Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2022-147-3

PDF Version

References: 2022-147, 2022-147-1 and 2022-147-2

Ottawa, 13 October 2023

Public record: 8622-S93-202008482, 1011-NOC2020-0367 and 1011-NOC2022-0147

Call for comments – Telecommunications in the Far North, Phase II – Changes to procedure

Revised deadline for submission of final submissions: 29 November 2023

Deadline for submission of final replies: 13 December 2023

Summary

The Commission invites parties to file final submissions on any matter within the scope of this proceeding by **29 November 2023**. The Commission also invites interested persons to make new submissions on any matters within the scope of this proceeding that provide Nunavut or Inuit Nunangat perspectives by **29 November 2023**.

Finally, the Commission invites parties to file final replies by 13 December 2023.

Deadlines for submissions

- 1. The Commission issued *Call for comments Telecommunications in the Far North, Phase II*, Telecom Notice of Consultation CRTC 2022-147, 8 June 2022, as amended by Telecom Notices of Consultation CRTC 2022-147-1, 14 July 2022, and 2022-147-2, 24 October 2022, in which it initiated a proceeding to call for comments on telecommunications services in the Far North. The deadline to file final submissions with the Commission on any matter within the scope of the proceeding was 9 June 2023.
- 2. On 24 May 2023, the Commission suspended the deadline to file final submissions in this proceeding. It did so with the intention of taking additional steps to engage with a diversity of voices and perspectives on the issues raised in this proceeding, while recognizing the importance of a timely decision.
- 3. On 6 June 2023, TELUS Communications Inc. filed a procedural request where it requested that the Commission provide an opportunity to reply to final submissions in this proceeding, and suggested that an inquiry officer be appointed to engage directly with interested parties in Nunavut. While the Public Interest Advocacy Centre supported this procedural request, it noted that it was also mindful of the delay in this proceeding.

¹ See 24 May 2023 Secretary General Letter addressed to the Distribution List.



- 4. The Commission is now prepared to establish further process to close the record of this proceeding. Accordingly, the Commission hereby invites parties to file final submissions on any matter within the scope of this proceeding by **29 November 2023**.
- 5. In regard to the need for a fulsome and diverse record, following further engagement, the Commission is of the view that, rather than appoint an inquiry officer at this stage, it is appropriate to invite interested persons to make new submissions on matters within the scope of this proceeding that provide Nunavut or Inuit Nunangat² perspectives by **29 November 2023**.
- 6. Given the additional submissions that the Commission may receive providing Nunavut or Inuit Nunangat perspectives and the amount of additional information that will be filed in response to the requests for information that were issued on 25 August 2023, the Commission considers that an additional reply period is appropriate. Accordingly, the Commission hereby invites parties to file final replies by **13 December 2023**. Replies, including an executive summary, are not to exceed 20 pages.

Other procedural matters

7. The Commission received two interventions after the deadline to file interventions. One was received on 23 May 2023, and the other on 21 June 2023. The Commission considers that it is in the public interest to add these interventions to the public record as they provide additional diversity of perspectives and no party should be prejudiced by their addition to the record given the additional process that has been set out above. As such, these interventions can be found on the public record of this proceeding.

Secretary General

² See Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami's map of the Inuit Nunangat.