



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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STREAMLINED RESOLUTION OF REQUESTS UNDER THE SECURE AND TRUSTED COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

WC Docket No. 18-89

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) grants, pursuant to delegated authority, the following petitions requesting to extend certain deadlines under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program (Reimbursement Program).

As directed by the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019, as amended (Secure Networks Act), the Commission established the Reimbursement Program to reimburse providers of advanced communications service with ten million or fewer customers for reasonable costs incurred in the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment or services from their networks that pose a national security risk, i.e., communications equipment or services produced or provided by Huawei Technologies Company (Huawei) or ZTE Corporation (ZTE), that were obtained by providers on or before June 30, 2020.¹ The Reimbursement Program is funded by a \$1.9 billion congressional appropriation,² which is less than the \$5.6 billion in collective funds requested by applicants to the program.³ Because demand exceeded available funding, the Secure Networks Act

¹ Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019, Pub. L. No. 116-124, § 4(a)-(c), 134 Stat. 158 (2020) (codified as amended at 47 U.S.C. §§ 1601-1609). The Commission adopted rules implementing the Secure Networks Act on December 10, 2020. *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Second Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 14284 (2020) (*2020 Supply Chain Order*). On July 13, 2021, the Commission amended its rules, consistent with amendments to the Secure Networks Act included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021. *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Third Report and Order, 36 FCC Rcd 11958, 11959, para. 2 (2021) (*2021 Supply Chain Order*). The Commission later clarified that, for purposes of the Reimbursement Program, covered communications equipment or services are limited to the communications equipment or services produced or provided by Huawei or ZTE that were obtained by providers on or before June 30, 2020. *See 2021 Supply Chain Order*, 36 FCC Rcd at 11959, 11965, paras. 2 and 18; *see also Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs – Huawei Designation*, PS Docket No. 19-351, Order, 35 FCC Rcd 6604 (PSHSB 2020); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs – ZTE Designation*, PS Docket No. 19-352, Order, 35 FCC Rcd 6633 (PSHSB 2020).

² Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260, § 906, 134 Stat. 1182 (2020) (CAA). Section 906 provides that “[t]here is appropriated to the Federal Communications Commission, out of amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for fiscal year 2021, to remain available until expended— . . . (2) \$1,900,000,000 to carry out the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), of which \$1,895,000,000 shall be used to carry out the program established under section 4 of that Act (47 U.S.C. 1603).”

³ *See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces the Grant of Applications for the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, DA 22-774, at 1-2 (WCB July 18, 2022) (*SCRIP Granted Applications Public Notice*) (explaining that “[e]ach applicant was required to include in its application estimates for the costs that it will reasonably incur for the permanent removal, replacement,

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required the Bureau to implement a prioritization scheme where funding was allocated first to approved applicants with 2,000,000 or fewer customers (Priority 1 applicants).⁴ Because demand from Priority 1 applicants alone exceeded the congressional appropriation, Commission rules required that allocations to Priority 1 applicants be pro-rated on an equal basis.⁵ Consequently, recipients received funding allocations for approximately 39.5% of their reasonable and supported estimated costs for removing, replacing, and disposing of covered communications equipment and services.⁶

Reimbursement Program recipients must complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment and services within one year from the initial disbursement of funds to the recipient.⁷ Pursuant to section 4(d)(6)(C) of the Secure Networks Act, the Commission may grant recipients extensions of this term on an individual basis.⁸ The Commission delegated authority to the Bureau to grant or deny individual petitions for an extension of a recipient's term.⁹ The Bureau "may grant an extension for up to six months after finding, that due to no fault of such recipient, such recipient is unable to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal by the end of the term" and "may grant more than one extension request to a recipient if circumstances warrant."¹⁰ This can occur, for example, due to the lack of funding to fully reimburse recipients, which can require recipients to revise their plans in ways that cause them to need more time to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment, in addition to delays in receiving the necessary equipment to replace their covered equipment, which likewise can require a recipient to need more time to meet its obligations under the Reimbursement Program.¹¹

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and disposal of covered communications equipment and services" and identifying that, across all filed applications, applicants sought a total of "approximately \$5.6 billion in gross program support").

⁴ See 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(5)(C); 47 CFR § 1.50004(f)(1); *SCRIP Granted Applications Public Notice* at 2-3.

