

SCRPS Status Update

FCC Form 5640

OMB Control No. 3060-1270

File No. SC-SU0003222

Applicant Information

Applicant FRN 0003740768

Applicant Address 153 W. Dave Dugas Rd.

Applicant Name TelAlaska Cellular, Inc.

Applicant City Sulphur

Applicant Email shartman@fastwyre.com

Applicant State LA

Applicant Phone 3033702070

Applicant ZIP Code 70665

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 Stacy Hartman

Contact Address 13200 Metcalf, Suite 400

Contact Email shartman@fastwyre.com

Contact City Overland Park

Contact Phone 720-370-2070

Contact State KS

Contact ZIP Code 66213

*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.

TelAlaska Cellular, Inc. dba Fastwyre Broadband (the "Company") has finalized the network design, project scope, and cost projections. To fulfill its obligations, the Company must replace covered equipment at 28 sites spread across thousands of miles, facing significant logistical, accessibility, and weather-related challenges.

Although recent severe winter conditions have temporarily delayed the delivery of equipment and crews to one site, the Company has successfully completed the removal and replacement of covered equipment at 27 of the 28 sites. Weather permitting, work at the final site is expected to be completed by the end of the month. The disposal of identified equipment is ongoing and is projected to be finalized by early May 2025.

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

While the Company has identified an equipment replacement plan and believes the remainder of the needed equipment will be available, equipment availability and/or supply chain issues may potentially impact overall equipment availability.

* 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.

In December 2024, Congress approved full funding for the Supply Chain Reimbursement Program; however, the funds have yet to be allocated. Prior to this approval, only ~40% of the total estimated costs necessary to remove, replace, and dispose of the covered equipment in our Company's network had been funded. Despite this funding shortfall, the Reimbursement Program FAQs (at 25) states that "[p]roviders are expected to remove, replace, and dispose of all Huawei and/or ZTE communications equipment and services in their networks as of the date of the submission of the application even if they receive a prorated allocation from the Reimbursement Program due to funding constraints."¹

As a small rural provider, our Company lacks the financial resources to cover the multimillion-dollar funding gap. To operate within the ~40% allocation while complying with our Company's removal, replacement, and disposal deadline of May 21, 2025, we implemented temporary solutions at five of the 28 sites. As a result, our Company is currently serving a smaller geographic coverage area than we previously served. Once Congress allocates full funding, we will proceed with deploying permanent solutions at these locations, which will require tower replacements, additional equipment installation, and satellite backhaul deployment.

Advanced planning is critical due to the significant environmental and logistical challenges associated with construction in this region. Equipment and supplies must be transported by barge and staged until construction can commence, while personnel must be flown into these remote sites—weather permitting—to perform the work. Barge transportation arrangements must be secured months in advance, and project timelines are highly susceptible to supply chain delays, particularly if equipment availability does not align with barge transport schedules.

¹ FCC, Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program: Frequently Asked Questions, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-24-234A2.pdf> (last visited Dec. 30, 2024).

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?

96

*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?

78

*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?

78

*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 Congress approved full funding for the Supply Chain Reimbursement Program in December 2024, the funds have yet to be allocated. Previously, Congress funded only ~40% of the total estimated costs required to remove, replace, and dispose of the covered equipment in the Company's network. As a result, TelAlaska Cellular lacks the financial resources to cover the multimillion-dollar funding shortfall.

Despite the Company's diligent efforts to remove, replace, and dispose of as much covered equipment as possible, it remains reliant on the timely allocation of the remaining approved funds. As noted, these funds are essential for completing permanent solutions at five sites. However, even if the funds are allocated soon, the Company will be unable to procure materials and equipment, coordinate with vendors, and complete construction within the currently approved timeframe.

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 Walter

Certifier Phone 913-387-9328

Certifier Name John Walter

Certifier Email jwalter@fastwyre.com

Certifier Title EVP, General Counsel & Secre

Date Signed 2025-04-01