



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 generally 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, (continued....)”).

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, Inc. 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 <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 recipients' removal, replacement, and disposal terms in stand-alone orders addressing each petition. The Bureau

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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 – Copper Valley Wireless, LLC, SCRP0001157

Grounds for individual term extension – Copper Valley Wireless, LLC (CVW) 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 CVW asserts that its ability to complete the 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 the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. CVW states that “unforeseen supply chain delays [have] pushed [its] projects behind schedule.”¹⁹ CVW explains that it has faced equipment delays that have been further exacerbated due to a limited “construction season” and a related need to make advance plans to move “equipment to . . . remote site[s]” in the regions of Alaska where CVW operates.²⁰ CVW also reports that it has been unable to retain the services of sufficient “tower/construction crews” to perform needed work.²¹ As to the lack of full funding, CVW notes that this forced it to “reduc[e] costs,” including through the “consolidation of shipments,” which further delayed its project timeline.²² Despite these issues, CVW reports that it has successfully “completed the full disposal of all [c]overed equipment from all of its forty-two (42) sites, including the Core Network” and that it is in the “process of completing the replacement equipment installations at a few remaining sites[.]”²³ CVW requests the present extension to complete the replacement work.²⁴ The Bureau finds CVW’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 and supply chain issues,²⁵ and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 21, 2025.

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_____ 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.

¹⁸ See Request of CVW for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 3, 2024).

¹⁹ *Id.* at 2.

²⁰ *Id.* at 2-3.

²¹ *Id.* at 2.

²² *Id.* at 3.

²³ *Id.* at 6.

²⁴ *Id.*

²⁵ 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).

New RRD term expiration date – CVW’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 – Hotwire Communications, Ltd., SCRP0001146; SCRP0001147; SCRP0001148

Grounds for individual term extension – Hotwire Communications, Ltd. (Hotwire) 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.²⁶ Hotwire asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its August 5, 2024 deadline as to each of the above-identified applications 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, Hotwire states that its project has been impacted by “significant” delays and “sporadic” deliveries of “custom-designed replacement equipment[] ordered in 2022” and “dwindling access to alternative equipment.”²⁷ Hotwire states that even if all the equipment were delivery promptly, “industry-wide shortages” in specialized labor would still prevent it from completing all of its program obligations by its current deadline date.²⁸ As to the funding shortfall, Hotwire states that uncertainty around the funding situation delayed its decision on whether to make “meaningful modifications to [its original] plan,” which could have “compromise[ed] network integrity and caus[ed] increased consumer impact,” and that this delayed its overall project timeline.²⁹ Despite these issues, Hotwire reports that, as of June 2024, it has received “about 45% of [its] total order” and that it has successfully completed “on-site visits with thousands of customers to replace and dispose of covered equipment.”³⁰ The Bureau finds Hotwire’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 and supply chain issues,³¹ and accordingly grants the requested extension through February 5, 2025 for each of the above-identified applications.

New RRD term expiration date – Hotwire’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. SCRP0001146, from August 5, 2024 to February 5, 2025;
- For File No. SCRP0001147, from August 5, 2024 to February 5, 2025; and
- For File No. SCRP0001148, from August 5, 2024 to February 5, 2025.

²⁶ See Request of Hotwire for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001146, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 1, 2024) (Request for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001146); see Request of Hotwire for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001147, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 1, 2024); see Request of Hotwire for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001148, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 1, 2024).

²⁷ *E.g.*, Request for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001146 at 2.

²⁸ *E.g.*, *id.*

²⁹ *E.g.*, *id.*

³⁰ *E.g.*, *id.*

³¹ 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).