⁵ The Commission's rules provide that "[i]f there is insufficient funding to fully fund all requests in a particular prioritization category, then the [Bureau] will pro-rate the available funding among all eligible providers in that prioritization category." 47 CFR § 1.50004(f)(1); see also 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(5)(A) ("[T]he Commission shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that reimbursement funds are distributed equitably among all applicants for reimbursements under the Program according to the needs of the applicants, as identified by the applications of the applicants.").

⁶ See 47 CFR § 1.50004(f)(1); see also *SCRIP Granted Applications Public Notice* at 2-3.

⁷ 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(6)(A); 47 CFR § 1.50004(h).

⁸ See 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(6)(C).

⁹ See 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(6)(C); 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) ("Individual extensions. Prior to the expiration of the removal, replacement and disposal term, a Reimbursement Program recipient may petition the Wireline Competition Bureau for an extension of the term. The Wireline Competition Bureau may grant an extension for up to six months after finding, that due to no fault of such recipient, such recipient is unable to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal by the end of the term. The Wireline Competition Bureau may grant more than one extension request to a recipient if circumstances warrant.").

¹⁰ 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2); see also *2020 Supply Chain Order*, 35 FCC Rcd at 14354-56, paras. 171, 173 and n.501.

¹¹ See, e.g., *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-875, para. 7 (WCB Sept. 22, 2023) (*Stealth Extension Order*) (granting an extension based on supply chain issues); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-938, paras. 12-16 (WCB Oct. 10, 2023) (*WorldCell et al. Extension Order*) (granting extensions based in both funding issues and supply chain issues); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-1016, paras. 12-16 (WCB Oct. 27, 2023) (*Point/SI Wireless Extension Order*) (granting extensions based on both funding issues and supply chain issues); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-1110, paras. 8-11 (WCB Nov. 28, 2023) (*Triangle Telephone/Triangle Communication Extension Order*) (granting extension of time requests by Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association Inc. and Triangle

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The Bureau strongly encourages recipients that intend to file a petition for an extension to do so as promptly as possible after determining that their circumstances meet the standard for an extension established in the statute and the Commission's implementing rules, and well in advance of the recipient's deadline, so the Bureau is able to fully consider and grant or deny the petition before the recipient's term expires. We remind recipients that requests for term extensions should specify both the specific grounds for the request and the specific facts and circumstances on which the recipient relies in asserting those grounds. Requests that lack adequate support may be denied or the recipient may be required to provide additional support, which could delay a decision on the request.

The lack of full funding will not necessarily be a sufficient showing for multiple extension requests, as recipients should continually make progress toward completing their projects by the end of their removal, replacement, and disposal term. The Bureau will evaluate the sufficiency of each individual extension request at the time it is filed in determining whether to grant or deny it. We emphasize that a recipient's statutory obligation to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment or services exists regardless of the amount of funding it may receive through the Reimbursement Program pursuant to the Secure Networks Act. The Secure Networks Act and the Commission's rules require each Reimbursement Program recipient to remove, replace, and dispose of "all" its covered equipment and services.¹² Similarly, the Reimbursement Program FAQs (at 21) state that "[p]roviders are expected to remove, replace, and dispose of all Huawei and/or ZTE communications equipment and services in their networks as of the date of the submission of the application even if they receive a prorated allocation from the Reimbursement Program due to funding constraints."¹³

Consistent with the Commission's goal of streamlining its internal review processes,¹⁴ and further pursuant to our delegated authority,¹⁵ we announced in our *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* that we would, with that Public Notice, begin issuing a Public Notice, as necessary but not more frequently than monthly, disposing of pending petitions which seek an extension of an applicants' removal, replacement, and disposal terms, do not involve complicated and/or controversial issues, and can be addressed in a manner consistent with Commission and/or Bureau precedent.¹⁶ Accordingly, we

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Communication System, Inc. based on supply chain issues); *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 23-1196, para. 5 (WCB Dec. 21, 2023) (*GigSky Extension Order*) (granting extension of time request by GigSky, Inc. based on funding issues).

¹² 47 U.S.C. § 1603(e)(4)(A)(ii) (recipient must file a final certification to show removal, replacement, and disposal of "all" covered equipment and services); 47 CFR 1.50004(m)(1) (same); *see also* 47 U.S.C. § 1603(d)(4)(A)(i)(I) (applicant must certify it has a plan to remove "any" covered equipment and services); 47 CFR § 1.50004(a)(3)(i)(A) (same).

