The gap in coverage is then calculated as:

\[
\text{Gap in Coverage} = \text{Total Population} - (\bar{X} + 1.28N\sqrt{V(x)}).
\]

If the gap in coverage is no more than 5% of the total population of a given commitment, no penalties will apply. Otherwise, penalties will apply according to the tiers adopted by the Commission.

Additionally, it is possible to have a negative gap in coverage if the upper limit of the confidence interval is greater than the total committed population. If a provider has committed to multiple tiers of technology (i.e., 2G, 3G, and 4G LTE), then any excess coverage, as defined by a negative gap in coverage, can be applied to the next lowest tier of technology. For example, if a provider has committed to cover 25,000 people with 4G LTE and the upper limit of the confidence interval shows adequate coverage for 30,000 people, then the remaining 5,000 coverage can be applied to its 3G commitment. This process is iterative, so any further excess coverage can be applied to its 2G commitment. Accordingly, the formula above would be re-written as:

\[
\text{Gap in Coverage} = \text{Total Population} - \left( \bar{X} + 1.28N\sqrt{V(x)}(\bar{x}) \right).
\]

This methodology therefore will not punish carriers for improving coverage beyond what they committed.

## IV. Procedural Matters

### Initial Regulatory Flexibility Certification

As required by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, the Commission certifies that the proposals in this Public Notice, if adopted, will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. This Public Notice seeks comment on the drive testing proposals required by the Alaska Plan for those wireless participants receiving more than $5 million in annual Alaska Plan support, excluding the smaller wireless participants that receive less than that in annual support. The proposals, if adopted, would apply to only two entities, one of which does not qualify as a small entity.

**Ex Parte Presentations.** This proceeding shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s ex parte rules. Persons making ex parte presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the ex parte presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during ex parte meetings are deemed to be written ex parte presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written ex parte presentations and memoranda summarizing oral ex parte presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s ex parte rules.

**Legal Basis.** The Bureau is authorized to propose the drive test parameters and model pursuant to the authority delegated in the Alaska Plan Order, 31 FCC Rcd 10139, 10160, 10166, paras. 67, 85 (2016) and 47 CFR 54.317, 54.320–54.321.

Federal Communications Commission.

Amy Brett,
Acting Chief of Staff, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2021–16125 Filed 7–27–21; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 6712–01–P**

### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

**MB Docket No. 18–349; DA 21–851; FR ID 40028**

**Media Bureau Extends Comment and Reply Comment Deadlines To Update the Record in the 2018 Quadrennial Review**

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In this document, the Commission grants a motion for extension of time in the 2018 Quadrennial Review record update to extend the comment and reply comment deadlines.

**DATES:**
- **Comment Date:** September 2, 2021.
- **Reply Comment Date:** October 1, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ty Bream, Media Bureau, Industry Analysis Division, Ty.Bream@fcc.gov, (202) 418–0644.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Media Bureau’s Public Notice in MB Docket No. 18–349, DA 21–851, that was released on July 16, 2021. The complete text of this document is available electronically via the search function on the FCC’s Electronic Document Management System (EDocs) web page at https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/. Documents will be available electronically in ASCII, Microsoft Word, and/or Adobe Acrobat. Alternative formats are available for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format, etc.) and reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.) may be requested by sending an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or calling the FCC’s Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418–0530 (voice), (202) 418–0432 (TTY).

**Synopsis**

1. By this Public Notice, the Media Bureau extends the deadlines for filing comments and reply comments in the above-captioned proceeding. On June 4, 2021, the Media Bureau released a Public Notice, 86 FR 35089 (July 1, 2021), seeking to update the record in the 2018 Quadrennial Review proceeding, in which the Commission has sought comment, pursuant to its obligation under Section 202(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, on whether its media ownership rules remain “necessary in the public interest.
as the result of competition.” On July 1, 2021, the Media Bureau announced a comment filing deadline of August 2, 2021, and a reply comment filing deadline of August 30, 2021, for record updates to the above-captioned proceeding.

2. On July 12, 2021, Common Cause, Free Press, the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC), the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters (NABOB), and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) (collectively, Joint Filers) requested an extension of the comment and reply comment filing deadlines until September 2 and October 1, 2021, respectively. The Joint Filers explain that, as more than two years have passed since the original comment cycle in this proceeding was completed, there have been many economic and legal developments in the media industry in that time. The Joint Filers state that they and other interested parties need additional time to address the many complex economic and legal issues through research, updates to previously filed material, and new information.

3. As set forth in section 1.46(a) of the Commission’s rules, the Commission’s policy is that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted. We find, however, that the Joint Filers have set forth a sufficient justification to warrant grant of their requested extension. As an extension should enable interested parties to present more complete and thoughtful comments to the Commission, we agree with the Joint Filers that both the parties commenting in the proceeding and the Commission should benefit and that the extension should not disadvantage any party. Accordingly, we grant the Joint Filers’ request and extend the comment and reply comment deadlines by approximately a month, until September 2, 2021, and October 1, 2021, respectively.

4. For additional information on this proceeding, contact Ty Bream, Ty.Bream@fcc.gov, of the Media Bureau, Industry Analysis Division. Press inquiries should be directed to Janice Wise, Janice.Wise@fcc.gov, (202) 418–8165.

Federal Communications Commission

Thomas Horan,
Chief of Staff, Media Bureau.

[FR Doc. 2021–16127 Filed 7–28–21; 8:45 am]