DELEGATION STATUS FOR PART 63 STANDARDS—STATE OF TEXAS 1—Continued

Subpart	Source category	TCEQ ²
сссссс	Gasoline Dispensing Facilities Area Sources	х
DDDDDD	Polyvinyl Chloride and Copolymers Production Area Sources	Х
EEEEE	Primary Copper Smelting Area Sources	Х
FFFFFF	Secondary Copper Smelting Area Sources	Х
GGGGGG	Primary Nonferrous Metals Area Sources: Zinc, Cadmium, and Beryllium	Х
НННННН	Paint Stripping and Miscellaneous Surface Coating Operations at Area Sources	Х
	(Reserved)	
JJJJJJ	Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Boilers Area Sources	Х
KKKKKK	(Reserved)	
LLLLLL	Acrylic and Modacrylic Fibers Production Area Sources	Х
	Carbon Black Production Area Sources	Х
NNNNN	Chemical Manufacturing Area Sources: Chromium Compounds	Х
000000	Flexible Polyurethane Foam Production and Fabrication Area Sources	Х
PPPPP	Lead Acid Battery Manufacturing Area Sources	Х
	Wood Preserving Area Sources	Х
RRRRRR	Clay Ceramics Manufacturing Area Sources	Х
SSSSSS	Glass Manufacturing Area Sources	Х
ТТТТТТ	Secondary Nonferrous Metals Processing Area Sources	Х
UUUUUU	(Reserved)	
VVVVV	Chemical Manufacturing Area Sources	Х
WWWWW	Plating and Polishing Operations Area Sources	Х
XXXXXX	Metal Fabrication and Finishing Area Sources	Х
YYYYYY	Ferroallovs Production Facilities Area Sources	Х
ZZZZZZ	Aluminum, Copper, and Other Nonferrous Foundries Area Sources	Х
AAAAAA	Asphalt Processing and Asphalt Roofing Manufacturing Area Sources	Х
BBBBBBB	Chemical Preparations Industry Area Sources	Х
	Paints and Allied Products Manufacturing Area Sources	X
DDDDDDD	Prepared Feeds Manufacturing Area Sources	X
EEEEEE	Gold Mine Ore Processing and Production Area Sources	
FFFFFF-GGGGGGG	(Reserved)	
НННННН	Polyvinyl Chloride and Copolymers Production Major Sources	Х

¹ Program delegated to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

¹ Program delegated to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). ² Authorities which may not be delegated include: §63.6(g), Approval of Alternative Non-Opacity Emission Standards; §63.6(h)(9), Approval of Alternative Opacity Standards; §63.6(c)(2)(ii) and (f), Approval of Major Alternatives to Test Methods; §63.8(f), Approval of Major Alternatives to Monitoring; §63.10(f), Approval of Major Alternatives to Recordkeeping and Reporting; and all authorities identified in the subparts (*e.g.*, under "Delegation of Authority") that cannot be delegated. ³ The TCEQ was previously delegated this subpart on May 17, 2005 (*70 FR 13018*). The subpart was vacated and remanded to EPA by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. See, Mossville Environmental Action Network v. EPA, 370 F. 3d 1232 (D.C. Cir 2004). Received of D.C. Court's believe the subpart is not delegated to TCEO at this time.

Cir. 2004). Because of the D.C. Court's holding, this subpart is not delegated to TCEQ at this time. ⁴ This subpart was issued a partial vacatur on October 29, 2007 (72 FR 61060) by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Colum-

bia Circuit.

⁵ Final rule. See 78 FR 7138 (January 31, 2013).

⁶ TCEQ was previously delegated this subpart on May 2, 2006 (71 FR 25753). This subpart was vacated and remanded to EPA by the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. See, Sierra Club v. EPA, 479 F. 3d 875 (D.C. Cir. 2007). Because of the D.C. Court's holding, this subpart is not delegated to TCEQ at this time.

⁷ Initial Final Rule. See 77 FR 9304 (February 16, 2012). Final on reconsideration of certain new source issues. See 78 FR 24073 (April 24, 2013). Portions of this subpart are in proposed reconsideration pending final action. See 78 FR 38001 (June 25, 2013).