¹³ FCC, Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program: *Frequently Asked Questions* at 21 (2024), <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-234A2.pdf>. Within 10 days following the expiration of the removal, replacement, and disposal term, a recipient must file a final certification with the Commission indicating whether it has fully complied with all terms and conditions of the Reimbursement Program. 47 U.S.C. § 1603(e)(4)(A); 47 CFR § 1.50004(m)(1).

¹⁴ *See Report on FCC Process Reform*, GN Docket No. 14-25 (Staff Working Group, Feb. 14, 2014) (*Process Reform Report*).

¹⁵ *See* 47 CFR §§ 0.91, 0.291, 1.50004(h)(2).

¹⁶ *Streamlined Resolution of Requests Under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Public Notice, DA 24-88, at 3 (WCB Jan. 31, 2024) (*January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*). This approach further speeds the disposition of petitions seeking extension of the removal, replacement, and disposal term and to ensure the continued efficient administration of the Reimbursement Program, while at the same time fulfilling our obligation to thoroughly review the record before us. *Id.* Prior to issuance of the *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*, we had resolved petitions for extensions of

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hereby grant the pending petitions listed below for an extension of a recipient's term to remove, replace, and dispose of its covered equipment.¹⁷

Recipient – Central Louisiana Cellular, LLC, SCRP0001042

Grounds for individual term extension – Central Louisiana Cellular, LLC (Cellular One) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).¹⁸ Cellular One states that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 18, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. Cellular One explains that the lack of full funding led the company to “change course” in its strategy for meeting its removal, replacement and disposal obligations and that this created a delay in its project timeline.¹⁹ Cellular One notes, however, that it has already “completed all removal of covered communications equipment” and is in the process of waiting for its vendor to dispose of the equipment.²⁰ Cellular One expects that the requested extension will allow it to complete the remaining required steps to meet its Reimbursement Program obligations “within a short time after the current deadline passes[.]”²¹ The Bureau finds Cellular One's showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of a lack of full funding,²² and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 18, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – Cellular One's deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from July 18, 2024 to January 18, 2025.

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recipients' removal, replacement, and disposal terms in stand-alone orders addressing each petition. The Bureau routinely resolves other matters in the manner of the *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice*, as appropriate. See, e.g., *Streamlined Process for Resolving Requests for Review of Decisions by the Universal Service Administrative Company*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 02-6, WC Docket Nos. 02-60, 06-122, 08-71, 10-90, 11-42, and 14-58, Public Notice, 29 FCC Rcd 11094 (WCB 2014) (stating that the Bureau will resolve certain Universal Service Fund matters in a streamlined public notice).

¹⁷ This Public Notice does not take positions on the merits of grounds raised by requestors other than those identified and discussed herein. In addition, we expressly reject any suggestion in the requests that a recipient is required to meet its statutorily mandated removal, replacement, and disposal obligations only if full funding is made available by Congress. Recipients should be aware of the lack of full funding will not necessarily be a sufficient showing for repetitive extension requests, as recipients should continually be making progress toward completing their projects by the end of their removal, replacement, and disposal term. The Bureau will evaluate the sufficiency of each individual extension request at the time it is filed in determining whether to grant or deny it. As noted above, a recipient's obligation to complete the permanent removal, replacement, and disposal of covered communications equipment or services exists regardless of the amount of funding it may receive through the Reimbursement Program pursuant to the Secure Networks Act. Within 10 days following the expiration of the removal, replacement, and disposal term, a recipient must file a final certification with the Commission indicating whether it has fully complied with all terms and conditions of the Reimbursement Program. 47 U.S.C. § 1603(e)(4)(A); 47 CFR § 1.50004(m)(1).

¹⁸ See Request of Cellular One for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 10, 2024).

¹⁹ *Id.* at 3.

²⁰ *Id.* at 2-3.

²¹ *Id.* at 3.