Recipient – LigTel Communications, Inc., SCRP0001155

Grounds for individual term extension – LigTel Communications, Inc. (LigTel) 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).³² LigTel asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 22, 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, LigTel reports that it has been impacted by “longer lead-times on equipment and materials . . . than originally anticipated or quoted by vendors” and that this “shift[ed] the timeline of [its] project.”³³ LigTel further states that it was impacted by “extended timing” related to “finding contractors with crews and availability to engage in and timely complete” required removal, replacement, and disposal processes.³⁴ As to the lack of full funding, LigTel notes that this impacted its ability to adapt to challenges, including by compromising its ability to “work around” the supply chain delays described above.³⁵ Despite these issues, LigTel reports that it has already “removed its [c]overed wireless equipment” and is “awaiting confirmation of the official disposal and certification” from its recycling vendor.³⁶ LigTel accordingly requests an extension of its removal, replacement, and disposal deadline. The Bureau finds LigTel’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 and supply chain issues,³⁷ and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 22, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – LigTel’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 22, 2024 to January 22, 2025.

Recipient – Mediacom Communications Corporation, SCRP0001140

Grounds for individual term extension – Mediacom Communications Corporation (Mediacom) requests a fourth three-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).³⁸ Mediacom 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. Since the Bureau granted Mediacom’s most recent extension request,³⁹ Mediacom reports that, while certain supply chain issues are now resolved, its “previously cited delivery delays [had an] overall impact” that have

³² See Request of LigTel for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 3, 2024).

³³ *Id.* at 2.

³⁴ *Id.* at 1-2.

³⁵ *Id.* at 2.

³⁶ *Id.*

³⁷ 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).

³⁸ See Request of Mediacom for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 13, 2024).

³⁹ *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Order, DA 24-313, at 5-6 (WCB Mar. 29, 2024).

continued to prevent it from meeting all of its program obligations to date.⁴⁰ Similarly, Mediacom notes that, while it successfully revised its service migration plans to account for the funding shortfall, associated earlier delays have continued to impact it.⁴¹ Despite these residual delays caused by earlier-reported lack of funding and supply chain issues, Mediacom reports that it has now “completed 100% of the removal and replacement of covered equipment under the program” and that it has made significant progress towards its disposal obligations.⁴² Mediacom requests “one final three-month extension” of its deadline and states that it has “very high confidence” that it will be able to meet all of its program obligations if its request is granted.⁴³ The Bureau finds Mediacom’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 and supply chain issues,⁴⁴ and accordingly grants the requested extension through October 15, 2024.

New RRD term expiration date – Mediacom’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 October 15, 2024.

Recipient – Nemont Telephone Cooperative Inc., SCRP0001084

Grounds for individual term extension – Nemont Telephone Cooperative Inc. (Nemont) 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).⁴⁵ Nemont asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its August 26, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Nemont states that the lack of full funding has forced it to “reengineer its network re-deployment,” which has resulted in certain “added costs” and “significant delay” in meeting its program obligations.⁴⁶ Nemont reports that, as a result, it has not yet been able to “re-deploy all its existing towers.”⁴⁷ As to supply chain issues, Nemont reports that there is not a sufficient “availability of qualified and reliable installation crews” and that this has delayed its ability to comply with its program obligations by its current deadline.⁴⁸ Despite these issues, Nemont indicates that the requested extension, if granted, would allow it to “complete the removal, replacement, and destruction process.”⁴⁹ On this basis, the Bureau finds Nemont’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 and

⁴⁰ Request of Mediacom at 3.

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² *Id.* at 4.

⁴³ *Id.* at 5.

⁴⁴ 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).

⁴⁵ See Request of Nemont for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 28, 2024).

⁴⁶ *Id.* at 3.

⁴⁷ *Id.*

⁴⁸ *Id.* at 2-3.

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 3.

supply chain issues,⁵⁰ and accordingly grants the requested extension through February 26, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – Nemont’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 26, 2024 to February 26, 2025.

