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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES 2017 LIST OF RURAL AND NONRURAL OCNS FOR RURAL CALL COMPLETION REPORTING

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The Commission's Rural Call Completion rules¹ require—among other things—that covered service providers² submit to the Commission in electronic form, once per calendar quarter, specific monthly data on long-distance call completion attempts³ to rural operating company numbers (OCNs),⁴ and more aggregated data to nonrural OCNs.⁵ To that end, and in accordance with our rules,⁶ the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) has provided the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) an updated list of rural and nonrural operating OCNs, for the 2017 calendar year.⁷

The NECA OCN lists are provided to facilitate compliance with the recordkeeping, retention, and reporting required by the Commission's rules. The Bureau reminds covered providers that Form 480 filings are timely due on a quarterly schedule on February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 of each

¹ See generally 47 CFR §§ 64.2101 to 64.2109; Rural Call Completion, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 28 FCC Rcd 16154 (2013) (Rural Call Completion Order); Rural Call Completion, Order on Reconsideration, 29 FCC Rcd 14026 (2014) (explaining that certain intraLATA toll traffic need not be included); Rural Call Completion, Declaratory Ruling, 30 FCC Rcd 1243 (2015) (explaining that providers have certain flexibility in categorizing attempted calls).

² 47 CFR § 64.2101 (defining "covered provider").

³ 47 CFR § 64.2105.

⁴ 47 CFR § 64.2101 (defining OCN as a four-place alphanumeric code that uniquely identifies a local exchange carrier and defining a rural OCN as an operating company number that uniquely identifies an incumbent LEC that is a rural telephone company as defined in 47 CFR § 51.5).

⁵ *Id.* (defining a nonrural OCN as an operating company number that uniquely identifies an incumbent LEC that is not a rural telephone company as defined in 47 CFR § 51.5).

⁶ See id. (directing NECA to file updated OCN lists before November 15 of each year).

⁷ For the direct link to the updated NECA OCN list, see Nat'l Exch. Carrier Assn., Inc., *ILEC OCN List* (Nov. 7, 2016), available at https://www.neca.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=11187&libID=11207 (last visited Nov. 18, 2016). *See also* FCC, *Form 480 Filer Resources*, https://www.fcc.gov/general/form-480-filer-resources (last visited Nov. 18, 2016) (containing, *inter alia*, link to updated NECA *ILEC OCN List* under "Links to on-line Filing Resources" subsection at the bottom of the webpage).

⁸ These OCN lists, however, do not amend or limit the generally applicable prohibition against call blocking that extends equally to all calls, regardless of whether the destination OCN appears on the NECA list of rural OCNs. *See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Updated List of Rural and Nonrural OCNs for Rural Call Completion Reporting*, Public Notice, 29 FCC Rcd 14441, 14442 (2014).

year. Overed providers failing to submit timely Form 480 reports may be subject to enforcement action. Absent exigent circumstances, we do not consider incomplete filings as timely submitted.

For further information, please contact E. Alex Espinoza, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-0849 or alex.espinoza@fcc.gov.

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⁹ 47 CFR § 64.2105.

¹⁰ Rural Call Completion Order at 16195, para. 96.

¹¹ *Cf.*, *e.g.*, *Rural Call Completion Order* at 16171, para. 33 ("to the extent that our data collection will help us diagnose precisely where rural call failures occur in the network . . . collecting only a partial picture of rural call completion rates may prevent us from ensuring that interstate calls are properly being completed.").