[FR Doc. 2014-27909 Filed 11-24-14; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Part 261

[EPA-R07-RCRA-2014-0452; FRL-9919-72-Region-7]

Hazardous Waste Management System; Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste; Final Exclusion

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is granting the petition

submitted by John Deere Des Moines Works (John Deere) of Deere & Company, in Ankeny, Iowa to exclude or "delist" up to 600 tons per calendar year of F006/F019 wastewater treatment sludge filter cake generated by John Deere's wastewater treatment system from the list of hazardous wastes. This final rule responds to a petition submitted by John Deere to delist up to 600 tons per calendar year of F006/F019 wastewater treatment sludge filter cake generated by John Deere's wastewater treatment system from the list of hazardous wastes.

After careful analysis and use of the Delisting Risk Assessment Software (DRAS), EPA has concluded the petitioned waste is not hazardous waste. The F006/F019 exclusion is a conditional exclusion for 600 cubic

vards per year of the F006/F019 wastewater treatment sludge.

Accordingly, this final rule excludes the petitioned waste from the requirements of hazardous waste regulations under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). DATES: This final rule is effective on November 25, 2014.

ADDRESSES: EPA has established a docket for this action under Docket ID No. EPA-R07-RCRA-2014-0452. All documents in the docket are listed on the www.regulations.gov Web site. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, is not placed on the Internet and will be publicly

available only in hard copy form. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically through *www.regulations.gov* or in hard copy by contacting the further information contact below. The public may copy material from any regulatory docket at no cost for the first 100 pages and at a cost of \$0.15 per page for additional copies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kenneth Herstowski, Waste Remediation and Permits Branch, Air and Waste Management Division, EPA Region 7, 11201 Renner Blvd., Lenexa, KS 66219; telephone number (913) 551– 7631; email address: *herstowski.ken@ epa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The

information in this section is organized as follows:

- I. Overview Information
 - A. What action is EPA finalizing?
 - B. Why is EPA approving this action?
 - C. What are the limits of this exclusion?
 - D. How will John Deere manage the waste, when delisted?
 - E. When is the final delisting exclusion effective?
- F. How Does this final rule affect States? II. Background
 - A. What is a delisting petition?
 - B. What regulations allow facilities to delist a waste?
 - C. What information must the generator supply?
- III. EPA's Evaluation of the Waste Information and Data
 - A. What waste did John Deere petition EPA to delist?
 - B. How much waste did John Deere propose to delist?
 - C. How did John Deere sample and analyze the waste data in this petition?
- IV. Public Comments Received on the Proposed Exclusions
- V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

I. Overview Information

A. What action is EPA finalizing?

After evaluating the petition for John Deere, EPA proposed, on August 20, 2014 (79 FR 49252), to exclude the waste from the lists of hazardous waste under section 261.31. EPA is finalizing the decision to grant John Deere's delisting petition to have its F006/F019 wastewater treatment sludge excluded, or delisted, from the definition of a hazardous waste, once it is disposed in a Subtitle D landfill.

B. Why is EPA approving this action?

John Deere's petition requests a delisting from the F006/F019 waste listing under 40 CFR 260.20 and 260.22. John Deere does not believe that the petitioned waste meets the criteria for which EPA listed it. John Deere also believes no additional constituents or

factors could cause the waste to be hazardous. EPA's review of this petition included consideration of the original listing criteria, and the additional factors required by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA). See Section 3001(f) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6921(f), and 40 CFR 260.22(d)(1)-(4) (hereinafter all sectional references are to 40 CFR unless otherwise indicated). In making the final delisting determination, EPA evaluated the petitioned waste against the listing criteria and factors cited in Sec. 261.11(a)(2) and (a)(3). Based on this review, EPA agrees with the petitioner that the waste is nonhazardous with respect to the original listing criteria. (If EPA had found, based on this review, that the waste remained hazardous based on the factors for which the waste was originally listed, EPA would have proposed to deny the petition.) EPA evaluated the waste with respect to other factors or criteria to assess whether there is a reasonable basis to believe that such additional factors could cause the wastes to be hazardous. EPA considered whether the waste is acutely toxic, the concentrations of the constituents in the waste, their tendency to migrate and to bioaccumulate, their persistence in the environment once released from the waste, plausible and specific types of management of the petitioned waste, the quantities of waste generated, and waste variability. EPA believes that the petitioned waste does not meet the listing criteria and thus should not be a listed waste. EPA's final decision to delist the waste from John Deere's facility is based on the information submitted in support of this rule, including a description of the waste and analytical data from the John Deere Des Moines, Ankeny, Iowa, facility.

