

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Universal Service Contribution Methodology)	WC Docket No. 06-122
)	
Petition of Alexicon Telecommunications)	
Consulting to Change FCC Form 499-A Reporting)	
Deadline)	

ORDER

Adopted: September 13, 2010

Released: September 13, 2010

By the Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau:

1. In this order, we deny a petition filed by Alexicon Telecommunications Consulting (Alexicon).¹ Alexicon requests a change in the reporting deadline for the FCC Form 499-A.²

2. FCC Form 499-A reporting is an integral information collection tool for administering a variety of Commission programs. Filers report their annual historical revenues on the FCC Form 499-A, which is due on April 1 of each year.³ The information gathered from FCC Form 499-A filings is then used for calculating contributions to support the universal service fund,⁴ North American Numbering Plan administration,⁵ long-term number portability,⁶ and the Interstate Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS) fund.⁷

3. In its petition, Alexicon asks that we permanently change the FCC Form 499-A filing deadline from April 1 to September 1 of each year.⁸ Alexicon asserts that during the same time period that filers are preparing their FCC Forms 499-A, many filers are also responding to Rural Utilities Service financial audits, preparing FCC Forms 492, 507, and 508, and filing state and financial institution

¹ Petition of Alexicon Telecommunications Consulting to Change Form 499-A Reporting Deadline, WC Docket No. 06-122 (filed Apr. 21, 2009) (Alexicon Petition).

² *Id.* at 1. The Wireline Competition Bureau has delegated authority to waive, reduce, or eliminate the contributor reporting requirements associated with the universal service support mechanisms. This delegation includes making changes to the administrative aspect of universal service contribution reporting requirements, such as where and when Forms 499 are filed. *See Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc.; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket Nos. 97-21, 96-45, Report and Order and Second Order on Reconsideration, 12 FCC Rcd 18400, 18842, para. 81 (1997); *see also* 47 C.F.R. § 54.711(c).

³ *See* Universal Service Administrative Company, Schedule of Filings, <http://www.universalservice.org/fund-administration/contributors/revenue-reporting/schedule-filings.aspx> (last visited July 22, 2010). The actual due date for filing the Form 499-A may vary. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.4(j) (noting that if a filing date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or officially recognized holiday, the document must be filed on the next business day).

⁴ *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.706, 54.711, 54.713.

⁵ *See* 47 C.F.R. § 52.17.

⁶ *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 64.601(b), 64.604(c)(5)(iii)(B).

⁷ *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 64.601(b), 64.604(c)(5)(iii)(B).

⁸ Alexicon Petition at 3.

reporting documents.⁹ Alexicon contends that changing the FCC Form 499-A filing due date will improve the initial accuracy of the filing, will be more efficient and less administratively burdensome, and will generally provide some relief from other reporting requirements.¹⁰

4. We are not persuaded that the potential benefits of changing the due date of FCC Form 499-A would outweigh the potential administrative burdens of such a change. Changing the due date would impact not only the thousands of providers that file the form, but also the administrators of the various funds that rely on the FCC Form 499-A data. For example, both the North American Numbering Plan Administration fund and the Telecommunications Relay Service fund administrators file fund size and contribution estimates with the Commission in May based on FCC Form 499-A data.¹¹ An industry-wide change, such as Alexicon proposes, would require the administrators and the filing entities to restructure their internal processing systems and procedures at great cost.¹² Moreover, Alexicon provides no evidence to support its claim that changing the due date would improve the accuracy of the FCC Form 499-A filings. Further, Alexicon provides no evidence to support its claims that changing the due date would increase efficiency and decrease the administrative burden or that it would provide relief from reporting requirements to the industry as a whole. For these reasons, we deny Alexicon's request.

5. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to the authority contained in sections 1–4 and 254 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 151–154, 254, and pursuant to the authority delegated in sections 0.91, 0.291, and 54.711 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.291, 54.711, that the petition of Alexicon Telecommunications Consulting IS DENIED.

6. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, pursuant to section 1.102(b)(1) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.102(b)(1), that this order SHALL BE EFFECTIVE upon release.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Sharon E. Gillett
Chief
Wireline Competition Bureau

⁹ Alexicon Petition at 2; Cordova Comments at 1–2.

¹⁰ Alexicon Petition at 2–3.

¹¹ See National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA) Comments at 2 & n. 4.

¹² For example, if the Commission changed the filing date of the FCC Form 499-A, the Interstate TRS administrator could be required to project collected revenues for the purposes of preparing TRS contribution estimates. See NECA Comments at 2 n.6.