

Administrator's Decision on Request for an Extension of Time to Complete Special Construction and Light or Use Fiber Services – Funding Year 2016

May 6, 2017

[REDACTED]

Re: Applicant Name: [REDACTED]
Billed Entity Number: [REDACTED]
Form 471 Application Number: [REDACTED]
Funding Request Number(s): [REDACTED]
Your Correspondence Dated: April 26, 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has completed its evaluation of your Request for Extension of Time to Complete Special Construction and Light or Use Fiber Services for Funding Year (FY) 2016 (“Request”) for the above-referenced funding application number. Specifically, your request indicated that the special construction was unavoidably delayed due to the late issuance of the FY 2016 funding commitment decision letter (FCDL) along with unavoidable weather delays. You have certified that, as a result, you will be unable to complete the special construction and light fiber (or use other technology employed by a self-provisioned network) by the June 30, 2017 deadline. Based on your request and provided information, USAC is approving the request to extend the deadline to complete the FY 2016 special construction and light the fiber from June 30, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Explanation-

The *Second E-rate Modernization Order* requires that special construction for leased dark fiber or self-provisioned networks must be completed in time for the associated fiber to be lit (or for other technology used in a self-provisioned network to be used) by the end of the funding year, or for FY 2016, by June 30, 2017.¹ In addition, applicants seeking support for leased lit fiber services must complete any related special construction by

¹ *Modernizing the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries*, WC Docket No 13-184, Second Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration, 29 FCC Rcd 15538, 15552, 15558, paras. 38, 49 (2014) (“*Second E-rate Modernization Order*”).

June 30, 2017.² Applicants may receive up to a one-year extension to complete the special construction and use the fiber if they can demonstrate that construction was unavoidably delayed due to weather or other reasons.³ To request an extension of time to complete the special construction services and light the fiber or use the self-provisioned fiber, applicants must provide an explanation as to why the construction was unavoidably delayed. If it was due to the late issuance of a FCDL, the applicant must provide information about the date the FCDL was issued and why the issuance of the FCDL on that date prevents the applicant from being able to complete special construction in time to light the fiber or use the self-provisioned network by June 30, 2017 (i.e., why the late issuance of the FCDL resulted in construction being unavoidably delayed). If these requirements are met, the applicant may receive an extension of time for one additional year to complete the special construction services and to light the fiber or used the self-provisioned fiber.

USAC has determined that you met these requirements and is approving the request for an extension of time to complete the special construction for one additional year. A Revised Funding Commitment Decision Letter (RFCDL) will be issued to you with June 30, 2018 as the deadline to complete special construction and light the fiber or use the self-provisioned fiber. Please note that while this Extension Request has been approved, your funding commitment for, and any disbursement of, E-rate funds remains contingent upon compliance with E-rate program rules and the terms set forth in the RFCDL.

If you have any questions regarding this extension or your special construction funding request, please let us know. We thank you for your continued support, patience and cooperation during the review process.

Universal Service Administrative Company

² Because applicants must use recurring services for which E-rate discounts have been committed within the funding year for which the discounts are sought, 47 C.F.R. § 54.507(d)(1), applicants must complete any special construction necessary to deliver recurring leased lit fiber services by June 30 of each year.

³ See *Second E-rate Modernization Order*, 29 FCC Rcd. at 15552, 15558, paras. 37, 49.