

that construction of a station has been completed and that the station is broadcasting program material. The notification in 47 CFR 73.1620(f) alerts the UHF translator station that the potential of interference exists. The report in 47 CFR 73.1620(g) stating deviations are necessary to eliminate possible abuses of the FCC's processes and to ensure that comparative promises relating to service to the public are not inflated.

OMB Control Number: 3060-0346

Title: Section 78.27, License Conditions

Form Number: N/A

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection

Respondents: Individuals or households; Business and other for-profit entities; and Not-for-profit institutions

Number of Respondents: 50

Estimated Time per Response: 10 mins. (0.167 hrs.)

Frequency of Response: One time and on occasion reporting requirements

Total Annual Burden: 8 hours

Total Annual Costs: None

Needs and Uses: 47 CFR 78.27

requires licensees of Cable Television Relay Service (CARS) stations to notify the FCC in writing when the station commences operation. A CARS licensee, which needs additional time to complete construction of the station, must request an extension of time from the FCC 30 days prior to the expiration of the one-year construction period. The Commission uses these filings to provide accurate CARS channel usage for frequency coordination, to prevent warehousing of spectrum, and to prevent frequency interference.

Federal Communications Commission.

Marlene H. Dortch,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-32115 Filed 12-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[CC Docket No. 96-45; DA 03-3824]

ALLTEL Communications, Inc. for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier and Rural Service Area Redefinition in North Carolina

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice; solicitation of comments.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Wireline Competition Bureau sought

comment on the ALLTEL Communications, Inc. (ALLTEL) petition. ALLTEL is seeking designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) to receive federal universal service support for service offered throughout its licensed service area in the state of North Carolina. ALLTEL also requests that the Commission redefine certain rural service areas.

DATES: Comments are due on or before January 12, 2004. Reply comments are due on or before January 26, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street SW., Washington, DC 20554. See Supplementary Information for further filing instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Karen Franklin, Attorney, Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-7400, TTY (202) 418-0484.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Commission's Public Notice, CC Docket No. 96-45, released November 26, 2003. On August 26, 2003, ALLTEL filed with the Commission a petition pursuant to section 214(e)(6) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, so that it can receive Federal universal service support in the state of North Carolina. ALLTEL also requests that the Commission redefine certain rural service areas pursuant to section 54.207 of the Commission's rules. ALLTEL provides commercial mobile radio services and seeks federal universal service support for its service offered in non-rural wire centers currently served by BellSouth Telecomm Inc., Verizon South, Inc.-NC, Verizon South, Inc. (CONTEL), and North State Telephone Co., and for service offered in rural wire centers currently served by ALLTEL Carolina, Inc., Atlantic Telephone Membership, Central Telephone Co., Concord Telephone Company, Ellerbe Telephone Co. Inc., Lexcom Telephone Company, Mebtel Inc., Piedmont Telephone Membership, Pineville Telephone Co., Randolph Telephone Co., Randolph Telephone Membership, Service Telephone Co., Sprint Mid-Atlantic, Star Telephone Membership, Surry Telephone Membership, Tri-County Telephone Membership, and Yadkin Valley Telephone Membership. ALLTEL has requested that the Commission consider ALLTEL's request to become an ETC in non-rural service areas separately from its rural area ETC designation requests, if such bifurcation would expedite Commission action on ALLTEL's ETC petitions as they relate to the non-rural service areas.

ALLTEL asserts that the North Carolina Utilities Commission (North Carolina Commission) does not regulate commercial mobile radio service providers for purposes of ETC designations and presents an order from the North Carolina Commission asserting its lack of jurisdiction. Hence, according to ALLTEL, the Commission has jurisdiction under section 214(e)(6) to consider and grant its petition. ALLTEL also maintains that it satisfies all the statutory and regulatory prerequisites for ETC designation and that designating ALLTEL as an ETC in areas served by rural LECs will serve the public interest.

In accordance with section 54.207 of the Commission's rules, ALLTEL requests that the Commission designate ALLTEL as an ETC in a service area defined along boundaries that differ from the incumbent rural local exchange carriers' study area boundaries. The service area requested by ALLTEL for ETC designation partially covers the study areas of ALLTEL Carolina, Inc., Central Telephone Company and Surry Telephone Membership Corporation. ALLTEL requests a redefinition of these rural service areas so each wire center in each of the respective study areas is designated as a separate service area. ALLTEL limits its redefinition request to those wire centers that ALLTEL serves in its entirety and notes that where ALLTEL serves only a portion of a wire center, it does not request ETC status for that wire center. ALLTEL maintains that the proposed redefinition of service areas for ETC purposes is consistent with the factors to be considered when redefining a rural telephone company service area, as enumerated by the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service.

The petitioner must provide copies of its petition to the North Carolina Commission. The Commission sent a copy of this Public Notice to the North Carolina Commission by overnight express mail to ensure that the North Carolina Commission is notified of the notice and comment period.

Pursuant to §§ 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments as follows: comments are due on or before January 12, 2004, and reply comments are due on or before January 26, 2004. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121, May 1, 1998.

Comments filed through the ECFS can be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/>