

## Mobile 4G LTE Coverage Data

# **Filing Instructions**

Data due January 4, 2018

OMB Control No. 3060-1242

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## Purpose

In August 2017, the FCC's <u>Mobility Fund II (MF-II) Challenge Process Order</u> adopted parameters for this one-time collection of mobile 4G LTE coverage data. These data will be used to create a map of areas presumptively eligible for support in the <u>MF-II</u> auction.

## I. Who Must File?

Any entity that previously reported mobile LTE coverage on <u>FCC Form 477</u> must, by October 23, 2017, provide contact information for this data collection via the <u>LTE Data Collection Contact</u> <u>Info Form</u> for each FRN used in <u>Form 477</u> filings.

- Entities that previously reported mobile LTE coverage on Form 477 and have qualified mobile 4G LTE coverage as specified in the MF-II Challenge Process Order download speeds of 5 Mbps at the cell edge with 80 percent probability and a 30 percent cell loading factor must submit the information described below no later than January 4, 2018. See What Must be Filed? below for more details.
- Entities that previously reported mobile LTE coverage on Form 477 but do not have qualified mobile 4G LTE coverage as described above must submit a certification that their coverage does not qualify no later than January 4, 2018. See item D under What Must be Filed? below.

Entities that initiated mobile LTE coverage after June 30, 2017 (and were thus not required to file Form 477 in the past) are encouraged, but not required, to submit their qualifying coverage.

## II. What Must be Filed?

#### A. LTE Coverage Maps in Shapefile Format

Submit polygons in shapefile format representing geographic coverage nationwide (excluding Alaska, but including U.S. territories) for mobile 4G LTE deployed in each frequency band and bandwidth as of August 4, 2017, or later.

- Maps should represent coverage as of August 4, 2017 or any date thereafter.
- Each map shall represent outdoor, mobile 4G LTE coverage, as defined by download speeds of 5 Mbps at the cell edge with 80 percent probability and a 30 percent cell loading factor.
- The terrain and clutter data used to generate the coverage maps must have a resolution or BIN size of 100 meters or smaller.
- See <u>How Should I Format My LTE Coverage Data?</u> for details.

#### **B. Clutter Data**

Report the loss values associated with each clutter factor category used when creating their mobile 4G LTE coverage maps. Data must be submitted in Excel format using the <u>clutter data</u> <u>template</u>. See <u>How Should I Format My Clutter Data?</u> for details.

#### C. Handset List

Submit a list of at least three readily-available handsets that challengers can use to conduct speed tests. Data must be submitted in Excel format using the <u>handset data template</u>. See <u>How Should I Format My Handset Data?</u> for details.

At least one specified handset must be compatible with industry-standard drive test software. The FCC proposed a specific clarification of this requirement in a separate <u>public notice</u> (see paragraph 7). The final requirement will be posted on the <u>MFII 4G LTE Data Collection</u> webpage at a later date. The submitted list must conform to the final requirement. Please be sure to consult the webpage before submitting these data.

#### D. Certification and Identification

If a provider has qualifying LTE coverage (download speeds of 5 Mbps at the cell edge with 80 percent probability and a 30 percent cell loading factor), a qualified engineer must certify the submitted data. There's a <u>form</u> for that.

If a provider's LTE coverage does not qualify, a qualified engineer must certify that it lacks qualifying coverage. There's a <u>form</u> for that, too.

## **III. When to File**

Any entity that previously reported mobile LTE coverage on <u>FCC Form 477</u> must, **no later than October 23, 2017**, provide contact information for this data collection via the <u>LTE Data</u> <u>Collection Contact Info Form</u> for each FRN used in <u>Form 477</u> filings.

- Entities that previously reported mobile LTE coverage on Form 477 and have qualified mobile 4G LTE coverage as specified in the MF-II Challenge Process Order download speeds of 5 Mbps at the cell edge with 80 percent probability and a 30 percent cell loading factor must submit the information described above no later than January 4, 2018. See What Must be Filed? for details.
- Entities that previously reported mobile LTE coverage on Form 477 but do not have *qualified* mobile 4G LTE coverage as described above need only submit a <u>certification</u> that their coverage does not qualify no later than January 4, 2018.

## **IV. How to File**

#### A. Establish Contact

Any entity that previously reported mobile LTE coverage on <u>FCC Form 477</u> must, by October 23, 2017, provide contact information for this data collection via the <u>LTE Data Collection Contact</u> <u>Info Form</u> for each FRN used in <u>Form 477</u> filings.

For each contact provided, based on the entity's Form 477 FRN, Commission staff will establish a unique, secure, password-protected folder on box.com. The Commission staff will then grant write privileges and send login credentials for the folder to the email addresses associated with the data contacts provided on the <u>LTE Data Collection Contact Info Form</u>.

#### B. Upload

No later **January 4, 2018**, upload the data described above in the formats described above to your folder(s) on box.com. On the due date, the folder(s) should contain the following items:

1. Maps of qualifying LTE coverage for each spectrum and bandwidth combination in shapefile format. Submit each shapefile as a separate \*.zip archive.

2. Clutter category data in Excel format. Please submit your data in Excel format using the <u>clutter data template</u>.

3. Handset list in Excel format that conforms to the forthcoming final drive test compatibility requirement. Please submit your data in Excel format using the <u>handset</u> <u>data template</u>.

4. Certification and identification form. There are separate certification forms for filers <u>with qualifying mobile LTE coverage</u> and <u>without qualifying mobile LTE coverage</u>. Note that FCC Form 477 filers who previously reported LTE coverage and wish to certify that their coverage does not qualify need upload only the appropriate completed certification.

These files must be provided in the formats described above. No other formats will be accepted. Using the templates provided and following the instructions carefully will save time and resources for both filers and Commission staff.

#### C. Preliminary and Final Acceptance

When Commission staff have determined that the required data have been submitted in the required formats, the staff will notify the filer, via the data contact email, that the data have been accepted on a preliminary basis. If no anomalies are encountered during processing, the staff will notify the filer that the data are considered final.

## Confidentiality

The Commission will treat provider-specific information submitted as part of this data collection as confidential. In addition, parties wishing to access the data as part of the MF-II Challenge Process described in the Order must agree to treat the data as confidential. The confidential data include "(a) the underlying provider-specific coverage maps submitted as part of the new data collection; (b) the list of pre-approved provider-specified handsets with which to conduct speed measurements; and (c) any other propagation model details collected as part of the new data collection."