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RURAL BROADBAND AUCTIONS TASK FORCE ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF MOBILITY FUND PHASE II CHALLENGE PROCESS PORTAL ACCESS REQUEST FORM

WC Docket No. 10-90 WT Docket No. 10-208

The Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force, in conjunction with the Wireline Competition Bureau and the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (the Bureaus), today announces the availability of the webbased form that participants in the Mobility Fund Phase II (MF-II) challenge process must use to request access to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) challenge process portal.¹

In accordance with the procedures adopted in the *MF-II Handset and USAC Portal Access Public Notice*, any eligible mobile service provider or government entity (state, local, or Tribal) wishing to participate in the challenge process must submit its contact information via the web-based access request form to be granted access to the USAC portal.² The access request form is now available at www.fcc.gov/MF2-Challenge-Portal/form.³ The Bureaus will process submitted forms on a rolling basis and email login credentials and instructions for accessing the portal to the user(s) designated on each form.⁴ Any party wishing to receive its login credentials at the time the challenge process window opens should submit its access request form no later than March 15, 2018.⁵

¹ See Mobility Fund Phase II Challenge Process Handsets and Access Procedures for the Challenge Process Portal, Public Notice, 32 FCC Red 10372, 10375-76, paras. 7-10 (WCB/WTB 2017) (MF-II Handset and USAC Portal Access Public Notice). The Office of Management and Budget approved the information collection requirements related to the challenge process, including the portal access procedures adopted in the MF-II Handset and USAC Portal Access Public Notice, on February 7, 2018. See 83 Fed. Reg. 6562 (Feb. 14, 2018).

² MF-II Handset and USAC Portal Access Public Notice, 32 FCC Red at 10375-76, para. 8. If a consumer, organization, or business believes that its interests cannot be met through its state, local, or Tribal government entity and wishes to participate in the process as a challenger, the individual or entity may file a petition with the Commission requesting a waiver for good cause shown and must submit its contact information by email to mf2challengeprocess@fcc.gov, as part of its petition for waiver. See Connect America Fund; Universal Service Reform – Mobility Fund, Order on Reconsideration and Second Report and Order, 32 FCC Red 6282, 6304, para. 43 n.119 (2017) (citing 47 CFR § 1.3); MF-II Handset and USAC Portal Access Public Notice, 32 FCC Red at 10376, para. 10 & n.33.

³ See MF-II Handset and USAC Portal Access Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd at 10376, para. 8 ("The web page address and date by which to submit this contact information will be announced in a subsequent public notice."). We anticipate opening the challenge window one to two weeks after the registration window closes. See generally Comment Sought on Mobility Fund Phase II Challenge Process Procedures and Technical Implementation, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 7596, 7606, para. 28 & n.69 (WCB/WTB 2017).

⁴ See MF-II Handset and USAC Portal Access Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd at 10375-76, para. 8.

⁵ Submission of the access request form does not represent a commitment or obligation to participate in the challenge process. *Id.* at 10376, para. 9.

For further information concerning how to access the USAC challenge process portal, including the web-based access request form, please email mf2challengeprocess@fcc.gov or contact Jonathan McCormack, Auctions and Spectrum Access Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at (202) 418-0660.

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