Recipient – NfinityLink Communications, Inc., SCRP0001173

Grounds for individual term extension – NfinityLink Communications, Inc. (NfinityLink) 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).⁵¹ NfinityLink asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its August 15, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. NfinityLink states that, since the Bureau granted its first extension request,⁵² it has ordered more “equipment needed for compliance,” but that some of this equipment has current estimated lead times of 26 weeks or longer.⁵³ NfinityLink further notes that, while it “has been able to hire some additional staff,” it continues to be “difficult to locate and hire qualified applicants” based on “industry-wide personnel shortages.”⁵⁴ NfinityLink reports that the most significant issue it faces is lack of full funding while it works toward full compliance, and that doing so has required it to expend “significant engineering and administrative resources” that have caused significant delays in meeting its program obligations.⁵⁵ Despite these issues, NfinityLink reports that it is now in the “process of moving customers” to its new platform and that it has secured a facility with sufficient space to house its compliant equipment.⁵⁶ The Bureau finds NfinityLink’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 and supply chain issues,⁵⁷ and accordingly grants the requested extension through February 15, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – NfinityLink’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 15, 2024 to February 15, 2025.

⁵⁰ 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).

⁵¹ See Request of NfinityLink for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 2, 2024) (Request of NfinityLink).

⁵² See *January 2024 Streamlined Resolution Public Notice* at 4.

⁵³ See Request of NfinityLink at 2.

⁵⁴ *Id.* at 1.

⁵⁵ *Id.* at 1-2.

⁵⁶ *Id.* at 1.

⁵⁷ 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).

Recipient – Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc., SCRP0001151

Grounds for individual term extension – Santel Communications Cooperative, Inc. (Santel) 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).⁵⁸ Santel asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 25, 2024 deadline has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding and supply chain issues. Santel states that it has been impacted by “supply chain shipment delays, particularly related to its purchase of fiber optic cabling, that were exponentially longer [than] originally” expected.⁵⁹ As to the lack of full funding, Santel reports that this compromised its “ability to fully plan [for] and . . . overcome the additional expense and time inputs required to adjust for the delays and unforeseen circumstances.”⁶⁰ Despite these reported issues, Santel reports progress towards completing its program obligations. Santel notes that it has removed certain types of covered equipment from its network and passed control of the equipment on to its recycler and that it “continues to diligently work toward full completion of its [program] requirements.”⁶¹ The Bureau finds Santel’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 and supply chain issues,⁶² and accordingly grants the requested extension through January 25, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – Santel’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 25, 2024 to January 25, 2025.

Recipient – Skybeam, LLC, SCRP0001158; SCRP0001161

Grounds for individual term extension – Skybeam, LLC (Skybeam) 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.⁶³ Skybeam asserts that its ability to complete the removal, replacement, and disposal of covered equipment and services by its July 21, 2024 deadline as to each application has, through no fault of its own, been materially affected by the lack of full funding. Skybeam states that the lack of full funding has required it “to develop multiple [project] plans” and “[s]ignificant time and expense have been devoted” to these efforts, which has “resulted in a longer program timeline” than it had originally anticipated.⁶⁴ Skybeam similarly notes that the limited funding has slowed

⁵⁸ See Request of Santel for Extension of Time, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 3, 2024).

⁵⁹ *Id.* at 2.

⁶⁰ *Id.*

⁶¹ *Id.*

⁶² 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).

⁶³ See Supplemental Request of Skybeam for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001158, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 9, 2024) (Supplemental Request of Skybeam); see Request of Skybeam for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001158, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 20, 2024); see Supplemental Request of Skybeam for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001161, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed July 9, 2024); see Request of Skybeam for Extension of Time in Application SCRP0001161, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 20, 2024).

its “rollout of new, comparable replacement equipment” and increased its “expected program management and planning expenses,” while making it difficult to “purchase all necessary approved equipment” and “fund the labor required” to meet its program obligations.⁶⁵ Despite these reported issues, Skybeam explains that it has “invested considerable time in additional engineering and planning” towards meeting its program obligations and indicates that it has started to consider “a range of options” to do so.⁶⁶ The Bureau finds Skybeam’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,⁶⁷ and accordingly grants the requested extension as to each of the above-identified applications through January 21, 2025.

New RRD term expiration date – Skybeam’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. SCRP0001158, from July 21, 2024 to January 21, 2025; and
- For File No. SCRP0001161, from July 21, 2024 to January 21, 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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⁶⁴ *E.g.*, Supplemental Request of Skybeam at 1.

⁶⁵ *E.g.*, *id.*

⁶⁶ *E.g.*, *id.*

⁶⁷ *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.