



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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DA 12-203

Release Date: February 13, 2012

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON BIG BEND TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. PETITION FOR WAIVER OF CERTAIN HIGH-COST UNIVERSAL SERVICE RULES

WC Docket No. 10-90
WT Docket No. 10-208

Comment Date: March 14, 2012

Reply Comment Date: March 29, 2012

The Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on a petition filed by Big Bend Telephone Company, Inc. (BBTC) for waiver of three high-cost universal service rules.¹ First, BBTC seeks a waiver of section 54.302 of the Commission's rules, which establishes a total limit on high-cost universal service support of \$250 per line per month, beginning July 1, 2012.² Second, BBTC seeks a waiver of the updated and extended limits on recovery of corporate operations expenses applied to High Cost Loop Support (HCLS)³ and Interstate Common Line Support (ICLS).⁴ Third, BBTC seeks a waiver of the "planned application of a regression analysis to limit reimbursable capital and operating expenses for HCLS."⁵

Interested parties may file **comments on or before March 14, 2012**, and **reply comments on or before March 29, 2012**. All pleadings are to reference **WC Docket No. 10-90 and WT Docket No. 10-208**. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), or by filing paper copies.⁶

¹ Big Bend Telephone Company, Inc. Petition for Waiver of Section 54.302 of the Commission's Rules and the Impact of limiting Corporate Operations Expenses on Receipt of High Cost Universal Support, WC Docket No. 10-90 and WT Docket No. 10-208 (filed Feb. 6, 2012); *see also Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 11-161 (rel. Nov. 18, 2011) (*USF/ICC Transformation Order and FNPRM*).

² Petition at 1-2; 47 C.F.R. § 54.302.

³ Petition at 1-2; 47 C.F.R. § 36.621(a)(4).

⁴ Petition at 1-2; 47 C.F.R. § 54.901(c).

⁵ Petition at 1-2.

⁶ *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20554.

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 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

In addition, one copy of each pleading must be sent to each of the following:

- (1) The Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, www.bcpweb.com; phone: (202) 488-5300 fax: (202) 488-5563;
- (2) Abdel Eqab, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-B431, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: Abdel-Hamid.Eqab@fcc.gov; and
- (3) Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-A452, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: Charles.Tyler@fcc.gov.

Filings and comments are also available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. They may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, telephone: (202) 488-5300, fax: (202) 488-5563, or via e-mail www.bcpweb.com.

This matter shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.⁷ Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentations must contain summaries of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and

⁷ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*

arguments presented generally is required.⁸ Other rules pertaining to oral and written *ex parte* presentations in permit-but-disclose proceedings are set forth in section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules.⁹

For further information, please contact Abdel Eqab, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-7400 or TTY (202) 418-0484.

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⁸ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).

⁹ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).