Form 477 Compliance Webinar

July 15, 2011

FCC Federal Communications Commission

Today's presentation

- The importance of Form 477

- Some top-level rules

- Problems we've seen

- Resources for filers

- Questions via livequestions@fcc.gov

Form 477 data are growing in importance

- Primary data collection tool for broadband and voice data for the Commission

- Use data from this collection to inform policymaking and to provide information to the public and to Congress; for example in the annual Broadband Progress Report to Congress

- There are proposals to rely on data gathered from Form 477 for disbursements of USF support going forward

Why this focus on Form 477 data

We believe the Commission should base its policy making on timely and reliable data

Who must file?

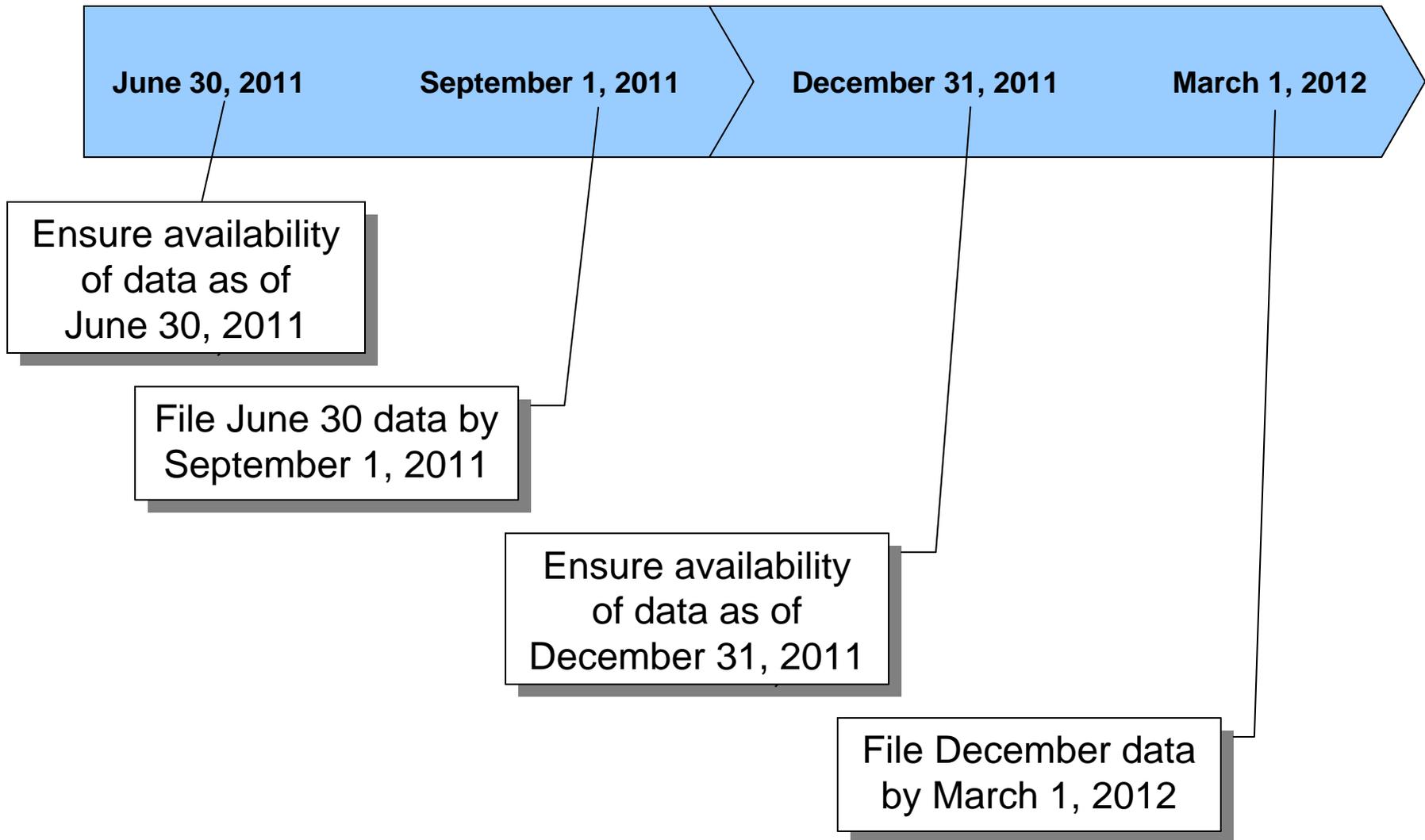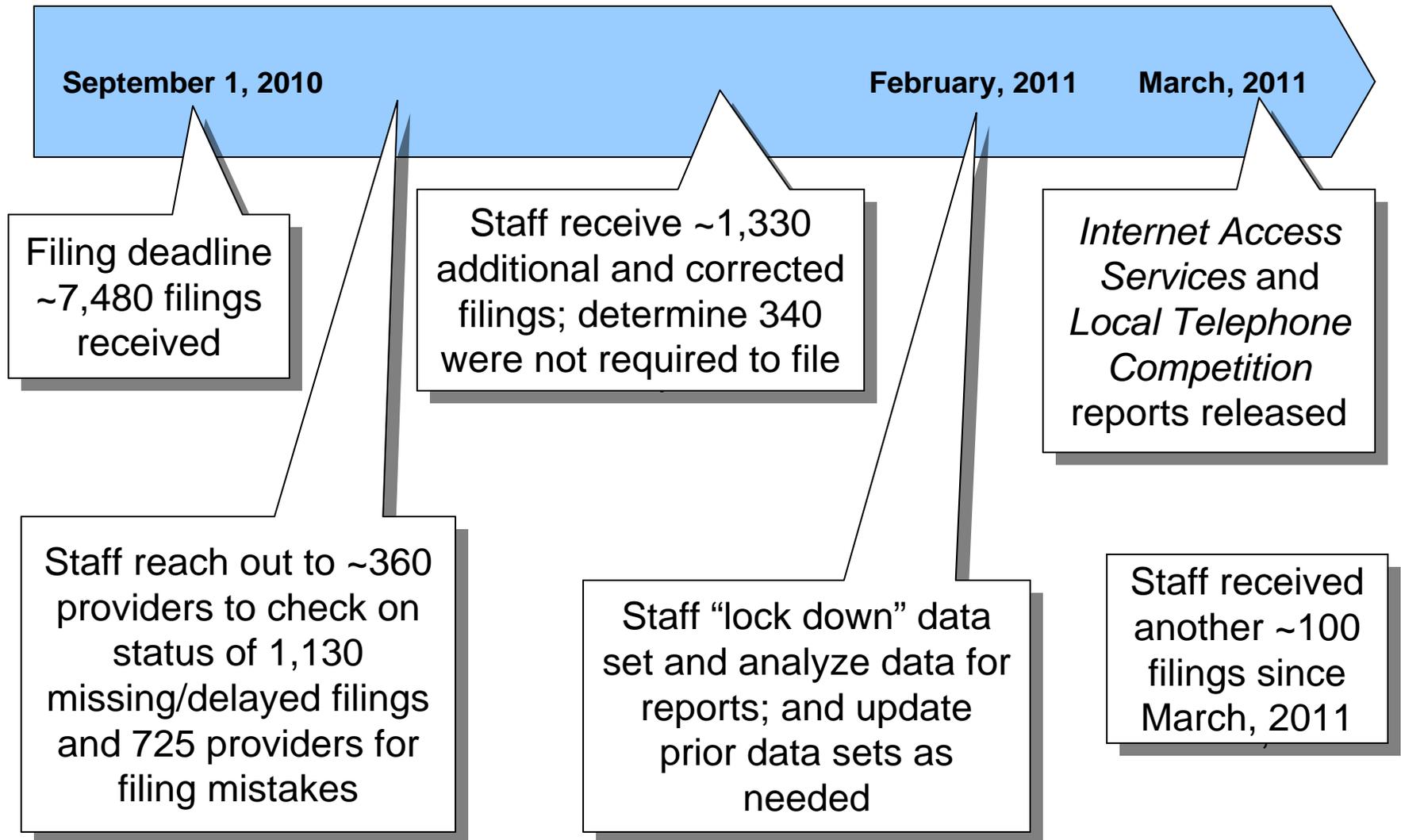| Provider types		Examples include
Broadband (parts I, VI)	All facilities-based providers of data service at least 200 kbps in at least one direction, whether they… • Own networks • Obtain network access via UNEs, special access or other leased facilities • Provide service using either licensed or unlicensed wireless	• Fixed telco providers • Mobile telco providers • Cable providers • WISPs • Satellite companies • Municipal ISPs
Fixed voice (part II, V)	• Local exchange providers • Interconnected VoIP providers	• Telephone companies • Cable companies offering VoIP service • Over-the-top providers of interconnected VoIP service
Mobile telephony (part III)	Facilities based providers of mobile telephony, whether they… • Hold a license for the spectrum • Obtained the right to use the spectrum via lease or other arrangement with a Band Manager	• Mobile phone providers