C. What are the limits of this exclusion?

This exclusion applies to the waste described in John Deere's petition only if the requirements described in 40 CFR part 261, appendix IX, table 1 and the conditions contained herein are satisfied.

D. How will John Deere manage the waste, when delisted?

The delisted F006/F019 wastewater treatment sludge will be disposed of in a Subtitle D landfill which is permitted, licensed or otherwise authorized by a state to manage industrial waste.

E. When is the final delisting exclusion effective?

This rule is effective November 25, 2014. The Hazardous and Solid Waste

Amendments of 1984 amended Section 3010 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6930(b)(1), allows rules to become effective in less than six months after the rule is published when the regulated community does not need the six-month period to come into compliance. That is the case here because this rule reduces, rather than increases, the existing requirements for persons generating hazardous waste. This reduction in existing requirements also provides a basis for making this rule effective immediately, upon publication, under the Administrative Procedure Act, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(d).

F. How does this final rule affect States?

EPA is issuing this exclusion under the Federal RCRA delisting program. Thus, upon the exclusion being finalized, the wastes covered will be removed from Subtitle C control under the Federal RCRA program. This will mean, first, that the wastes will be delisted in any State or territory where the EPA is directly administering the RCRA program (e.g., Iowa, Indian Country). However, whether the wastes will be delisted in states which have been authorized to administer the RCRA program will vary depending upon the authorization status of the States and the particular requirements regarding delisted wastes in the various states.

Some other generally authorized states have not received authorization for delisting. Thus, the EPA makes delisting determinations for such states. However, RCRA allows states to impose their own regulatory requirements that are more stringent than EPA's, under Section 3009 of RCRA. These more stringent requirements may include a provision that prohibits a Federally issued exclusion from taking effect in the state, or that requires a state concurrence before the Federal exclusion takes effect, or that allows the state to add conditions to any Federal exclusion. We urge the petitioner to contact the state regulatory authority in each state to or through which it may wish to ship its wastes to establish the status of its wastes under the state's laws

EPA has also authorized some states to administer a delisting program in place of the Federal program, that is, to make state delisting decisions. In such states, the state delisting requirements operate in lieu of the Federal delisting requirements. Therefore, this exclusion does not apply in those authorized states unless the state makes the rule part of its authorized program. If John Deere transports the federally excluded waste to or manages the waste in any state with delisting authorization, John Deere must obtain a delisting authorization from that state before it can manage the waste as non-hazardous in that state.

II. Background

A. What is a delisting petition?

A delisting petition is a request from a generator to EPA or to an authorized state to exclude or delist, from the RCRA list of hazardous wastes, waste the generator believes should not be considered hazardous under RCRA.

B. What regulations allow facilities to delist a waste?

Under Sec. 260.20 and 260.22, facilities may petition EPA to remove their wastes from hazardous waste regulation by excluding them from the lists of hazardous wastes contained in Sec. 261.31 and 261.32. Specifically, Sec. 260.20 allows any person to petition the Administrator to modify or revoke any provision of 40 CFR parts 260 through 265 and 268. Section 260.22 provides generators the opportunity to petition the Administrator to exclude a waste from a particular generating facility from the hazardous waste lists.

C. What information must the generator supply?

Petitioners must provide sufficient information to EPA to allow EPA to determine that the waste to be excluded does not meet any of the criteria under which the waste was listed as a hazardous waste. In addition, the Administrator must determine, where he/she has a reasonable basis to believe that factors (including additional constituents) other than those for which the waste was listed could cause the waste to be a hazardous waste and that such factors do not warrant retaining the waste as a hazardous waste.

