northern Arapaho office), the standard Section 106 timeframes for review will apply for that office.

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