PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



Response Requested by April 28, 2017

February 28, 2017

To: California Broadband, Voice, and State-franchised Video Service Providers

Subject: Request for Broadband Deployment and Subscription Data as of Dec. 31, 2016

If you submitted broadband data to us last year, thank you. There are two changes with this round of data collection, outlined below.

If this is your first time submitting broadband data, it is important to know that we collect broadband deployment data for the purposes of the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) in order to help us determine areas eligible for infrastructure grants and loans, and to help broadband policymakers engage in data-driven decision making. Additionally, the CPUC's recent decision in December 2016 (D. 1612025), requires that all communications providers certificated and/or registered with the California Public Utilities Commission, that also file Forms 477 with the Federal Communications Commission, shall submit annually to the CPUC's Communications Division by April 1st, voice and broadband subscriber and deployment data at a census block level as of the prior calendar year's end in a form designated by Communications Division Staff.

ALL PROVIDERS:

Broadband and voice data are to be submitted in the formats posted on the <u>Broadband Mapping Program</u> website. Please download the data formats, workbooks, or shapefiles appropriate for your submission.

MOBILE PROVIDERS:

Mobile providers may submit voice and broadband subscriber data at the census tract level. As an alternative, mobile providers may fulfill this requirement by submitting subscriber addresses, which the CPUC will then convert to census blocks.

STATE VIDEO FRANCHISE HOLDERS:

Every State Video Franchise (SVF) Holder is required by DIVCA to submit an Annual Report to the CPUC each year (Section 5960 of the CA Public Utilities Code). In addition to video availability and video subscriber data, SVF Holders must also report broadband availability (same as "deployment") and broadband subscriber data, as well as other information that is required in the Annual Report. If your organization is a SVF Holder, please check the Annual Reporting (for Holders) section of the CPUC's Video Franchising web page for reporting instructions, and continue sending your reports (per DIVCA) to the Video Franchising Group.

Send questions or comments to broadbandmapping@cpuc.ca.gov

Definitions

The CPUC now uses the FCC definitions for Broadband and Broadband Availability. The definition of voice subscriptions is based on the FCC definition but has been modified to include certain over-the-top voice providers.

Broadband:

Lines (or wireless channels) that terminate at an end-user location and enable the end user to receive information from and/or send information to the Internet at information-transfer rates exceeding 200 kbps in at least one direction.

Voice Subscriptions:

Total switched access lines provided via POTS or total number of interconnected VoIP subscribers or mobile voice telephony subscribers in service.

Broadband Availability:

Fixed broadband connections are available in a census block if the provider does, or could, within a service interval that is typical for that type of connection—that is, without an extraordinary commitment of resources—provision two-way data transmission to and from the Internet with advertised speeds exceeding 200 kbps in at least one direction to end-user premises in the census block. Companies that would rely on the ordering or installation of a not-yet-leased circuit (including unbundled network elements defined in 47 C.F.R. § 51.319, TDM-based connections, or packet-based connections) to provide service in a census block not currently served, should NOT treat that census block as having service available. Dark fiber acquired under an Indefeasible Right of Use (IRU) should be considered the "owned" facilities of the company that acquired the IRU when the dark fiber is used as part of that entity's own system.

Provider Map/Interactive Map for public use

Providers' contact information, including website and phone number, is included on the CPUC's interactive broadband availability map, in order that people in areas served by your organization can easily contact you for more information or to order service. If you do not wish to have contact information available to those who may wish to purchase service from you, please let us know in writing.

<u>Confidentiality of submitted data</u>: Please identify any information that you consider confidential. Disclosure of confidential information is prohibited by CA Public Utilities Code Sec. 583.

Please submit the requested data no later than **Friday, April 28, 2017** in accordance with the instructions on the CPUC's <u>State Broadband Mapping Program</u> webpage and the <u>Video Franchising webpage</u>. Send questions or comments to <u>broadbandmapping@cpuc.ca.gov.</u>

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Rob Wullenjohn California Public Utilities Commission