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WTA Supports Delay in Network Testing and Hopes FCC Will Address Problems in Testing Regime Should They Materialize

WASHINGTON, D.C. (October 25, 2019) – This morning, the FCC approved an Order on Reconsideration regarding its network performance testing rules approved last year. WTA was one of several entities that asked the FCC to revise its testing regime. The following statement can be attributed to Derrick Owens:

“ WTA strongly supports accountability in the use of Universal Service Fund support and the goal of testing networks for speed and latency. However, we want to make sure that testing is tailored to the size of the carrier and the USF-supported network.

“We appreciate that the FCC has chosen to delay testing for the smaller carriers we represent and institute a one-year pre-test period. If carriers encounter problems with the testing rules during this period and report them to the FCC, we hope that the FCC will adjust its testing procedures accordingly.”

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WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband is a national trade association that represents more than 340 small, rural telecommunications carriers providing voice, broadband and video-related services in the United States. WTA’s members serve some of the most rural and hard-to-serve communities in the country and are on the forefront of bringing 21st Century telecommunications services to rural America. To learn more about WTA, visit www.w-t-a.org.