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MOBILITY FUND PHASE II MAP TO BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE CHALLENGE PROCESS

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

The Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force (Task Force), in conjunction with the Wireline Competition Bureau and the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (the Bureaus), intends to release a map of areas presumptively ineligible for Mobility Fund Phase II (MF-II) support due to qualifying, unsubsidized coverage reported by one mobile provider. Release of this map will help ensure a timely and effective MF-II challenge process as the map will inform challengers of those areas for which they will need to test the coverage of only one unsubsidized mobile provider. The Task Force and Bureaus plan to release the map on April 10, 2018, and it will be available on the FCC's website at https://www.fcc.gov/mobility-fund-phase-2.

For further information concerning the MF-II challenge process, 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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¹ Although the Commission will continue to treat provider-specific coverage maps as confidential information, the map will be released publicly. As was the case with the map of presumptively eligible areas, in certain circumstances it may be possible to determine some otherwise-confidential information from the publicly-released information. *See Comment Sought on Mobility Fund Phase II Challenge Process Procedures and Technical Implementation, Public Notice*, 32 FCC Rcd 7596, 7599, para. 5 n.20 (WCB/WTB 2017). We find, however, that release of this map will significantly increase the efficiency of the MF-II funding process by identifying those areas where challenge speed tests can be undertaken more easily because challengers will not need to test multiple networks. The Commission has a strong interest in ensuring that funding is available to all areas that are eligible and the challenge process plays an important role in that process. Accordingly, we find that it is in the public interest to publicly release information about areas that are presumptively ineligible due to the qualifying, unsubsidized coverage reported by only one mobile provider even though some provider-specific coverage information may be implicitly revealed.