



PUBLIC NOTICE

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WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU EXTENDS THE FILING DEADLINE FOR STUDY AREA BOUNDARY CHANGES TO JUNE 30, 2017 AND ANNOUNCES STREAMLINED RECERTIFICATION PROCEDURES

WC Docket No. 10-90
WC Docket No. 05-337

The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) hereby announces a June 30, 2017 filing deadline and streamlined filing procedures for the biennial recertification of study area boundary data. As required in the *Study Area Boundary Order*, incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) and state commissions that have voluntarily agreed to file study area boundary data on behalf of some or all ILECs operating within their jurisdictions (certifying state commissions) must review and recertify study area boundary data every two years.¹ The most recent previous recertification period ended on May 26, 2015.²

ILECs and state commissions that have uploaded and certified new boundaries between December 31, 2016 and March 15, 2017 are not required to recertify their data this year.³ All other ILECs and state commissions responsible for study area boundary information must recertify their information as outlined below.

Confirming Study Area Boundaries. Prior to recertification, ILECs and certifying state commissions must confirm that the study area boundary data previously provided to the Commission are accurate. Current study area boundary map data are available at <https://www.fcc.gov/maps/study-area-boundaries/>. Instructions for viewing the map data may be found at https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-344932A2.docx. Once the ILEC or certifying state commission confirms that these data are accurate, it can proceed to the recertification process outlined below. However, if these data are not correct, the ILEC or state commission must file revised boundaries through the Commission's online system at <https://sab.fcc.gov/ilec/login/> or <https://sab.fcc.gov/state/login/>, respectively, and inform Commission staff of the change by sending an email to StudyAreaBoundaries@fcc.gov.

¹ Connect America Fund: High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 05-337, Report and Order, 27 FCC Rcd 13528, 13535, para. 23 (WCB 2012) (*Study Area Boundary Order*).

² Wireline Competition Bureau Extends the Filing Deadline for Study Area Boundary Changes to March 23, 2015 and Sets Recertification Date of May 26, 2015, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 05-337, Public Notice, 29 FCC Rcd 2239, (WCB 2015).

³ See *Study Area Boundary Order*, para. 23, requiring ILECs and/or state entities to submit updated data by March 15 of each year showing any changes made to study area boundaries by December 31 of the previous year.

ILEC Recertification. To facilitate the recertification process, the Bureau has developed a new, web-based statement of recertification that allows ILECs to electronically recertify their study area boundary data. After an ILEC has confirmed that the Commission's study area boundary map information is correct, the ILEC must log into the site at <https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/fcc-user-login> using the same FCC Registration Number (FRN) and password used to upload study area boundary data to the Commission's website. After logging in, ILECs will be asked to enter contact information and the six-digit study area codes for the study areas they are recertifying and to attest to the information they have entered. A tip sheet and instructions for recertifying ILEC study area boundary data electronically may be found at https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-17-536A1.docx.

Certifying State Commission Recertification. After a certifying state commission has confirmed that the Commission's study area boundary map information is correct for its state, the state commission must complete and sign the recertification notification available at https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-345129A1.docx. The completed recertification notification, which must include a list of six-digit study area codes for the study areas that the state commission is recertifying, must then be emailed to StudyAreaBoundaries@fcc.gov.

Additional information on the study area boundary data collection, including the orders referenced in this Public Notice, can be found on the Commission's study area boundary webpage at <http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/study-area-boundary-data-collection>. Specific questions should be directed to the study area boundary staff in the Industry Analysis and Technology Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-0940, (202) 418-0484 (TTY) or at StudyAreaBoundaries@fcc.gov. For additional information about this Public Notice, please contact John Emmett at (202) 418-0386 or John.Emmett@fcc.gov.

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