

SCRPS Status Update

FCC Form 5640

OMB Control No. 3060-1270

File No. SC-SU0002344

Applicant Information

Applicant FRN 0001754209

Applicant Address 3984 County Rd 32

Applicant Name Pine Belt Cellular, Inc.

Applicant City Arlington

Applicant Email cores@pinebelt.net

Applicant State AL

Applicant Phone 3343855000

Applicant ZIP Code 36722

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 Sam Hariton

Contact Address 4031 University Dr., 2nd Floor

Contact Email sc.external.rfi.pinebelt@wideii

Contact City Fairfax

Contact Phone 703-239-3299

Contact State VA

Contact ZIP Code 22030

*Indicate which deadline you are meeting with this filing.

2024-01-06

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.

Yes, my company has conducted work on the removal of covered equipment since submittal of the last form. We have removed the RAN at 56 of 67 sites. Removal of the remaining will be highly dependent on the availability of funding to pay for the remaining construction and replacement items needed to avoid a reduction in customer wireless broadband coverage and other critical factors. No, my company has not conducted work on the disposal of covered equipment since the submittal of the last form. All removed items are stored in a secure facility. For efficiency of operations, we plan to start destruction once we have completed removal of all items to be destroyed. Yes, my company has conducted work on the replacement of covered equipment and services since the submittal of the last form. We have completed installation of all items at the core and have completed installation of replacement RAN equipment at all but 11 sites.

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

We are finding that equipment is commercially available but services often are not. Generally, we have simply had to wait until crews are available. On occasion, we have employed construction crews with minimal experience in order to keep the project moving given the tight timeframes. However this has had its drawback in that it has been necessary to have some of the work "redone" to bring it up to a satisfactory quality level.

* 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.

The unpredictability of timing of processing of 5640 Modifications and subsequent reimbursement payment requests continues to be a major problem impacting the timing of completion. The recent news that the Chinese "spy balloon" was reportedly using a US internet service provider to relay the data it was collecting back to its home base underscores the critical importance of completing this job as quickly as possible. However, the low and dark cloud of uncertainty caused by the program funding shortfall coupled with the excessively burdensome issues stemming from the documented inefficiencies of program administration continues to hang over the program. All this rolled up together causes one to question whether all branches of government are on board with the reason for the mandate – national security.

Timeline Deviation. Completion of the core replacement was way off, however, that has now been completed. Completion of the RAN replacement is dependent on multiple factors including the availability of full funding and is being very negatively impacted by the slow pace of the reimbursement process.

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?

50

*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?

84

*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?

0

*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.

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	John C. Nettles	Certifier Phone	334-385-5001
Certifier Name	John C. Nettles	Certifier Email	john@pinebelt.net
Certifier Title	President		
Date Signed	2024-01-05		