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|  | Federal Communications Commission  Washington, D.C. 20554 |

Oct 30, 2017

**VIA ECFS ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554  
  
Re: Measuring Broadband America Program (Fixed Collaborative), GN Docket No. 12-264  
  
Dear Ms. Dortch,  
  
On September 14, 2017, members of the Commission Staff met with representatives of broadband providers, public interest groups, companies, and other organizations for a collaborative meeting to continue discussions pertaining to the fixed Measuring Broadband America (MBA) program.[[1]](#footnote-1)

After general introductions, Walter Johnston, Chief, EMCD/OET welcomed all the collaborative members and introduced Charlotte Wilson, Client Services Executive at SamKnows to present the agenda for the meeting.[[2]](#footnote-2) The following topics were discussed:

1. **2017 MBA Report update:** Mr. Johnston informed the collaborative that the 2017 MBA Report was proceeding as per schedule and was currently going through the final stages of editing. It was expected that the 2017 MBA Report would be completed by the end of September after which it would be sent to the Chairman’s office for a final review.
2. **2018 MBA Validation Period Measurement Update:** Ms. Wilson noted that SamKnows was currently collecting data for the September and October months which traditionally have been chosen as the period from within which 30 days are eventually chosen as the validation period used in creating the charts and dataset for the MBA Report. Mr. Johnston mentioned that he was aware of concerns about the possibility that Hurricanes Harvey and Irma may have adversely affected the data collected in the states of Texas and Florida. SamKnows had not yet been able to assess the effect of these hurricanes on the data collected but plans to carefully do so in the next few weeks. A close look would be taken of the panelist datasets to see if any panelists either stopped reporting data during or after the hurricanes or had a performance that degraded below what they had experienced prior to the hurricanes. An additional factor that may have to be taken into consideration in choosing the 30-day validation period is the introduction of Apple’s new iOS 11 operating system expected to be released on September 19. The data during the week following the introduction of iOS 11 will also be closely monitored to check for any adverse effects on performance due to the increased load on ISP networks from iOS 11 downloads. As a precaution, SamKnows will also continue its data collection period into November as a safeguard should it be determined that there are less than 30 days of non-degraded service during September and October.
3. **Automated Validation update:** SamKnows has been in close discussions with three ISPs to automate their validation processes. Ms. Wilson noted that SamKnows is working one-on-one with each of these service providers since they all have different management procedures, SamKnows expects to finalize the automated validation process by the middle of 2018.

Mr. Johnston concluded the meeting by thanking all the attendees for their active participation.

Sincerely,  
  
/s/ Rajender Razdan  
  
Rajender Razdan, Electronics Engineer,  
Electromagnetic Compatibility Division/OET  
Federal Communications Commission

1. A list of attendees is attached to this filing in GN Docket No. 12-264. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. SamKnows presentation is attached to this filing in GN Docket No. 12-264. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)