III. EPA's Evaluation of the Waste Information and Data

A. What waste did John Deere petition EPA to delist?

On January 28, 2014, John Deere (through its consultant) petitioned EPA to exclude from the lists of hazardous waste contained in Section 261.31 and 261.32, F006/F019 wastewater treatment sludge, generated from its John Deere Des Moines facility in Ankeny, Iowa.

B. How much waste did John Deere propose to delist?

John Deere requested that EPA grant an exclusion for 600 cubic yards per year of F006/F019 wastewater treatment sludge.

C. How did John Deere sample and analyze the waste data in this petition?

To support its petition, John Deere submitted: (1) Facility information on production processes and waste generation processes; (2) initial Filter Cake composite sample analytical results to determine constituents of concern (COC); and (3) Analytical results from six composite samples of Filter Cake for the COC. The initial sample was analyzed for EPA's list of hazardous constituents in 40 CFR part 261, Appendix VIII, pesticides, PCBs. The COC selected from the initial composite sample results are barium, chromium, hexavalent chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, vanadium, zinc, cyanide, acetone and methyl ethyl ketone. Both total and leachable concentrations of the COC in the Filter Cake were determined.

John Deere generated the sampling data used in the Delisting Risk Assessment Software (DRAS) under a Sampling Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan (June 2012 Revision). EPA believes that the sampling procedures used by John Deere satisfy EPA's criteria for collecting representative samples of the F006/F019 waste.

IV. Public Comments Received on the Proposed Exclusions

No comments were received during the comment period.

V. Statutory and Executive Order Reviews

Under Executive Order 12866, "Regulatory Planning and Review" (58 FR 51735, October 4, 1993), this rule is not of general applicability and therefore is not a regulatory action subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This rule does not impose an information collection burden under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) because it applies to a particular facility only. Because this rule is of particular applicability relating to a particular facility, it is not subject to the regulatory flexibility provisions of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), or to Sections 202, 204, and 205 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) (Pub. L. 104–4). Because this rule will affect only a particular facility, it will not significantly or uniquely affect small governments, as specified in Section 203 of UMRA. Because this rule will affect only a particular facility, this final rule does not have Federalism implications. It will not have substantial direct effects on the States, on the relationship between the national

government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government, as specified in Executive Order 13132, "Federalism," (64 FR 43255, August 10, 1999). Thus, Executive Order 13132 does not apply to this rule. Similarly, because this rule will affect only a particular facility, this final rule does not have tribal implications, as specified in Executive Order 13175, "Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments" (65 FR 67249, November 9, 2000). Thus, Executive Order 13175 does not apply to this rule. This rule also is not subject to Executive Order 13045, "Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks" (62 FR 19885, April 23, 1997), because it is not economically significant as defined in Executive Order 12866, and because the Agency does not have reason to believe the environmental health or safety risks addressed by this action present a disproportionate risk to children. The basis for this belief is that the Agency used the DRAS program, which considers health and safety risks to children, to calculate the maximum allowable concentrations for this rule. This rule is not subject to Executive Order 13211, "Actions Concerning **Regulations That Significantly Affect** Energy Supply, Distribution, or Use" (66 FR 28355, May 22, 2001), because it is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866. This rule does not involve technical standards; thus, the requirements of Section 12(d) of the National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. 272 note) do not apply. As required by Section 3 of Executive Order 12988, "Civil Justice Reform," (61 FR 4729, February 7, 1996), in issuing this rule, EPA has taken the necessary steps to eliminate drafting errors and ambiguity, minimize potential litigation, and provide a clear legal standard for affected conduct.

