

July 27, 2016

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann U.S. House of Representatives 230 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Fleischmann:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

I agree that it is important to resolve this matter in a timely manner, and more broadly share your belief that broadband connectivity is absolutely necessary to prepare our students for the 21st century. Sweetwater's appeal of the Universal Service Administrative Company's denial of E-rate funding for funding years 2013, 2014, and 2015 is pending before the Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau). Bureau staff is currently conducting a detailed, *de novo* review of the documents submitted by Sweetwater and its service provider, Education Networks of America (ENA), as part of their respective appeals. The full record under consideration also includes a filing by AT&T disputing claims made in the appeals, as well as Sweetwater's response to AT&T's filing. Bureau staff has also requested additional information from Sweetwater and ENA in order to ensure a complete and accurate record. The Bureau will thoroughly and promptly review that information once received and work to resolve the appeal.

Resolving Sweetwater's appeal in a timely fashion is a high priority for the Commission. Given the disputed nature of the record and the need to gather and review additional information from the parties, however, the matter may not be resolved by August 8, 2016. Commission rules authorize the Bureau to extend by up to 90 days the period for action in response to a decision by the Universal Service Administrative Company.\(^1\) In order to complete a comprehensive review and reach a well-considered decision, the Bureau may need to extend the decision deadline.

Thank you again for raising these concerns. I will continue to monitor the Bureau's progress on this matter and keep you apprised of the status. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

¹ See 47 CFR 54.724



July 27, 2016

The Honorable Stephen Fincher U.S. House of Representatives 2452 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Fincher:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

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Sincerely,

¹ See 47 CFR 54.724



July 27, 2016

The Honorable John J. Duncan U.S. House of Representatives 2207 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Duncan:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

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July 27, 2016

The Honorable Scott DesJarlais U.S. House of Representatives 413 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman DesJarlais:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

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July 27, 2016

The Honorable Bob Corker United States Senate 425 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Corker:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

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July 27, 2016

The Honorable Jim Cooper U.S. House of Representatives 1536 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cooper:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

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July 27, 2016

The Honorable Steve Cohen U.S. House of Representatives 2404 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cohen:

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Mel

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July 27, 2016

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn U.S. House of Representatives 2266 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Blackburn:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

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July 27, 2016

The Honorable Diane Black U.S. House of Representatives 1131 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Black:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

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July 27, 2016

The Honorable Lamar Alexander United States Senate 455 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Alexander:

Thank you for your inquiry into the status of the E-rate appeal filed by the Sweetwater City Schools Consortium (Sweetwater). As you know, the E-rate program, more formally known as the schools and libraries universal service support program, is dedicated to ensuring all of America's schools and libraries can purchase affordable telecommunications, internet access, and internal connections (WiFi equipment).

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