



PUBLIC NOTICE

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COMMON CARRIER BUREAU ANNOUNCES RELEASE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS REPORTING WORKSHEET (FCC FORM 499-A) FOR APRIL 1, 2002 FILING BY ALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS

CC Docket No. 98-171

By this Public Notice, the Common Carrier Bureau (Bureau) announces the release of the revised Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet, FCC Form 499-A ("April 2002 Worksheet") and accompanying instructions. All contributors to the federal universal service support mechanisms, the TRS Fund, the cost recovery mechanism for numbering administration, and the cost recovery mechanism for the shared costs of local number portability must file the April 2002 Worksheet.¹ Contributors to these mechanisms include every telecommunications carrier providing interstate telecommunications and certain other providers of interstate telecommunications for a fee. Thus, all of these entities must complete and file the April 2002 Worksheet on or before April 1, 2002.

Data filed on the April 2002 Worksheet will be used to calculate contributions to the universal service support mechanisms, as well as to the TRS Fund, the cost recovery for numbering administration, and the cost recovery for the shared costs of local number portability. More specifically, the April 2002 Worksheet sets forth the information that contributors must submit, so that the administrators can calculate individual contributions to these mechanisms, or in some cases, determine that an entity's contribution responsibility is *de minimis* -- and thus the entity is exempt from direct contribution -- for the purposes of the universal service support mechanisms.

On July 14, 1999, the Commission amended its rules so that contributors to the universal service support mechanisms, the TRS Fund, and the cost recovery mechanisms for numbering administration and local number portability need only file a single form, the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet, for the purpose of determining their contributions to these mechanisms.² As an attachment to that order, we

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 52.1(b), 52.32(b), 54.711(a), 64.604(c)(5)(iii)(B). See also 47 C.F.R. § 1.47(h) (requiring every common carrier to file information concerning their designated agents pursuant to the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet).

² 1998 Biennial Regulatory Review -- Streamlined Contributor Reporting Requirements Associated with Administration of Telecommunications Relay Services, North American Numbering Plan, Local Number Portability, and Universal Service Support Mechanisms, CC Docket No. 98-171, Report and Order, 14 FCC Rcd 16602 (1999) (Contributor Reporting Requirements Order) (also adopting an April version of the worksheet that will be used to calculate contributions to the TRS Fund and the cost recovery mechanisms for numbering administration and local number portability, as well as the universal service support mechanisms). Thus, all telecommunications carriers must file the April worksheet, whether or not they meet the *de minimis* threshold for purposes of contributing to the universal service support mechanisms.

released the initial version of the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet. Since releasing the initial version, we have revised the worksheet based on Commission actions and court decisions as well as made editorial clarifications culminating in the current version, the April 2002 Worksheet.³

The April 2002 Worksheets will be compiled and used to calculate contribution factors that will be used as the actual basis for contributions to the four support and cost recovery mechanisms. Contribution factors for each of the mechanisms will be announced by Public Notice.⁴ The administrators will bill contributors directly based on the information filed in the April 2002 Worksheets and the publicly-released contribution factors. Payments must be made by the date listed on the administrators' bills.

Contributors must use the April 2002 Worksheet for their filings due on April 1, 2002.⁵ Copies of the April 2002 Worksheet (FCC Form 499-A) and instructions may be downloaded from the Commission's Forms Web Page (www.fcc.gov/formpage.html). Finally, copies may be obtained from the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA) at (973) 560-4400.

For further information, contact Suzanne McCrary, Jim Lande or Kenneth Lynch, Industry Analysis Division, Common Carrier Bureau, at (202) 418-0940.

³ See, e.g., *Implementation of the Subscriber Carrier Selection Changes Provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Policies and Rules Concerning Unauthorized Changes of Consumers Long Distance Carriers*, CC Docket No. 94-129, Third Report and Order, 15 FCC Rcd 15996, 16026 ¶ 63 (2000) (*Slamming Third Report and Order*) (revising FCC Form 499-A to include registration information). See also *Contributor Reporting Requirements Order*, 14 FCC Rcd at 16621 ¶¶ 39-40 (delegating authority to the Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau to make changes to the Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet). See also 47 C.R.R. §§ 52.17(b), 52.32(b), 54.711(c), 64.604(c)(5)(iii)(B).

⁴ Contributions to the local number portability cost recovery mechanism are calculated by the local number portability administrator.

⁵ FCC Form 499-A is typically filed on April 1 of each year. Note, however, that all carriers must notify the FCC within one week if their D.C. Agent for Service of Process or Registration information changes. See 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.47, 64.1195. Any such carrier should report changes by completing and filing the relevant pages of the April 2002 FCC Form 499-A, in accordance with the Instructions to the April 2002 FCC Form 499-A.