Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street NE Washington, DC 20554

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**DA 25-290** 

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## WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON CTIA PETITION FOR RULEMAKING

## RM-12003

Comments Due: April 30, 2025 Reply Comments Due: May 15, 2025

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau seeks comment on a Petition for Rulemaking filed by CTIA – The Wireless Association (CTIA) requesting that the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) update its rules implementing the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA").

Specifically, CTIA requests that the Commission update and streamline the Commission's NEPA rules in Part 1, Subpart I, to facilitate wireless broadband deployment across the country.<sup>2</sup> In particular, CTIA requests that the Commission revise its rules to provide that wireless facility deployments pursuant to a geographic area license that do not require antenna structure registration are not major federal actions under NEPA.<sup>3</sup> CTIA also asks that the Commission "[i]mplement other reasonable reforms to the Commission's NEPA procedures consistent with statutory mandates, recent Presidential directives, and actions by [the Council on Environmental Quality] —including by ensuring that any facilities that remain governed by NEPA are subject to a review process with clear timelines and predictable standards."<sup>4</sup>

We seek comment on CTIA's Petition. Interested parties may file comments on or before **April 30**, 2025. Parties may file replies on or before **May 15**, 2025.

Ex Parte Rules. The proceeding shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's ex parte rules. Persons making ex parte presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must: (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the ex parte presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during ex parte meetings are deemed to be written ex parte presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CTIA – The Wireless Association's Petition for Rulemaking, RM-12003 (filed Mar. 27, 2025) (Petition).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id*. at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> *Id*. at 5.

electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

*Filing Requirements*. Interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document and must reference RM-12003. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).<sup>5</sup>

- *Electronic Filers*: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs">https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs</a>.
- Paper Filers: Parties filing by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
  - Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S.
    Postal Service. All filings must be addressed to the Secretary, Federal
    Communications Commission.
  - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
  - o Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
  - Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be sent to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

For additional information or assistance on how to file a comment or reply comment or other relevant pleading, you may visit the Web at <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/available-support-services">https://www.fcc.gov/available-support-services</a>. You may also call the FCC ULS Customer Support Center at (877) 480-3201 and select option 2. For TTY, please call (717) 338-2824. Assistance from the FCC ULS Customer Support Center is available between the hours of 8 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays). To provide quality service and ensure security, all telephone calls to the FCC ULS Customer Support Center are recorded.

*People with Disabilities.* To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to <a href="fcc504@fcc.gov">fcc504@fcc.gov</a> or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice).

Availability of Documents. Comments, reply comments, and ex parte submissions will be available via ECFS. Documents will be available electronically in ASCII, Microsoft Word, and/or Adobe Acrobat.

Additional Information. For additional information on this proceeding, contact Allison Jones of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at Allison.jones@fcc.gov.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998); Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, 63 Fed. Reg. 24121 (May 1, 1998).