

SCRPS Status Update

FCC Form 5640

OMB Control No. 3060-1270

File No. SC-SU0003221

Applicant Information

Applicant FRN	0001768159	Applicant Address	111 High St
Applicant Name	Advantage Cellular Systems,	Applicant City	Alexandria
Applicant Email	ctownson@staff-dtc.com	Applicant State	TN
Applicant Phone	6154642254	Applicant ZIP Code	37012

Contact Information

☐ Is the contact the same as the contact listed on the Application Request for Funding Allocation? If not, please list below.

Contact Name	Stephen Johnson	Contact Address	111 High St
Contact Email	sjohnson@staff-dtc.com	Contact City	Alexandria
Contact Phone	6154642203	Contact State	TN
		Contact ZIP Code	37012

*Indicate which deadline you are meeting with this filing.

2025-04-03

Explanation of Effort and Availability of Commercial Equipment

*Provide an explanation of efforts undertaken, and challenges encountered, in permanently removing, replacing, and disposing of covered communications equipment or service.

Advantage Cellular Systems, Inc. (ACSI) remains committed to the ongoing challenge of permanently removing, replacing, and disposing of covered communications equipment and services. As part of its ongoing efforts, ACSI continues to refine and implement detailed strategies for the completion of this extensive project. However, persistent challenges have surfaced, particularly due to insufficient funding allocations. The uncertainty surrounding the timing of the remaining funds and the absence of updates have forced ACSI to spend considerable resources on adjusting and reevaluating operational plans. This includes collaboration with vendors, financial partners, and workforce crews, all of whom must remain agile to ensure progress despite these financial constraints. ACSI continues to have project-related expenses that are being personally funded; however, at this time, the project may have to be put on permanent hold until full funding is allocated.

To keep things moving forward, ACSI has engaged with a range of consulting engineers and operational crews to conduct thorough site and network evaluations. These efforts include coordinating with tower companies for the efficient removal of outdated equipment, as well as planning for the replacement of this equipment. While awaiting the release of the necessary funds, these teams have been working diligently to streamline the ordering and delivery processes for new equipment, ensuring that the transition can proceed smoothly once full financing is secured.

In terms of progress to date, ACSI has successfully removed covered equipment from 33 sites. Notably, the ZTE Core equipment, along with its supporting software, has been fully removed. The network continues to operate through temporary core functionality, which will be permanently upgraded once funding is fully allocated, and the necessary equipment is delivered. ACSI has disposed of all removed equipment.

Additionally, ACSI is undergoing a management transition, resulting in strategy meetings to maintain business continuity amid the project's uncertainty.

*Explain whether you are finding commercially available equipment in the marketplace. If not, then explain efforts taken to obtain replacement equipment.

As noted in the previous quarterly report, ACSI has successfully obtained replacement equipment, including RRUs (Remote Radio Units), BBUs (Baseband Units), servers, and other essential components required for the operation of our towers and central offices.

Lead times for replacement equipment are still under review as our network engineering and design teams finalize a plan for implementation.

* If there is additional information relevant to the preceding questions or that you believe the Commission should be aware of, please include the information below.

Program Compliance

*Indicate whether recipient has fully complied with (or is in the process of complying with) all requirements of the Reimbursement Program.

☒ Yes ☐ No

*Indicate whether recipient has permanently removed from its communications network all covered communications equipment or services that were in the recipient's network as of the date of the submission of the recipient's application request for funding.

☐ Yes ☒ No

If recipient has not yet completed the removal process, what estimated percentage of the removal process have you completed?

95

*Indicate whether recipient has replaced all covered communications equipment or services that were in the recipient's network as of the date of the submission of the recipient's application request for funding.

☐ Yes ☒ No

If recipient has not yet completed the replacement process, what estimated percentage of the replacement process have you completed?

75

*Indicate whether recipient has disposed of all covered communications equipment or services that were in the recipient's network as of the date of the submission of the recipient's application request for funding.

☐ Yes ☒ No

If recipient has not yet completed the disposal process, what estimated percentage of the disposal process have you completed?

95

*Indicate whether recipient has fully complied with (or is in the process of complying with) the timeline submitted by the recipient. If not, provide explanation for deviation.

☐ Yes ☒ No

*The filer has indicated no to a question in this section, please provide additional information.

While ACSI is actively working to comply with all the requirements of the Reimbursement Program, several challenges have significantly impacted the company's progress. Delays caused by administrative hurdles, uncertainties surrounding the full funding of the program, workforce shortages, and supply chain disruptions have all contributed to slowdowns in ACSI's efforts as the project reaches its final steps.

Certifications

*By checking the box and providing the electronic signature where indicated below, the Certifying Official on behalf of the filer certifies under penalty of perjury that:



(1) The Certifying Official is authorized to submit this status report on behalf of the above-named filer and, based on information known to me or provided to me by employees responsible for the information being submitted, the information set forth in this status report has been examined and is true, accurate, and complete, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the terms and conditions of the Federal award. The Certifying Official acknowledges that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information or statement, or the omission of any material fact on this status report or on any other document submitted by the filer may subject the filer and the undersigned to punishment by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), 1606), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. § 1001, §§ 286-287, and § 1343), or can lead to liability under the False Claims Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3733, and §§ 3801-3812). (2) The filer is in compliance with the statute, rules, and orders governing the Reimbursement Program, including but not limited to allocations, draw downs, payments, obligations and expenditures of money, and the Certifying Official acknowledges that failure to be in compliance and remain in compliance with those statutes, rules, and orders may result in the denial of funding, cancellation of funding commitments, and/or recoupment of past disbursements. The Certifying Official acknowledges that the filer will maintain detailed records, including receipts, of all costs eligible for reimbursement actually incurred for a period of 10 years; and will file all required documentation for its expenses. The Certifying Official acknowledges that failure to comply with the statute, rules, and orders governing the Reimbursement Program could result in civil or criminal prosecution by law enforcement authorities.

Certifier Information

Certifier
Signature

Stephen Johnson

Certifier Phone 6154642203

Certifier Name Stephen Johnson

Certifier Email sjohnson@staff-dtc.com

Certifier Title CEO

Date Signed 2025-04-01