Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0513 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 14-1498

Released: October 16, 2014

## WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES DATE FOR OPENING OF RURAL BROADBAND EXPERIMENTS APPLICATION FILING WINDOW AND FINAL DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

## WC Docket No. 10-90

Today, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) announces the new date for the opening of the rural broadband experiments application filing window, as well as the corresponding application deadline.<sup>1</sup>

The application filing window for entities interested in participating in the rural broadband experiments will open on **Thursday**, **October 23**, **2014 at 9a.m. EDT**. Applicants must complete and submit FCC Form 5610 to participate in the rural broadband experiments. As part of Form 5610, applicants must attach a dedicated bid form for each proposed project, a single descriptive data form listing all of their proposed projects, and certain project information.<sup>2</sup> A link to Form 5610 will be available at http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/rural-broadband-experiments on October 23.

Applicants have 15 days from the opening of the filing window to submit Form 5610. Thus, the application filing deadline is **Friday, November 7 at 6p.m. EST**. Applicants are reminded that the application filing deadline is a firm deadline and are encouraged to file as early in the application filing window as possible to ensure that they have ample time to correct any errors that may occur with their application.<sup>3</sup>

Applicants are encouraged to review all of the informational materials released by the Bureau, particularly the rural broadband experiments webinar. The webinar covers each step of completing Form 5610, including how to upload and attach bid forms, descriptive data forms, and project information. In addition, the Bureau has made available templates of the bid form and descriptive data form, a sample project information submission, and guides dedicated to working with the rural broadband experiments census block list and completing the bid form. All these materials are available at <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/rural-broadband-experiments">http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/rural-broadband-experiments</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On September 26, 2014, the Bureau announced a temporary delay of the application filing window and application deadline for participation in the rural broadband experiments. *See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Further Details Regarding the Rural Broadband Experiments*, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, DA 14-1396 (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. Sept. 26, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Application Process for Entities Interested in Participating in the Rural Broadband Experiments, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, DA 14-1203, paras. 16-17, 36 (Wireline Comp. Bur. rel. Aug. 19, 2014).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As explained during the rural broadband experiments webinar, the FCC Auction System reviews bid forms and descriptive data forms for errors after submission. Applicants will be contacted if there are any errors in their submissions, and are expected to rectify such errors by the application deadline to ensure successful processing. Any project with a bid form that is not successfully processed by the application deadline will not be considered for funding.

For additional information on this proceeding, contact Ian Forbes (<u>Ian.Forbes@fcc.gov</u>) of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-7400.

- FCC -