



PUBLIC NOTICE

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

**Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554**

News media information 202 / 418-0500
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
<ftp.fcc.gov>

[DA 96-1094]
Released July 10, 1996

COMMON CARRIER BUREAU SEEKS FURTHER COMMENT ON COST MODELS IN UNIVERSAL SERVICE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

CC DOCKET 96-45

Comment Date: August 9, 1996

On March 8, 1996, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPRM") that sought comment on the Congressional directives set out in Section 254 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act") and that established a Federal-State Joint Board to recommend changes to our regulations to implement Section 254 of the 1996 Act.¹ Specifically, the NPRM asked for comment on: 1) goals and principles of universal support mechanisms; 2) support for rural, insular, and high-cost areas and low-income consumers; 3) support for schools, libraries, and health care providers; 4) enhancing access to advanced services for schools, libraries, and health care providers; 5) other universal service mechanisms; and, 6) administration of support mechanisms.

Comments and Reply Comments in this proceeding were received on April 12, 1996, and May 7, 1996, respectively. Parties also submitted two cost models intended to identify high-cost areas and to produce benchmark cost ranges for supplying basic residential telephone service. Pacific Telesis submitted the Cost Proxy Model ("CPM"), and MCI Communications Inc., NYNEX Corporation, Sprint Corporation, and US West resubmitted the Benchmark Cost Model ("BCM") that they had prepared for CC Docket No. 80-286.

Recently, two additional or revised models have been filed. On July 3, 1996, Sprint Corporation and US West submitted Benchmark Cost Model 2 ("BCM2"), and on July 5, 1996, MCI Communications Inc. and AT&T Corporation submitted the Hatfield 2.2, Release 1 ("Hatfield model"). These two new or updated models, along with the CPM and the earlier BCM, will be carefully considered by the Federal-State Joint Board as it formulates its recommendations concerning the provision of Universal Service.

¹ Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order Establishing Joint Board, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 96-93 (released March 8, 1996).

Copies of these models are available to the public. To obtain the CPM, interested parties should contact Nancy Woolf at Pacific Telesis at (415) 542-7657. Four components are required to run the Hatfield model. Those four components are: (1) the Hatfield 2.2, Release 1, as filed jointly by MCI and AT&T in CC Docket No. 96-45 on July 5, 1996; (2) software for running the Hatfield model provided by AT&T to the Commission on June 28, 1996; (3) the first BCM; and (4) the Local Exchange Routing Guide ("LERG"). The first three components may be purchased by calling Wilbur Thomas at International Transcription Services, Inc. ("ITS") at (202) 857-3819. The fourth component, the LERG, is available for a fee from the Bellcore Traffic Routing Administration at (908) 699-6700. The BCM2, like the first BCM, may be purchased by calling Wilbur Thomas at ITS at (202) 857-3819.

Interested parties may wish to comment on these models. Commenters are requested to provide, as a preface to their comments, a brief summary not to exceed three single-spaced pages in total. The comments and comment summary should be filed on or before **August 9, 1996**. Commenters must file an original and four copies of their comments with the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, Room 222, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. Comments should reference CC Docket No. 96-45. Parties must also serve comments on the Federal-State Joint Board and Joint Board staff in accordance with the attached service list. Parties should send one copy of their comments to the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Room 140, 2100 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Comments will be available for public inspection during regular business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Room 239, 1919 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Parties are also asked to submit comments on diskette. Such diskette submissions would be in addition to and not a substitute for the formal filing requirements addressed above. Parties submitting diskettes should submit them to Ernestine Creech, Common Carrier Bureau, Accounting and Audits Division, 2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 257, Washington, D.C. 20554. Such a submission should be on a 3.5 inch diskette in an IBM compatible format using WordPerfect 5.1 for Windows software in a "read only" mode. The diskette should be clearly labelled with the party's name, proceeding, and date of submission. The diskette should be accompanied by a cover letter.

For further information contact Jon Reel, 202 418-0834, or Gary Seigel, 202 418-0879.

Attachment: Service List

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. -- Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. -- Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. -- Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Julia Johnson, Commissioner
Florida Public Service Commission
Capital Circle Office Center
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

The Honorable Kenneth McClure, Vice Chairman
Missouri Public Service Commission
301 W. High Street, Suite 530
Jefferson City, MO 65102

The Honorable Sharon L. Nelson, Chairman
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

The Honorable Laska Schoenfelder, Commissioner
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capital Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Martha S. Hogerty
Public Counsel for the State of Missouri
P.O. Box 7800
Harry S. Truman Building, Room 250
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Deborah Dupont, Federal Staff Chair
Federal Communications Commission
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 257
Washington, D.C. 20036

Paul E. Pederson, State Staff Chair
Missouri Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 360
Truman State Office Building
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Eileen Benner
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Charles Bolle
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
State Capital, 500 E. Capital Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Lorraine Kenyon
Alaska Public Utilities Commission
1016 West Sixth Avenue, Suite 400
Anchorage, AK 99501

Debra M. Kriete
Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Mark Long
Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Gerald Gunter Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

Samuel Loudenslager
Arkansas Public Service Commission
P.O. Box 400
Little Rock, AR 72203-0400

Sandra Makeeff
Iowa Utilities Board
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Philip F. McClelland
Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate
1425 Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Michael A. McRae
D.C. Office of the People's Counsel
1133 15th Street, N.W. -- Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20005

Terry Monroe
New York Public Service Commission
Three Empire Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

Mark Nadel
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 542
Washington, D.C. 20554

Lee Palagyi
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Jeanine Poltronieri
Federal Communications Commission
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 257
Washington, D.C. 20036

James Bradford Ramsay
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners
1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

Jonathan Reel
Federal Communications Commission
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 257
Washington, D.C. 20036

Brian Roberts
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

Gary Seigel
Federal Communications Commission
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 812
Washington, D.C. 20036

Pamela Szymczak
Federal Communications Commission
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 257
Washington, D.C. 20036

Whiting Thayer
Federal Communications Commission
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 812
Washington, D.C. 20036

Alex Belinfante
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Larry Povich
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554