

Comment Period Ends: 01/06/2023,  
Contact: Cheryl Alkemeyer 917-790-  
8723.

EIS No. 20220144, Draft Supplement,  
BOEM, Other, Gulf of Mexico OCS Oil  
and Gas Lease Sales 259 and 261:  
Draft Supplemental Environmental  
Impact Statement, Comment Period  
Ends: 11/21/2022, Contact: Helen  
Rucker 504-736-2421.

Dated: October 4, 2022.

**Cindy S. Barger,**

*Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office  
of Federal Activities.*

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**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID 107763]

### Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications  
Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of a new matching  
program.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the  
Privacy Act of 1974, as amended  
("Privacy Act"), this document  
announces a new computer matching  
program the Federal Communications  
Commission ("FCC" or "Commission"  
or "Agency") and the Universal Service  
Administrative Company (USAC) will  
conduct with the Department of  
Veterans Affairs. The purpose of this  
matching program is to verify the  
eligibility of applicants to and  
subscribers of Lifeline, and the  
Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP),  
both of which are administered by  
USAC under the direction of the FCC.  
More information about these programs  
is provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY  
INFORMATION** section below.

**DATES:** Written comments are due on or  
before November 7, 2022. This  
computer matching program will  
commence on November 7, 2022, and  
will conclude 18 months after the  
effective date.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Elliot S.  
Tarloff, FCC, 45 L Street NE,  
Washington, DC 20554, or to *Privacy@  
fcc.gov*.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Elliot S. Tarloff at 202-418-0886 or  
*Privacy@fcc.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The  
Lifeline program provides support for  
discounted broadband and voice  
services to low-income consumers.  
Lifeline is administered by the  
Universal Service Administrative

Company (USAC) under FCC direction.  
Consumers qualify for Lifeline through  
proof of income or participation in a  
qualifying program, such as Medicaid,  
the Supplemental Nutritional  
Assistance Program (SNAP), Federal  
Public Housing Assistance,  
Supplemental Security Income (SSI),  
Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit,  
or various Tribal-specific federal  
assistance programs.

In the Consolidated Appropriations  
Act, 2021, Public Law 116-260, 134  
Stat. 1182, 2129-36 (2020), Congress  
created the Emergency Broadband  
Benefit Program, and directed use of the  
National Verifier to determine eligibility  
based on various criteria, including the  
qualifications for Lifeline (Medicaid,  
SNAP, etc.). EBBP provided \$3.2 billion  
in monthly consumer discounts for  
broadband service and one-time  
provider reimbursement for a connected  
device (laptop, desktop computer or  
tablet). In the Infrastructure Investment  
and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58, 135  
Stat. 429, 1238-44 (2021) (codified at 47  
U.S.C. 1751-52), Congress modified and  
extended EBBP, provided an additional  
\$14.2 billion, and renamed it the  
Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP).  
A household may qualify for the ACP  
benefit under various criteria, including  
an individual qualifying for the FCC's  
Lifeline program.

In a Report and Order adopted on  
March 31, 2016, (81 FR 33026, May 24,  
2016) (*2016 Lifeline Modernization  
Order*), the Commission ordered USAC  
to create a National Lifeline Eligibility  
Verifier ("National Verifier"), including  
the National Lifeline Eligibility Database  
(LED), that would match data about  
Lifeline applicants and subscribers with  
other data sources to verify the  
eligibility of an applicant or subscriber.  
The Commission found that the  
National Verifier would reduce  
compliance costs for Lifeline service  
providers, improve service for Lifeline  
subscribers, and reduce waste, fraud,  
and abuse in the program.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act  
of 2021 directs the FCC to leverage the  
National Verifier to verify applicants'  
eligibility for ACP. The purpose of this  
matching program is to verify the  
eligibility of Lifeline and ACP  
applicants and subscribers by  
determining whether they receive  
Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension  
benefits administered by the  
Department of Veterans Affairs.

### Participating Agencies

Department of Veterans Affairs

### Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

The authority for the FCC's ACP is  
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act,  
Public Law 117-58, 135 Stat. 429, 1238-  
44 (2021) (codified at 47 U.S.C. 1751-  
52); 47 CFR part 54. The authority for  
the FCC's Lifeline program is 47 U.S.C.  
254; 47 CFR 54.400 through 54.423;  
Lifeline and Link Up Reform and  
Modernization, *et al.*, Third Report and  
Order, Further Report and Order, and  
Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd  
3962, 4006-21, paras. 126-66 (2016)  
(*2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*).

### Purpose(s)

The purpose of this modified  
matching agreement is to verify the  
eligibility of applicants and subscribers  
to Lifeline, as well as to ACP and other  
Federal programs that use qualification  
for Lifeline as an eligibility criterion.  
This new agreement will permit  
eligibility verification for the Lifeline  
program and ACP by checking an  
applicant's/subscriber's participation in  
Veterans Pension or Survivors Pension  
benefit under the Department of  
Veterans Affairs. Under FCC rules,  
consumers receiving these benefits  
qualify for Lifeline discounts and also  
for ACP benefits.