²² See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

Recipient – EXA Infrastructure US LLC, SCRP0001030

Grounds for individual term extension – EXA Infrastructure US LLC (EXA Infrastructure) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).²³ EXA Infrastructure asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its June 30, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by supply chain issues. EXA Infrastructure states it received certain replacement equipment months later than it had anticipated.²⁴ EXA Infrastructure also notes that the late equipment delivery led to additional delays because replacement “can only occur during certain timeframes and in some cases must work around customer schedules.”²⁵ EXA Infrastructure observes that, despite these delays, there is “only a very small amount of equipment that has not yet been replaced.”²⁶ EXA Infrastructure expects to complete all of its removal and replacement activities by June 30, 2024, but requests an extension primarily to account for the lead times for disposal of equipment by its vendor.²⁷ The Bureau finds EXA Infrastructure’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of supply chain issues,²⁸ and accordingly grants the requested extension through December 30, 2024.

New RRD term expiration date – EXA Infrastructure’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from June 30, 2024 to December 30, 2024.

Recipient – Flat Wireless, LLC, SCRP0001103

Grounds for individual term extension – Flat Wireless, LLC (Flat Wireless) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).²⁹ Flat Wireless asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 14, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. Flat Wireless states that it has continued to work diligently to meet its deadline and has experienced “liquidity issues” that have hampered its ability to select vendors and place orders for needed replacement equipment, leading to project delays.³⁰ Flat Wireless explains that it is continually “reevaluat[ing] its project plan, timeline, and direction” in view of the funding shortfall, “which has contributed to significant delays.”³¹ The Bureau finds Flat Wireless’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that

²³ See Request of EXA Infrastructure for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed May 22, 2024).

²⁴ *Id.* at 3.

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ *Id.* at 4.

²⁸ See, e.g., *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5.

²⁹ See Request of Flat Wireless for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed May 23, 2024).

³⁰ *Id.* at 3.

³¹ *Id.*

have been granted extensions on similar grounds of a lack of full funding,³² and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 14, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – Flat Wireless’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from July 14, 2024 to January 14, 2025.

Recipient – Gigsky, Inc., SCRP0001143

Grounds for individual term extension – Gigsky, Inc. (Gigsky) requests a second six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).³³ Gigsky asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its June 22, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. Gigsky states that, since the Bureau granted its first extension request,³⁴ Reimbursement Program funding limitations have made “processing payments to vendors increasingly difficult, putting GigSky in a tough spot financially.”³⁵ Gigsky describes efforts it has made to mitigate these effects, including by researching and negotiating for suitable alternative equipment consistent with the allocated funding and adds that it “acquir[ed] and implement[ed] a substantial portion of the required equipment.”³⁶ Nevertheless, Gigsky requests an extension to allow it to “complete the project without compromising [its] financial stability or the integrity of [its] network upgrade,” as it has faced substantial difficulties in attempting to identify, obtain, and implement the rest of the alternative equipment it needs.³⁷ The Bureau finds Gigsky’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of the lack of full funding,³⁸ and accordingly grants the requested extension through December 22, 2024.

New RRD term expiration date – Gigsky’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from June 22, 2024 to December 22, 2024.

Recipient – LakeNet LLC, SCRP0001145

Grounds for individual term extension – LakeNet LLC (LakeNet) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).³⁹ LakeNet asserts that its ability to complete the

³² See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

³³ See Supplemental Request of Gigsky for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 20, 2024) (Supplemental Request of Gigsky); Request of Gigsky for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 5, 2024).

³⁴ See generally *GigSky Extension Order*.

³⁵ Supplemental Request of Gigsky at 1.

³⁶ *Id.*

³⁷ *Id.* at 1-2.

³⁸ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

³⁹ See Request of LakeNet for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 18, 2024).

removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 21, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by supply chain issues. LakeNet explains that it still has a “quantity of” certain parts “on backorder” with a vendor and that these parts are not expected to ship for several more months.⁴⁰ LakeNet notes that it is currently working with the vendor in an attempt to expedite the shipping date in view of its Reimbursement Program obligations.⁴¹ LakeNet asserts that the requested extension, if granted, will provide it with sufficient time to receive the equipment, replace existing equipment, and meet its disposal obligations.⁴² The Bureau finds LakeNet’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of supply chain issues,⁴³ and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 21, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – LakeNet’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from July 21, 2024 to January 21, 2025.