The Congressional Review Act, 5 U.S. C. 801 *et seq.*, as added by the Small **Business Regulatory Enforcement** Fairness Act of 1996, generally provides that before a rule may take effect, the agency promulgating the rule must submit a rule report which includes a copy of the rule to each House of the Congress and to the Comptroller General of the United States. Section 804 exempts from Section 801 the following types of rules (1) Rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect

the rights or obligations of non-agency parties (5 U.S.C. 804(3)). EPA is not required to submit a rule report regarding today's action under Section 801 because this is a rule of particular applicability. Executive Order (EO) 12898 (59 FR 7629 (Feb. 16, 1994)) establishes Federal executive policy on environmental justice. Its main provision directs Federal agencies, to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, to make environmental justice part of their mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States.

ÊPA has determined that this final rule will not have disproportionately

high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations because it does not affect the level of protection provided to human health or the environment. The Agency's risk assessment did not identify risks from management of this material in a Subtitle D landfill. Therefore, EPA believes that any populations in proximity of the landfills used by this facility should not be adversely affected by common waste management practices for this delisted waste.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 261

Environmental protection, Hazardous waste, Recycling, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority: Sec. 3001(f), RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6921(f).

Dated: November 11, 2014. Karl Brooks,

Regional Administrator, Region 7.

For the reasons set out in the preamble, EPA amends 40 CFR part 261 as follows:

PART 261—IDENTIFICATION AND LISTING OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

■ 1. The authority citation for part 261 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 42 U.S. C. 6905, 6912(a), 6921, 6922, and 6938.

■ 2. In Table 1 of Appendix IX to part 261 add the following waste stream in alphabetical order by facility to read as follows:

Appendix IX to Part 261—Wastes Excluded Under §§ 260.20 and 260.22

Facility	Address	Waste description				
*	*	*	*	*	*	*
John Deere Des Moines Works of Deere & Company.	Ankeny, IA	treatment plant at Subtitle D Landfill delisted WWTS Fil John Deere must im sion to be valid: 1. Delisting Levels: (/ ardous Waste in 261.24(a)) for the Arsenic—5.0; Bari Nickel—32.4. (C) E Chromium (hexava lowing constituents Barium—965; Berj 1439; Lead—437; dium—380; Zinc- Grease—32,250; A 2. Waste Handling a Cake generated u and valid analyses EPA. (B) Levels of (1) exceed the lev are non-hazardous of the non-hazardo Not withstanding h sample exceed an Deere must treat a that the waste aga	whined onsite w a maximum annu which is licensed ter Cake. plement a testing A) The WWTS Fi 40 CFR 261, Su following constitu um—100.0; Cad EPA SW—846 M alent) must not excee /llium—21; Cadm Nickel—1,515; -5,085; Mercury xcetone—8; Meth and Holding: (A) ntil it has comple s show that para constituents me els set forth in p bus WWTS Filter naving received t y of the Delisting all the waste covv in meets the level	vastewater treatmen ual rate of 600 tons l, permitted, or other g program that meet lter Cake shall not e ubpart C. (B) All TO ients must not exce- mium—1.0; Chromiu ethod 1313 Extractio exceed (mg/l) 0.087. d the following level nium—10; Chromium (h yl Ethyl Ketone (ME John Deere must eted initial verificatio graph (1) is satisfie asured in the sampl varagraph (1) for two is received from EP/ Cake according to a he initial approval fi g Levels set in para ered by this exclusio els in paragraph (1).	t at the Ankeny, IA per calendar year a wise authorized by a ts the following cond xhibit any of the "Ch CLP leachable cond ed the following leve um—5.0; Lead—5.0 on at pH 2.88, 7 and (D) All total concer s (mg/kg): Antimony n (total)—22,500; Cd ver—26; Thallium—4 hexavalent)—20; Cy K)—0.3. manage as hazardod d and written appro es of the WWTS Fill o consecutive quarte A, John Deere can r all applicable solid w rom EPA, if constitu graph (1), from that on as hazardous unt John Deere must n	, facility wastewater and disposed of in a a state to accept the ditions for the exclu- aracteristics of Haz- centrations (40 CFR els (mg/L for TCLP): ; Mercury 0.2; and 13 concentration of ntrations for the fol-

