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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU CONCLUDES THE 100 PERCENT OVERLAP CHALLENGE PROCESS

WC Docket No. 10-90

On August 11, 2017, the Wireline Competition Bureau published a list of study areas potentially subject to the 100 percent overlap rule and sought comment on whether the competitors in the study area codes (SACs) listed were in fact offering voice and broadband to 100 percent of locations in the relevant census blocks meeting the requirements in 47 CFR § 54.319(a). This process implements the Commission's requirement that the Bureau conduct a biennial review to determine if any study areas served by rate-of-return carriers are 100 percent overlapped by unsubsidized broadband competitors and eliminate high-cost universal service support for any such carriers.²

The comments³ and reply comments⁴ submitted did not provide evidence to confirm that any of the 13 study areas preliminarily identified were in fact 100 percent served by unsubsidized broadband

¹ Wireline Competition Bureau Publishes and Requests Comment on Rate-Of-Return Study Areas Potentially 100 Percent Overlapped by Unsubsidized Competitors, WC Docket No. 10-90, Public Notice, DA 17-760 (WCB Aug. 11, 2017).

² Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket Nos. 10-90 et al., Report and Order et al., 26 FCC Rcd 17663, 17766-68, paras. 280-84 (2011), aff'd sub nom., In re: FCC 11-161, 753 F.3d 1015 (10th Cir. 2014).

³ Letter from Nathan Brickner, General Manager, Bascom Mutual Telephone Company, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Sept. 8, 2017); Comments of CenturyLink, WC Docket No. 10-90 (Sept. 11, 2017); Letter from Beth Choroser, Comcast, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Sept. 11, 2017); Comments of GVNW Consulting, Inc. for Home Telephone Co., WC Docket No. 10-90 (Sept. 11, 2017); Letter from Heath Koth, Senior Financial Analyst, Vantage Point Solutions, on behalf of Monon Telephone Company, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Sept. 11, 2017); Letter from Ken Williams, President and CEO, W.A.T.C.H. TV Company, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 24, 2017).

⁴ Reply Comments of Blanchard Telephone Company, WC Docket No. 10-90 (Oct. 10, 2017); Letter from Debbie Brown, General Manager, Faith Municipal Telephone Company, to Marlene. H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Oct. 10, 2017); Letter from Heath Koth, Senior Financial Analyst, Vantage Point Solutions, on behalf of Farmers Telephone Co-Batavia, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Oct. 10, 2017); Letter from Denny Law, CEO, Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Oct. 10, 2017); Letter from Heath Koth, Senior Financial Analyst, Vantage Point Solutions, on behalf of Winn Telephone Company, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Oct. 10, 2017); Reply Comments of GVNW Consulting, Inc. for Home Telephone Co., WC Docket No. 10-90 (Oct. 10, 2017); Letter from Todd Hansen, General Manager, Beresford Municipal Telephone Company, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Oct. 10, 2017).

competitors. Therefore, we find that none of the study areas in our list meets the 100 percent overlap requirements. This public notice concludes the 100 percent overlap process initiated on August 11, 2017. We will conduct another 100 percent overlap process in 2019.

For further information, please contact Suzanne Yelen, Industry Analysis and Technology Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-7400 or (202) 418-0484 (TTY), or at suzanne.yelen@fcc.gov.

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