Recipient – Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc., SCRP0001175

Grounds for individual term extension – Leaco Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (Leaco) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).⁴⁴ Leaco asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 27, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. Leaco states that, as a result, it cannot afford to perform “two separate equipment hauls” and that it will instead “need to wait until all covered equipment is removed” from its network before completing its required disposal obligations, resulting in project delays.⁴⁵ Leaco notes that, with the exception of one tower subject to environmental restrictions, it has “successfully decommissioned, removed, and replaced all covered equipment.”⁴⁶ Leaco expects that an extension would provide time for it to complete all of its required removal, replacement, and disposal activities.⁴⁷ The Bureau finds Leaco’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of a lack of full funding,⁴⁸ and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 27, 2025.

⁴⁰ *Id.* at 2.

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ See, e.g., *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5.

⁴⁴ See Request of Leaco for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 10, 2024).

⁴⁵ *Id.* at 3.

⁴⁶ *Id.*

⁴⁷ *Id.*

⁴⁸ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

New RRD term expiration date – Leaco’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from July 27, 2024 to January 27, 2025.

Recipient – MHG Telco LLC, SCRP0001023

Grounds for individual term extension – MHG Telco LLC (MHG Telco) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).⁴⁹ MHG Telco asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its August 12, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by supply chain issues. MHG Telco notes that it has recently experienced long lead times for hybrid fiber cables, a DC power plant and batteries, delays in the launch of RAN equipment software, unanticipated delays with interoperability and integration processes for the RAN, and associated delays in procuring skilled labor to perform required tasks.⁵⁰ MHG Teleco states that it is working diligently in view of these delays but requests an extension to provide it with adequate time to complete its removal, replacement, and disposal obligations.⁵¹ The Bureau finds MHG Telco’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of supply chain issues,⁵² and accordingly grants the requested extension through February 12, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – MHG Telco’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from August 12, 2024 to February 12, 2025.

Recipient – Pine Telephone Company, SCRP0001034; SCRP0001035; SCRP0001036

Grounds for individual term extension – Pine Telephone Company (Pine Telephone) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) as to each of the above-identified applications.⁵³ Pine Telephone asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 20, 2024 (SCRP0001034) and August 12, 2024 (SCRP0001035 and SCRP0001036) deadlines has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Pine Telephone describes efforts it has made to mitigate such delays by “shifting resources away from other business responsibilities” causing itself financial strain.⁵⁴ As to supply chain issues, Pine Telephone states that necessary equipment was delivered 10 months late and that these delays have pushed its “entire project back by several months.”⁵⁵ Pine Telephone notes that this equipment could not be obtained from other sources due to equipment shortages.⁵⁶ Pine Telephone contends that it has

⁴⁹ See Request of MHG Telco for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 12, 2024) (Request of MHG Telco).

⁵⁰ *Id.* at 2-3.

⁵¹ *Id.* at 3.

⁵² See, e.g., *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5.

⁵³ See Request of Pine Telephone for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 10, 2024).

⁵⁴ E.g., *id.* at 4.

⁵⁵ E.g., *id.*

attempted to mitigate the funding shortfall by relying on in-house labor, but that this has also resulted in project setbacks and delays.⁵⁷ Pine asserts that, given these delays, the requested extension is necessary to avoid a premature reduction in coverage within its fixed and mobile wireless broadband footprint.⁵⁸ The Bureau finds Pine Telephone's showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of lack of full funding and supply chain issues,⁵⁹ and accordingly grants the requested extensions through January 20, 2025 (SCR0001034) and February 12, 2025 (SCR0001035 and SCR0001036).

New RRD term expiration date – Pine Telephone's deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED as follows:

- For File No. SCR0001034, from July 20, 2024 to January 20, 2025;
- For File No. SCR0001035, from August 12, 2024 to February 12, 2025; and
- For File No. SCR0001036, from August 12, 2024 to February 12, 2025.

Recipient – PocketiNet Communications Inc., SCR0001031

Grounds for individual term extension – PocketiNet Communications Inc. (PocketiNet) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).⁶⁰ PocketiNet asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 20, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. PocketiNet reports that it has “staggered equipment orders” to remain financially sound in view of the funding shortfall and that it has undertaken activities in a way that allows it to maintain network integrity and good standing with its vendors.⁶¹ PocketiNet notes that these efforts have resulted in project delays.⁶² Despite the delays, PocketiNet states that it has removed and replaced a large percentage of its affected equipment and expects that, with the requested extension, it would be able to complete its project requirements.⁶³ The Bureau finds PocketiNet's showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of a lack of full funding,⁶⁴ and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 20, 2025.

