

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Parts 51 and 54

[WC Docket Nos. 10–90, 07–135, 05–337, 03–109; GN Docket No. 09–51; CC Docket Nos. 01–92, 96–45; WT Docket No. 10–208; FCC 12–47]

### Connect America Fund; a National Broadband Plan for Our Future; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers; High-Cost Universal Service Support; Correction

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Final rule; correction.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Communications Commission published in the **Federal Register** of May 29, 2012, a document that reconsiders and modifies certain provisions of the Commission's rules that were adopted in the *USF/ICC Transformation Order*. This final rule correction states that the amendments made to 47 CFR part 51 shall be effective on July 13, 2012, and, the amendments made to 47 CFR part 54 shall be effective on June 28, 2012.

**DATES:** Effective June 19, 2012, the effective date of the amendments to 47 CFR part 51 in the final rule published May 29, 2012 (77 FR 31520) is corrected to July 13, 2012. The effective date of the amendments to 47 CFR part 54 shall remain June 28, 2012.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amy Bender, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418–1469, Victoria Goldberg, Wireline Competition Bureau, (202) 418–1520

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The FCC published a document in the **Federal Register** of May 29, 2012, (77 FR 31520) stating that 47 CFR part 51, is *amended*, and such rule amendments shall be effective 45 days after the date of publication of the rule amendments in the **Federal Register**. The document also states that 47 CFR part 54, is *amended*, and such rule amendments shall be effective 30 days after the date of publication of the rule amendments in the **Federal Register**. This document specifies the actual effective dates of the rule amendments. The **DATES** heading of the May 29, 2012, **Federal Register** document only included the effective date of the revisions to 47 CFR part 51. This final rule correction specifies the separate effective dates for the part 51 amendments and the part 54 amendments as follows: The amendments to part 51 are effective July 13, 2012. The amendments to part 54 are effective June 28, 2012.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene H. Dortch,**

*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

### Transportation Security Administration

#### 49 CFR Part 1572

[Docket No. TSA–2006–24191]

### Exemption From Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) Expiration Provisions for Certain Individuals Who Hold a Valid TWIC

**AGENCY:** Transportation Security Administration, DHS.

**ACTION:** Notice of Exemption.

**SUMMARY:** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is granting a temporary exemption from certain TWIC regulations regarding card expiration and replacement requirements. This exemption applies to U.S. nationals<sup>1</sup> who hold a valid TWIC expiring on or before December 31, 2014. The exemption permits eligible TWIC holders to obtain a replacement card that extends the expiration date of their current security threat assessment and TWIC by three years. During 2012, DHS intends to publish a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to seek comment on card reader requirements and deployment requirement plans. At the end of the three-year extension period, pending the outcome of this rulemaking activity, DHS expects card reader requirements to be in place and readers to be deployed at facilities with the highest risk.

**DATES:** This exemption becomes effective August 30, 2012.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Baker, Office of Security Policy and Industry Engagement, TWIC Program Office, TSA–28, Transportation Security Administration, 601 South 12th Street, Arlington, VA 20598–6028; telephone (571) 227–2659; facsimile (571) 227–1376; email: [david.baker1@dhs.gov](mailto:david.baker1@dhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This document grants a temporary exemption to certain TWIC regulations contained at 49 CFR part 1572. The background, purpose, and terms of the exemption are explained below.

<sup>1</sup> The term U.S. nationals includes U.S. citizens and noncitizen nationals of the United States.

## Background

The Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) of 2002<sup>2</sup> and the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006<sup>3</sup> require TSA and the U.S. Coast Guard to establish regulations requiring certain merchant mariners and individuals with unescorted access to secure areas of certain vessels and facilities to undergo a security threat assessment (STA) and receive a biometric credential called the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC). The STA consists of criminal, immigration and terrorism checks. TSA and the U.S. Coast Guard implemented these requirements in a joint final rulemaking.<sup>4</sup>

TSA is issuing this exemption to give eligible individuals the option to extend for an additional three years their current STAs for five-year TWICs that are set to expire on or before December 31, 2014,<sup>5</sup> rather than require them to renew the card. Through this notice, we are exempting eligible individuals from 49 CFR 1572.23(a) and (a)(1) and 1572.501(d) of the TWIC regulation. If card holders so choose, they will have the option to renew the card for a full five years, as detailed in the TWIC regulation, codified at 49 CFR 1572.17, 1572.19, and 1572.21. The process for exercising the three-year TWIC extension option will be similar to the card replacement procedures outlined in the TWIC regulation at 49 CFR 1572.19(f) and 1572.501(d).

Eligible individuals choosing the three-year TWIC extension may obtain it by ordering the credential via telephone, paying a \$60 card replacement fee, and visiting a TWIC enrollment center to pick up and activate the card. For the purposes of this exemption, the three-year TWIC is considered a valid TWIC, in that it can be used to enter maritime facilities and vessels just as the five-year TWIC is used currently. The three-year TWIC will expire three years from the expiration date of the TWIC that is being replaced. Eligible individuals selecting the three-year TWIC option do not have to go through the standard renewal process that includes providing new biometric and biographic information at an enrollment center, new STA, payment of the renewal fee of \$129.75, and a second trip to an enrollment center to retrieve and activate the credential.

<sup>2</sup> Public Law 107–295, 116 Stat. 2064 (November 25, 2002).

<sup>3</sup> Public Law 109–347, 120 Stat. 1884 (October 13, 2006).

<sup>4</sup> Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) Implementation in the Maritime Sector Final Rule, 72 FR 3492 (January 25, 2007).

<sup>5</sup> 49 CFR 1572.23.