



# PUBLIC NOTICE

**Federal Communications Commission**  
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**DA 19-664**

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## **QUIET PERIOD ANNOUNCED FOR USTELECOM FORBEARANCE PETITION**

**WC Docket No. 18-141**

**Quiet Period Begins: 11:59 P.M. (EDT) on July 19, 2019**

By this public notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau announces the beginning of the two-week quiet period<sup>1</sup> relating to a forbearance petition filed by USTelecom on May 4, 2018 seeking “nationwide forbearance from outmoded regulatory mandates that distort competition and investment decisions.”<sup>2</sup> The Commission has acted on certain portions of the petition, but other requests for relief remain pending.<sup>3</sup>

Section 1.58 of the Commission’s rules governing forbearance petitions under section 10 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, provides for a two-week quiet period before the statutory deadline for Commission action in forbearance proceedings.<sup>4</sup> The statutory deadline for Commission action on USTelecom’s petition is August 2, 2019.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly, the quiet period for this proceeding begins at 11:59 p.m. (EDT) on July 19, 2019,<sup>6</sup> and all presentations to decision makers concerning

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<sup>1</sup> 47 CFR § 1.58; *see also* *Petition to Establish Procedural Requirements to Govern Proceedings for Forbearance Under Section 10 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended*, WC Docket No. 07-267, Report and Order, 24 FCC Rcd 9543, 9560-61, para. 33 (2009) (*Forbearance Procedures Order*).

<sup>2</sup> *Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks*, WC Docket No. 18-141 (filed May 4, 2018).

<sup>3</sup> *See* Letter from Patrick Halley, Senior Vice President, Policy & Advocacy, USTelecom, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 18-141, at 1 (filed July 1, 2019) (stating that “USTelecom maintains its request for forbearance” from “unbundling obligations for . . . analog voice-grade copper loops” and “avoided cost resale obligations”). The Commission granted forbearance from certain structural and nondiscrimination requirements in April 2019, *see Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks et al.*, WC Docket No. 18-141, Memorandum Opinion and Order, FCC 19-31 (rel. Apr. 15, 2019), and granted forbearance from DS1 and DS3 dedicated interoffice transport unbundling requirements at certain price cap carrier wire centers in July 2019, *see Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks et al.*, WC Docket No. 18-141, Memorandum Opinion and Order, FCC 19-66 (rel. July 12, 2019). The Wireline Competition Bureau also granted USTelecom’s requests to withdraw portions of its forbearance petition. *See Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks*, WC Docket No. 18-141, Order, DA 19-622 (WCB July 2, 2019); *Petition of USTelecom for* (continued....)

USTelecom's petition are prohibited beginning at that time.<sup>7</sup>

For further information, please contact Michele Levy Berlove, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-1477 or via email at [Michele.Berlove@fcc.gov](mailto:Michele.Berlove@fcc.gov).

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*Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks*, WC Docket No. 18-141, Order, DA 19-573 (WCB June 18, 2019).

<sup>4</sup> 47 CFR § 1.58.

<sup>5</sup> Pursuant to section 10(c) of the Act, the Wireline Competition Bureau extended the initial one-year statutory period by an additional 90 days, to August 2, 2019. *Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks*, WC Docket No. 18-141, Order, 34 FCC Rcd 346 (WCB 2019).

<sup>6</sup> "Absent unusual circumstances, this quiet period will end with the release of a Commission order addressing the forbearance petition[s], or if approved by the Commission, withdrawal of the petition by the petitioner." *Forbearance Procedures Order*, 24 FCC Rcd at 9561, para. 34.

<sup>7</sup> 47 CFR §§ 1.58, 1.1203.