### Categories of Individuals

The categories of individuals whose  
information is involved in the matching  
program include, but are not limited to,  
those individuals who have applied for  
Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are  
currently receiving Lifeline and/or ACP  
benefits; are individuals who enable  
another individual in their household to  
qualify for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits;  
are minors whose status qualifies a  
parent or guardian for Lifeline and/or  
ACP benefits; or are individuals who  
have received Lifeline and/or ACP  
benefits.

### Categories of Records

The categories of records involved in  
the matching program include, but are  
not limited to, the applicant's address,  
date of birth, and first and last name.  
The National Verifier will transfer these  
data elements to the Department of  
Veterans Affairs, which will respond  
either "yes" or "no" that the individual  
is enrolled in a qualifying assistance  
program: Veterans Pension or Survivors  
Pension benefit administered by the  
Department of Veterans Affairs.

### System(s) of Records

The records shared as part of this  
matching program reside in the Lifeline  
system of records, FCC/WCB-1,  
Lifeline, which was published in the

**Federal Register** at 86 FR 11526 (Feb. 25, 2021).

The records shared as part of this matching program reside in the ACP system of records, FCC/WCB-3, Affordable Connectivity Program, which was published in the **Federal Register** at 86 FR 71494 (Dec. 16, 2021).

Federal Communications Commission.

**Katura Jackson**,

*Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2022-21928 Filed 10-6-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6712-01-P

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID: 108154]

### Privacy Act of 1974; Matching Program

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of a new matching program.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (“Privacy Act”), this document announces a new computer matching program the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC” or “Commission” or “Agency”) and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) will conduct with the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services. The purpose of this matching program is to verify the eligibility of applicants to and subscribers of Lifeline, and the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), both of which are administered by USAC under the direction of the FCC. More information about these programs is provided in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below.

**DATES:** Written comments are due on or before November 7, 2022. This computer matching program will commence on November 7, 2022, and will conclude 18 months after the effective date.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Elliot S. Tarloff, FCC, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554, or to [Privacy@fcc.gov](mailto:Privacy@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elliot S. Tarloff at 202-418-0886 or [Privacy@fcc.gov](mailto:Privacy@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Lifeline program provides support for discounted broadband and voice services to low-income consumers. Lifeline is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) under FCC direction. Consumers qualify for Lifeline through

proof of income or participation in a qualifying program, such as Medicaid, the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit, or various Tribal-specific federal assistance programs.

In the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law 116-260, 134 Stat. 1182, 2129-36 (2020), Congress created the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, and directed use of the National Verifier to determine eligibility based on various criteria, including the qualifications for Lifeline (Medicaid, SNAP, etc.). EBBP provided \$3.2 billion in monthly consumer discounts for broadband service and one-time provider reimbursement for a connected device (laptop, desktop computer or tablet). In the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58, 135 Stat. 429, 1238-44 (2021) (codified at 47 U.S.C. 1751-52), Congress modified and extended EBBP, provided an additional \$14.2 billion, and renamed it the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). A household may qualify for the ACP benefit under various criteria, including an individual qualifying for the FCC’s Lifeline program.

In a Report and Order adopted on March 31, 2016, (81 FR 33026, May 24, 2016) (*2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*), the Commission ordered USAC to create a National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier (“National Verifier”), including the National Lifeline Eligibility Database (LED), that would match data about Lifeline applicants and subscribers with other data sources to verify the eligibility of an applicant or subscriber. The Commission found that the National Verifier would reduce compliance costs for Lifeline service providers, improve service for Lifeline subscribers, and reduce waste, fraud, and abuse in the program.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 directs the FCC to leverage the National Verifier to verify applicants’ eligibility for ACP. The purpose of this matching program is to verify the eligibility of Lifeline and ACP applicants and subscribers by determining whether they receive SNAP or Medicaid benefits administered by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

### Participating Agencies

Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

### Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

The authority for the FCC’s ACP is Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58, 135 Stat. 429, 1238-44 (2021) (codified at 47 U.S.C. 1751-52); 47 CFR part 54. The authority for the FCC’s Lifeline program is 47 U.S.C. 254; 47 CFR 54.400 through 54.423; Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, *et al.*, Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962, 4006-21, paras. 126-66 (2016) (*2016 Lifeline Modernization Order*).

### Purpose(s)

The purpose of this modified matching agreement is to verify the eligibility of applicants and subscribers to Lifeline, as well as to ACP and other Federal programs that use qualification for Lifeline as an eligibility criterion. This new agreement will permit eligibility verification for the Lifeline program and ACP by checking an applicant’s/subscriber’s participation in SNAP or Medicaid in Nevada. Under FCC rules, consumers receiving these benefits qualify for Lifeline discounts and also for ACP benefits.

### Categories of Individuals

The categories of individuals whose information is involved in the matching program include, but are not limited to, those individuals who have applied for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are currently receiving Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are individuals who enable another individual in their household to qualify for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; are minors whose status qualifies a parent or guardian for Lifeline and/or ACP benefits; or are individuals who have received Lifeline and/or ACP benefits.

### Categories of Records

The categories of records involved in the matching program include, but are not limited to, the last four digits of the applicant’s Social Security Number, date of birth, and last name. The National Verifier will transfer these data elements to the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, which will respond either “yes” or “no” that the individual is enrolled in a qualifying assistance program: SNAP or Medicaid administered by the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

### System(s) of Records

The records shared as part of this matching program reside in the Lifeline system of records, FCC/WCB-1,