



ISSUE: #14-01

DATED: 01/17/2013

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU EXTENDS STUDY AREA BOUNDARY REVISION DEADLINE

We recently discussed that the Federal Communications Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau ("Bureau") had announced in a Public Notice the publication of an online map of study area boundaries. The Bureau also announced that it was initiating a process for Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers ("ILECs") to reconcile overlaps and voids with neighboring ILECs by submitting boundary modification data by January 13, 2014. In response to the Bureau's announcement, several industry associations filed a joint petition for either a stay or delay in the reconciliation process to enable ILECs to engage in the sometimes lengthy and time consuming discussions necessary with neighboring ILECs and state commissions in order to reconcile the boundary data.

On January 9, 2014, the Bureau issued an order (<http://www.fcc.gov/document/study-area-boundary-revision-deadline-extended-march-17-2014>) extending the deadline for ILECs to reconcile and file revised study area boundary data. The Bureau noted that an extension of the process will better enable parties to complete their consultations and revisions, and ultimately will result in more accurate and meaningful data. Thus, the Bureau is extending the deadline to submit and certify revised study area boundary data by 60 days. This results in a new deadline for ILECs to submit the boundary modification data by March 17, 2014.

The online map can be found at <http://apps.fcc.gov/wcb/sabdata>. We recommend that you review the map, if you have not already done so, to determine if there are any overlaps or voids with neighboring ILECs that may need to be reconciled. (It appears that the website is better accessed in Chrome, Safari, or Firefox rather than older versions of Internet Explorer.)

For assistance on your Study Area Boundary reconciliation process, please contact your GVNW consultant.