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⁵⁶ *E.g., id.*

⁵⁷ *E.g., id.*

⁵⁸ *E.g., id.*

⁵⁹ *See, e.g., WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5 (as to the lack of full funding); *see Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5 (as to supply chain issues).

⁶⁰ *See* Request of PocketiNet for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 20, 2024).

⁶¹ *Id.* at 1.

⁶² *Id.*

⁶³ *Id.*

⁶⁴ *See, e.g., WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

New RRD term expiration date – PocketiNet’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from July 20, 2024 to January 20, 2025.

Recipient – TelAlaska Cellular, Inc., SCRP0001160

Grounds for individual term extension – TelAlaska Cellular, Inc. (TelAlaska Cellular) requests an approximate six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).⁶⁵ TelAlaska Cellular asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its August 19, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. TelAlaska describes that, due to the funding shortfall, it has taken a “phased approach” to meeting its Reimbursement Program obligations.⁶⁶ TelAlaska explains that this approach has resulted in project delays, particularly as the construction season in its operating territory is approximately six months long.⁶⁷ TelAlaska notes that due to this limited construction season, and the need to perform advanced planning to move equipment by barge, it has been extremely vulnerable to supply chain delays.⁶⁸ The Bureau finds TelAlaska Cellular’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of lack of full funding and supply chain issues,⁶⁹ and accordingly grants the requested extension through February 18, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – TelAlaska Cellular’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from August 19, 2024 to February 18, 2025.

Recipient – Texas 10, LLC, SCRP0001041

Grounds for individual term extension – Texas 10, LLC (Texas 10) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).⁷⁰ Texas 10 asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 15, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Texas 10 states that the lack of full funding required it to change course in meeting its Reimbursement Program obligations, resulting in a short delay, and that its ability to meet the current deadline has been “compromised by delays in securing the needed workforce.”⁷¹ Texas 10 reports that it has completed its required removal and disposal activities and only needs to submit relevant paperwork to the Fund Administrator, and that it should be able to fulfill its

⁶⁵ See Request of TelAlaska Cellular for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 3, 2024).

⁶⁶ *Id.* at 2.

⁶⁷ *Id.* at 2-3.

⁶⁸ *Id.* at 2.

⁶⁹ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5 (as to the lack of full funding); see *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5 (as to supply chain issues).

⁷⁰ See Request of Texas 10 for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 11, 2024).

⁷¹ *Id.* at 3.

obligations “within a short time after the current deadline passes.”⁷² The Bureau finds Texas 10’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of lack of full funding and supply chain issues,⁷³ and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 15, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – Texas 10’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from July 15, 2024 to January 15, 2025.

Recipient – Union Telephone Company, SCRP0001087; SCRP0001089; SCRP0001090; SCRP0001092; SCRP0001096; SCRP0001098

Grounds for individual term extension – Union Telephone Company (Union) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) as to each of the above-identified applications.⁷⁴ Union asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 6, 2024 (SCRP0001089), July 13, 2024 (SCRP0001092), July 14, 2024 (SCRP0001096 and SCRP0001098), and July 15, 2024 (SCRP0001087 and SCRP0001090) deadlines has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Union explains that it has been impacted by the partial funding as it has had to pay “well above market value” to obtain necessary equipment and services from vendors due, in part, to inflationary impacts.⁷⁵ Union notes that it has attempted to mitigate these effects by “invest[ing] significant time to procure alternate equipment,” but that it has had only partial success in these efforts.⁷⁶ Union notes that these impacts have resulted in project delays.⁷⁷ As to supply chain issues, Union notes that equipment lead times that it has encountered have, in some cases, exceeded the overall Reimbursement Program timeline.⁷⁸ Union explains that it has attempted to mitigate these effects by “redesign[ing] a range of segments of its network,” but that its project timeline has been delayed as a result of the supply chain issues.⁷⁹ The Bureau finds Union’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of lack of full funding and supply chain issues,⁸⁰ and accordingly

⁷² *Id.* at 2-3.

⁷³ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5 (as to the lack of full funding); see *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5 (as to supply chain issues).

⁷⁴ See Request of Union Telephone for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed May 23, 2024).

⁷⁵ E.g., *id.* at 4-5.

⁷⁶ E.g., *id.* at 5.

