



# Just So You Know

## **Competitive Overlap Challenge**

As you may be aware, the Wireline Competition Bureau has announced that the updated June 30, 2016 Form 477 data will be the data used for the competitive overlap challenge processes for the CAF-BLS and the Alaska Plan. The Bureau will provide additional information in the future about the specifics surrounding the challenge process. Therefore, no set dates or actions are required at this time for ETCs or competitors. However, rate of return carriers may want to review the updated 477 data to see what competitors are claiming to be providing service in your area. GVNW will keep you posted regarding the challenge process as the Bureau releases more information.

Keep in mind that competitors that seek to participate in the challenge process will be required to certify and provide supporting documentation demonstrating that they offer voice and broadband services meeting the requisite requirements (fixed voice and broadband (at least 10/1) at comparable pricing, E911, LNP, CALEA) to at least 85% of the locations in the overlapped census blocks. Once a competitor certifies, ETCs will have an opportunity to respond and to dispute the competitor's certification. Once the comment cycle has ended, the Bureau will make a final decision based off all evidence provided as to which census blocks are competitively served.

For additional information, you may contact our regulatory subject matter experts Steve Gatto at [sgatto@gvnw.com](mailto:sgatto@gvnw.com) or 830.895.7226 or Courtney Spears at [cspears@gvnw.com](mailto:cspears@gvnw.com) or 830.895.7221.

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