



Wireline Competition Bureau

State of the Bureau Presentation

January 20, 2006

Strategic Goals

- Advancing our Nation's Public Safety and Homeland Security
- Facilitating Broadband Deployment
- Promoting Competition



Advancing Public Safety

■ Ensuring Safety for Consumers: VoIP/911 Order and NPRM

- Interconnected VoIP service providers required to:
 - Provide 911 emergency calling capability
 - Inform consumers of the capabilities and limitations of their 911 services
- Sought comment on how to automatically update customer location information for nomadic VoIP services

Advancing Public Safety

- Relief to Hurricane Victims
 - Made available more than \$200 million in federal universal service fund support for relief efforts



- Low income program – Made funds available for carriers to provide free wireless handsets with at least 300 minutes
- Schools and libraries program – Made funds available to reconnect affected schools & libraries
- Health care program – Made funds available to support the telecommunications needs of affected public and non-profit health care providers, including American Red Cross shelters
- High-cost program – Provided flexibility for carriers to prioritize rebuilding damaged facilities

Advancing Public Safety

- Relief to Hurricane Victims (cont.)
 - Extensive Outreach and Coordination with Service Providers and Local Public Safety Representatives



- Orders providing additional relief
 - Reassigned phone number 1-800-RED-CROSS
 - Enabled evacuees to maintain their phone numbers via waivers of number aging and number porting rules
 - Provided flexibility from filing deadlines for E-Rate participants, for carriers reporting competition and broadband data (Form 477), and for VoIP E911 status reports
 - Permitted carriers flexibility in use of their networks to maintain and restore service

Advancing Homeland Security

- Provided Support for Law Enforcement
 - Adopted the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA) Order
 - Extended the applicability of CALEA to interconnected VoIP and facilities-based broadband providers
- Promoted Emergency Preparedness
 - Developed Continuity of Operations Plans

Facilitated Broadband Deployment

- Advanced “universal, affordable access to broadband technology”
 - Promoted Regulatory Parity: DSL Order and NPRM
 - Following the Supreme Court’s *Brand X* Decision, the DSL Order deregulated wireline broadband Internet access service as delivered by DSL technology placing it on equal regulatory footing with cable modem service

Facilitated Broadband Deployment

- Advanced “universal, affordable access to broadband technology” (cont.)
 - Promoted Net Neutrality: Internet Policy Statement
 - Broadband Data Collection
 - Released the High Speed Services for Internet Access report
 - Released the Trends in Telephone Service report



Promoted Competition

- Performed simultaneous review of two historic telecom mergers in unprecedented time frame – SBC/AT&T Verizon/MCI
 - Analyzed over 550 boxes of materials and millions of pages of data and other information
 - Assessed data for more than 5000 product and geographic markets
 - Enabled Commission to complete analyses and release orders in less than 9 months

Promoted Competition

- Transitioning to Competitive Markets
 - Qwest Omaha Forbearance Order
 - Verizon Pricing Flexibility Order
- Rationalizing the Inter-carrier Compensation Regime
 - Inter-carrier Compensation FNPRM
- Reduced Consumer Fees
 - PIC Change Charge Order

Promoted Competition

■ Advanced Universal Service

- Launched program improvements proceeding:
Comprehensive Review NPRM
 - First comprehensive review of the management, administration, and oversight of the federal universal service program
 - Working to curb waste, fraud and abuse
- Examining the non-rural disbursement process and the creation of a non-rural, insular mechanism: 10th Circuit/PRTC NPRM

WCB 2005 Accomplishments

- Agenda Items Released: 9
- Circulation Items Released: 26
- Forbearance Petitions Resolved: 12
- Statistical Reports Released: 15
- ARMIS Filings Processed: 2243
- Tariff Filings Processed: 1186

Challenges for 2006 and Beyond

- Public Safety and Homeland Security
 - Improve 911 services for consumers of nomadic VoIP providers: VoIP/911 NPRM
- Broadband
 - Support continued broadband deployment
- Competition
 - Rationalize the intercarrier compensation regime
 - Reform of the universal service fund