⁷⁷ E.g., *id.*

⁷⁸ E.g., *id.*

⁷⁹ E.g., *id.*

⁸⁰ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5 (as to the lack of full funding); see *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5 (as to supply chain issues).

grants the requested extensions through January 6, 2025 (SCR0001089), January 13, 2025 (SCR0001092), January 14, 2025 (SCR0001096 and SCR0001098), and January 15, 2025 (SCR0001087 and SCR0001090).

New RRD term expiration date – Union’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED as follows:

- For File No. SCR0001087, from July 15, 2024 to January 15, 2025;
- For File No. SCR0001089, from July 6, 2024 to January 6, 2025;
- For File No. SCR0001090, from July 15, 2024 to January 15, 2025;
- For File No. SCR0001092, from July 13, 2024 to January 13, 2025;
- For File No. SCR0001096, from July 14, 2024 to January 14, 2025; and
- For File No. SCR0001098, from July 14, 2024 to January 14, 2025.

Recipient – Velocity Communications, Inc., SCR0001136

Grounds for individual term extension – Velocity Communications, Inc. (Velocity) requests a six-month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).⁸¹ Velocity asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 29, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. Velocity notes the partial funding amount has weakened its bargaining position with vendors, leading to “less favorable contract terms and higher costs,” and has the potential to affect its “service reliability and competitiveness.”⁸² Velocity states that it has attempted to mitigate the effects of the lack of full funding by adopting a “phased approach” to meeting its obligations that accounts for its “business liquidity” and mitigates its financial risks.⁸³ Velocity reports that it has continued to make “significant strides” towards its Reimbursement Program requirements and that it has recently completed specific decommissioning and destruction work, but nevertheless needs additional time to fully complete its obligations in light of adjustments it has had to make to its plans due to the funding shortfall.⁸⁴ The Bureau finds Velocity’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of the lack of full funding,⁸⁵ and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 29, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – Velocity’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from July 29, 2024 to January 29, 2025.

Recipient – Windy City Cellular, SCR0001015

Grounds for individual term extension – Windy City Cellular (Windy City) requests a six-

⁸¹ See Supplemental Request of Velocity for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 14, 2024) (Supplemental Request of Velocity); Request of Velocity for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 5, 2024).

⁸² Supplemental Request of Velocity at 1-2.

⁸³ *Id.* at 1.

⁸⁴ *Id.*

⁸⁵ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5.

month extension of the deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2).⁸⁶ Windy City Cellular asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 27, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. As to supply chain issues, Windy City reports that it has been impacted by supply chain delays, including lead times for the delivery routers, services, and other hardware that unexpectedly increased from “6-8 weeks” to 16 weeks.⁸⁷ Windy City reports that, despite its efforts to obtain the same items from other sources, this supply chain delay resulted in five months of delay to its project timeline.⁸⁸ Windy City similarly explains that the funding shortfall has caused it to miss project deadlines, even as it has attempted to mitigate these effects by “restructur[ing] [its] internal resources and cashflow” to meet its Reimbursement Program obligations.⁸⁹ The Bureau finds Windy City Cellular’s showing persuasive and that its situation is consistent with the situation of other recipients that have been granted extensions on similar grounds of lack of full funding and supply chain issues,⁹⁰ and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 27, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – Windy City Cellular’s deadline to remove, replace, and dispose of covered equipment and services in its network under 47 CFR § 1.50004(h)(2) IS EXTENDED from July 27, 2024 to January 27, 2025.

For additional information concerning this Public Notice, please contact Ty Covey in the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at ty.covey@fcc.gov or (202) 418-1372.

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⁸⁶ See Request of Windy City Cellular for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed May 30, 2024).

⁸⁷ *Id.* at 2.

⁸⁸ *Id.*

⁸⁹ *Id.*

⁹⁰ See, e.g., *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 5-7, paras. 11-15; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 5-6, paras. 12-14; *GigSky Extension Order* at 2, paras. 4-5; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 5 (as to the lack of full funding); see *Stealth Extension Order* at 3-5, paras. 6-11; *WorldCell et al. Extension Order* at 7-8, paras. 16-19; *Point/SI Wireless Extension Order* at 6-7, paras. 15-18; *Triangle Extension Order* at 4-5, paras. 8-11; *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4-5 (as to supply chain issues).