BROADBAND OFFICE

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MEMORANDUM

TO: South Carolina Internet Service Providers

FROM: Jim Stritzinger
Director, SC Broadband Office

DATE: November 18, 2025

RE: Optional FCC BDC Pre-Screening Assistance / BDC Reporting Errors

Per Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules, all facilities-based providers of fixed and/or mobile broadband internet access who have one or more end-user connections in service on the "as of date" (June 30 or December 31) must report their information. Ultimately, if the SC Broadband Office (SCBBO) makes investments to build locations and these locations never get reported to the FCC, citizens never become aware of service availability via the FCC National Broadband Map, ISPs risk getting overbuilt in future grant cycles together with financial holdbacks due to retention, and the reported unserved and underserved location counts do not decrease. Therefore, accurate reporting to the FCC is of mutual importance to citizens, ISPs, and the SCBBO.

Over the last few months, the SCBBO has completed a detailed analysis of the June 30, 2025, FCC Broadband Data Collection information that was shared with our office at the same time it was filed with the FCC in September 2025. As a result, we have identified two primary issues which the SCBBO would like to work with ISPs to address prior to the next reporting cycle:

1) **Funded Locations Not Reported –** Across all ISPs, the SCBBO identified **over 1,400 locations** that were included in grant agreements in prior programs including: closed ARPA SLFRF and CPF projects, closed Rural Broadband Grant projects, or locations that were reported as served as part of the SC BEAD Eligibility Cleanup and the NTIA BEAD Challenge Process – that were not reported in the most recent FCC BDC.

2) **Previously Served Locations That Are No Longer Reported –** Across all ISPs, the SCBBO identified **over 107,000 locations** that were reported served (greater than or equal to 100/20 speeds by fiber or cable technologies) in any of the prior reporting cycles that are no longer reported as served in the June 30, 2025, BDC submissions.

To help address these issues, the SCBBO has completed ISP-specific analysis spreadsheets with separate tabs outlining the affected locations for both situations as well as an included instructions tab detailing data schema and other important information. The spreadsheets are now located in each ISP's **secure ShareFile Sep 2, 2025 Data Request** folder.
We would respectfully request that you download your spreadsheet, review internally, and schedule a meeting with your FCC reporting team (including contractors, if appropriate) to

craft a resolution to these errors. After you review the document, the SCBBO Data Science team is glad to schedule a virtual meeting to discuss the analysis sheet and help answer any questions.

Optional FCC BDC Pre-Screening Assistance

Looking ahead to FCC BDC December 31, 2025, filing (which is due March 1, 2026), the SCBBO is offering pre-screening assistance to help make sure your December 31st data is as accurate as possible.

To participate, an ISP needs to share their draft FCC December 31, 2025, filing information with the SCBBO as soon as possible; however, **no later than Friday February 13, 2025. Once the data has been shared,** we will screen for the issues described above. The goal of the screening is to help prevent these issues and minimize the need for amended FCC filings.

Please email broadband@ors.sc.gov if there are any questions or you would like to schedule your one-on-one call to walk through any FCC reporting issues.

Participation in FCC BDC Pre-Screening does not replace the state requirement to submit bi-annual FCC BDC information to the SCBBO. Filing of actual FCC BDC information will still be required by the SCBBO for June 30 data in September, and December 31 data in March of each year.

The pre-screening described herein is not to be considered instructions on how or what to file in your BDC report, it is only intended to aid and assist your organization in its filing. Please be advised that any pre-screening assistance provided by SCBBO is informal and intended to provide general assistance only. It does not supersede, replace, or amend any applicable laws, regulations, rules, guidance, or other information provided by the FCC or other applicable federal agency. The SCBBO is unable to provide advice on how to comply with the FCC BDC process, offer opinions, or give legal counsel. The SCBBO is not responsible for any ISP's FCC BDC information and is not liable for any damages or injuries in any way related thereto.

Thank you, in advance, for your support and cooperation.