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working loop shall be $\$3.007 + (117,990 / \text{the number of total working loops})$; and

(C) For study areas with 17,887 or more total working loops, the monthly amount per working loop shall be \$9.562.

(D) Beginning January 1, 2013, the monthly per-loop amount computed according to paragraphs (a)(4)(ii)(A), (a)(4)(ii)(B), and (a)(4)(ii)(C) of this section shall be adjusted each year to reflect the annual percentage change in the United States Department of Commerce's Gross Domestic Product-Chained Price Index (GDP-CPI).

(b) [Reserved]

§ 54.1309 National and study area average unseparated loop costs.

(a) *National average unseparated loop cost per working loop.* Except as provided in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section, this is equal to the sum of the Loop Costs for each study area in the country as calculated pursuant to § 54.1308(a) divided by the sum of the working loops reported in § 54.1305(h) for each study area in the country. The national average unseparated loop cost per working loop shall be calculated by the National Exchange Carrier Association. Until June 30, 2015 the national average unseparated loop cost for purposes of calculating expense adjustments for rural incumbent local exchange carriers, as that term is defined in § 54.5 is frozen at \$240.00.

(1) The national average unseparated loop cost per working loop shall be recalculated by the National Exchange Carrier Association to reflect the September, December, and March update filings.

(2) Each new nationwide average shall be used in determining the additional interstate expense allocation for companies which made filings by the most recent filing date.

(3) The calculation of a new national average to reflect the update filings shall not affect the amount of the additional interstate expense allocation for companies which did not make an update filing by the most recent filing date.

(b) *Study area average unseparated loop cost per working loop.* This is equal to the unseparated loop costs for the

study area as calculated pursuant to § 54.1308(a) divided by the number of working loops reported in § 54.1305(i) for the study area.

(1) If a company elects to, or is required to, update the data which it has filed with the National Exchange Carrier Association as provided in § 54.1306(a), the study area average unseparated loop cost per working loop and the amount of its additional interstate expense allocation shall be recalculated to reflect the updated data.

(2) [Reserved]

(c) Until June 30, 2015, the national average unseparated loop Cost per working loop shall be the greater of:

(1) The amount calculated pursuant to the method described in paragraph (a) of this section; or

(2) An amount calculated to produce the maximum rural incumbent local exchange carrier portion of the nationwide loop cost expense adjustment allowable pursuant to § 54.1302(a).

(d) Beginning July 1, 2015, the national average unseparated loop cost per working loop shall be frozen at the national average unseparated loop cost per working loop as recalculated by the National Exchange Carrier Association to reflect the March 2015 update filing.

[79 FR 39190, July 9, 2014, as amended at 80 FR 4479, Jan. 27, 2015]

§ 54.1310 Expense adjustment.

(a) Until June 30, 2015, for study areas reporting 200,000 or fewer working loops pursuant to § 54.1305(h), the expense adjustment (additional interstate expense allocation) is equal to the sum of paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section.

(1) Sixty-five percent of the study area average unseparated loop cost per working loop as calculated pursuant to § 54.1309(b) in excess of 115 percent of the national average for this cost but not greater than 150 percent of the national average for this cost as calculated pursuant to § 54.1309(a) multiplied by the number of working loops reported in § 54.1305(h) for the study area; and

(2) Seventy-five percent of the study area average unseparated loop cost per working loop as calculated pursuant to § 54.1309(b) in excess of 150 percent of the national average for this cost as

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calculated pursuant to § 54.1309(a) multiplied by the number of working loops reported in § 54.1305(h) for the study area.

(b) Beginning July 1, 2015, the expense adjustment for each study area calculated pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section will be adjusted as follows:

(1) If the aggregate expense adjustments for all study areas exceed the maximum rural incumbent local exchange carrier portion of nationwide loop cost expense adjustment allowable pursuant to § 54.1302(a) (the HCLS cap), then each study area's expense adjustment will be reduced by multiplying it by the ratio of the HCLS cap to the aggregate expense adjustments for all study areas.

(2) If the aggregate expense adjustments for all study areas are less than the HCLS cap set pursuant to § 54.1302(a), then the expense adjustments for all study areas pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall be recalculated using a cost per loop calculated to produce an aggregate amount equal to the HCLS cap in place of the national average cost per loop.

(c) The expense adjustment calculated pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall be adjusted each year to reflect changes in the amount of high-cost loop support resulting from adjustments calculated pursuant to § 54.1306(a) made during the previous year. If the resulting amount exceeds the previous year's fund size, the difference will be added to the amount calculated pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section for the following year. If the adjustments made during the previous year result in a decrease in the size of the funding requirement, the difference will be subtracted from the amount calculated pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section for the following year.

[80 FR 4479, Jan. 27, 2015]

PART 59—INFRASTRUCTURE SHARING

Sec.

59.1 General duty.

59.2 Terms and conditions of infrastructure sharing.

59.3 Information concerning deployment of new services and equipment.

59.4 Definition of "qualifying carrier".

AUTHORITY: 47 U.S.C. 154(i), 154(j), 201–205, 259, 303(r), 403.

SOURCE: 62 FR 9713, Mar. 4, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 59.1 General duty.

Incumbent local exchange carriers (as defined in 47 U.S.C. section 251(h)) shall make available to any qualifying carrier such public switched network infrastructure, technology, information, and telecommunications facilities and functions as may be requested by such qualifying carrier for the purpose of enabling such qualifying carrier to provide telecommunications services, or to provide access to information services, in the service area in which such qualifying carrier has obtained designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier under section 214(e) of 47 U.S.C.

§ 59.2 Terms and conditions of infrastructure sharing.

(a) An incumbent local exchange carrier subject to the requirements of section 59.1 shall not be required to take any action that is economically unreasonable or that is contrary to the public interest.

(b) An incumbent local exchange carrier subject to the requirements of section 59.1 may, but shall not be required to, enter into joint ownership or operation of public switched network infrastructure, technology, information and telecommunications facilities and functions and services with a qualifying carrier as a method of fulfilling its obligations under section 59.1.

(c) An incumbent local exchange carrier subject to the requirements of section 59.1 shall not be treated by the Commission or any State as a common carrier for hire or as offering common carrier services with respect to any public switched network infrastructure, technology, information, or telecommunications facilities, or functions made available to a qualifying carrier in accordance with regulations issued pursuant to this section.

(d) An incumbent local exchange carrier subject to the requirements of section 59.1 shall make such public