What are the important dates?

| June 30, 2011 | September 1, 2011 | December 31, 2011 | March 1, 2012 |

Ensure availability
of data as of
June 30, 2011

File June 30 data by
September 1, 2011

Ensure availability
of data as of
December 31, 2011

File December data
by March 1, 2012

Data quality and timing strongly related

September 1, 2010   **February, 2011**   **March, 2011**

Filing deadline ~7,480 filings received

Staff receive ~1,330 additional and corrected filings; determine 340 were not required to file

Internet Access Services and *Local Telephone Competition* reports released

Staff reach out to ~360 providers to check on status of 1,130 missing/delayed filings and 725 providers for filing mistakes

Staff "lock down" data set and analyze data for reports; and update prior data sets as needed

Staff received another ~100 filings since March, 2011

Problems we've seen

	What we see	**Impact**
Missing deadlines	• Providers not filing at all – there are approximately 650 providers who filed data with SBDD grantees who are not filing data with the FCC • Frequently providing incorrect data on-time and correcting later	• Delays creation of a complete data set • Requires time and effort to chase down those not filing
Improper certification	• Not having an official of the provider certify the data are correct along with their contact information	• Prevents us from identifying whether anomalies in data are errors • Prevents us from fixing any errors
Repeated mistakes	• Filing incorrect data – e.g., putting every subscriber into one census tract in a county – in each filing cycle • Moving back to "incorrect" data filings after working with FCC staff to correct in prior filing	• Requires time and effort to chase down corrected data • May lead to problems in data set

Resources for filers

- The website is always open: http://www.fcc.gov/form477/
  - Instructions
  - Tutorial
  - System guide
  - Technical FAQ
- Census geography information
  - http://www.fcc.gov/form477/censustracts.html (available via the website above)
  - SBDD grantees should have mapped most data to the census block (a 15-digit code)
  - Get census blocks: http://www.fcc.gov/developer/census-block-conversions-api; example using the Census Block Call Method:
    - ▸ data.fcc.gov/api/block/find?latitude=**<parameter1>**&longitude=**<parameter2>**
    - ▸ data.fcc.gov/api/block/find?latitude=**38.883473**&longitude=**-77.028472**
    - ▸ <Block FIPS="11001006201​1007B"/>

      State = 11   County = 001   Tract = 006201 (or 0062.01 or 6201 or 62.01)
- FCC staff at 477info@fcc.gov or (202) 418-0940

Any questions?

Submit your questions via livequestions@fcc.gov

And thanks for your time!