TABLE 1—WASTES EXCLUDED FROM NON-SPECIFIC SOURCES—Continued

Facility

TABLE 1—WASTES EXCLUDED FROM NON-SPECIFIC SOURCES—Continued

Facility	Address	Waste description					
		 6. Reopener: (A) If, any time after disposal of the delisted waste, John Deere possesses or is erwise made aware of any environmental data (including but not limited to leachate dat groundwater monitoring data) or any other relevant data to the delisted waste indicating that constituent is at a concentration in the leachate higher than the specified delisting concentration. In the leachate higher than the specified delisting concentration in the leachate higher than the specified delisting concentration possessing or being made aware of that data. (B) Based on the information described in p graph (A) and any other information received from any source, the Regional Administrator, Region 7, will make a preliminary determination as to whether the reported information req Agency action to protect human health or the environment. Further action may include pending, or revoking the exclusion, or other appropriate response necessary to protect human health and the environment. (C) If the Regional Administrator will notify John Deere in w of the actions the Regional Administrator believes are necessary to protect human health the environment. The notice shall include a statement of the proposed action and a state providing John Deere with an opportunity to present information as to why the proposed Ag action is not necessary or to suggest an alternative action. John Deere shall have 30 days the date of the Regional Administrator's notice to present the information. (D) If after 30 John Deere presents no further information or after a review of any submitted information Regional Administrator will ssue a final written determination describing the Agency actions are necessary to protect human health or the environment. Any required action described in Regional Administrator's determination describing the Agency actions are necessary to protect human health or the environment. Any required action described in formation Regional Administrator shall become effective immediately, unless the Reg Administrator provide					
*	*	* * * *	* *				
* * * * * [FR Doc. 2014–27780 Filed BILLING CODE 6560–50–P FEDERAL COMMUNI COMMISSION		SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a synopsis of the Wireline Competition Bureau's Report and Order in WC Docket No. 10–90; DA 14–1569, released October 29, 2014. The complete text of this document is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference					
47 CFR Chapter I		Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th	download and upload bandwidths and				
[WC Docket No. 10-90;	DA 14–1569]	Street SW., Room CY–A257, Washington, DC 20554. The document	usage allowance. This approach recognizes that ETCs may choose to				
Connect America Fu	nd	may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor,	meet their broadband performance obligation with a service offering that				
AGENCY: Federal Com Commission. ACTION: Final rule.	munications	Best Copy and Printing, Inc. (BCPI), 445 12th Street SW., Room CY–B402, Washington, DC 20554, telephone (800)	exceeds the minimum requirements in one or more respects. The approach also is sufficiently flexible to account for any				
SUMMARY: In this doct Wireline Competition specific methodology reasonable comparabi for fixed broadband s methodology the Com today establishes reas comparability broadb that vary, depending service's download an bandwidths and usag	n Bureau adopts a r for calculating ility benchmarks ervices. The mmission adopts sonable and benchmarks on the supported nd upload	 378–3160 or (202) 863–2893, facsimile (202) 863–2898, or via the Internet at <i>http://www.bcpiweb.com.</i> It is also available on the Commission's Web site at <i>https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/</i> <i>attachmatch/DA-14-1569A1.pdf.</i> I. Introduction In this Report and Order (Order), the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) adopts a specific methodology for calculating reasonable comparability 	 changes that the Commission may adopt regarding the required minimum performance characteristics. 2. The Bureau notes that because they are announcing the methodology late in the calendar year, the results for 2014 are illustrative and to inform parties that are potentially interested in bidding on Connect America funding for rural broadband experiments in the weeks ahead. The Bureau also will take into account the benchmarks published 				

DATES: Effective December 26, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne Yelen, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-0626 or TTY (202) 418–0484.

for calculating reasonable comparability benchmarks for fixed broadband services. In the USF/ICC Transformation Order, 76 FR 73830, November 29, 2011, the Commission required that as a condition of receiving high-cost support, eligible telecommunications

account the benchmarks published below when adjudicating Connect America Phase II challenges. The Bureau plans to announce the 2015 reasonable comparability benchmarks for fixed broadband services when the Bureau completes our analysis of the