

Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Rulemaking Regarding
Revisions to the California Universal
Telephone Service (LifeLine) Program.

Rulemaking 11-03-013

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to October 23, 2018.

1. Background

Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a)¹ provides that quasi-legislative cases shall be resolved within 18 months of the date the scoping memo is issued, unless the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) establishes an alternative timeline in the Scoping Memo or issues an order extending that deadline.

Several Scoping Memos have been issued in this proceeding. The latest Amended Scoping Memo was issued on December 24, 2015, extending the deadline to June 24, 2017. The Commission has extending the statutory deadline of this proceeding and the latest Decision (D.) 17-10-022 dated October 26, 2017, extended the statutory deadline to April 23, 2018.

On March 16, 2018, the assigned Commissioner issued an Assigned Commissioner Ruling (ACR) requesting comment on the future of the 60-day

¹ This proceeding was filed prior to changes made to Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a). These changes only apply to cases filed after December 31, 2016.

benefit portability freeze. Reply comments are due by April 10, 2018 and the ACR anticipates that the Commission will issue a formal decision within 120 days from the receipt of reply comments. An extension of the statutory deadline is necessary for the Commission to issue the anticipated decision.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment of proposed decisions extending the deadline for resolving quasi-legislative proceedings. Accordingly, pursuant to this rule, the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is waived.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Martha Guzman Aceves is the assigned Commissioner and Katherine MacDonald is the assigned Administrative Law Judge in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

1. Several Scoping Memos have been issued in this proceeding. The latest Amended Scoping Memo was issued on December 24, 2015, extending the deadline to June 24, 2017.

2. The Commission has extended the statutory deadline of this proceeding and the latest D.17-10-022 dated October 26, 2017, extended the statutory deadline to April 23, 2018.

3. D.18-02-006, issued on February 8, 2018, revised the California Lifeline Eligibility Criteria Provisions.

4. On March 16, 2018, the assigned Commissioner issued an ACR requesting comment on the future of the 60-day benefit portability freeze and reply comments are due by April 10, 2018.

5. An extension of time until October 23, 2018, is necessary for the Commission to issue the anticipated decision.

Conclusions of Law

1. The statutory deadline imposed by Public Utilities Code Section 1701.5(a) should be extended until October 23, 2018.

2. This order should be effective immediately.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended until October 23, 2018.

This order is effective today.

Dated _____, at San Francisco, California.