

## What Do These Terms Mean?

### Facilities-based provider

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A mobile wireless voice service provider is considered “facilities-based” if it serves a subscriber using the provider’s own facilities and spectrum for which it holds a license that it manages, or for which it has obtained the right to use via a spectrum leasing arrangement. Note that the facilities-based provider may—or may not—*sell* the service *directly* to the end user.

### Mobile voice service

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A mobile voice service is a real-time, two-way switched voice service that is interconnected with the public switched network using an in-network switching facility that enables the provider to reuse frequencies and accomplish seamless handoff of subscriber calls. See [47 C.F.R. § 20.15\(b\)\(1\)](#).

### End user

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An end user is a subscriber to commercially-available mobile voice service.

### Zipped shapefile

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A shapefile is a vector data storage format for storing the location, shape, and attributes of geographic features. In other words, it’s a group of files that depict a map and store the associated data. A shapefile at a minimum consists of a Main file (.shp), an Index file (.shx), and a dBASE table (.dbf). To upload a shapefile to the Form 477 database, the collection of files **must be zipped together**. For more information see, “How Should I format My Mobile Voice Deployment data?”

### Voice network coverage

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Mobile voice providers should submit polygons representing geographic coverage nationwide (including U.S. territories) for each voice transmission technology deployed in each frequency band. The polygons should reflect commercially-available voice service, where subscribers can expect to make, maintain, and receive voice calls with a mobile device. A variation in technology or frequency band would require the submission of a separate polygon. For more information please see, [How Should I Format My Mobile Voice Deployment Data?](#)