

preventive measures to mitigate the impact of such outages on the Nation and the American public.

Mandatory submarine cable outage data provides the Commission with greater visibility into the availability and health of these networks, allowing the Commission to better track and analyze submarine cable resiliency. This enhanced visibility into submarine cable network outages will allow the Commission to take appropriate actions to mitigate disruptions, if necessary, and to avoid the development of larger, more significant problems which could impact national security and public safety interests. Submarine cable outages do not typically occur with the same frequency as terrestrial outages, but when they do occur have a greater impact on the Nation's telecommunications due to the volume and nature of communications carried over such cables. Damages to submarine cables are usually caused by weather or inadvertent slicing by underseas equipment. However, submarine cables are also susceptible to intentional damage for nefarious purposes that could lead to a severe degradation of crucial government, as well as non-government, communications.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Marlene Dortch,**

*Secretary, Office of the Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-03447 Filed 2-20-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6712-01-P**

## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID: 203054]

### 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 Iowa Department of Health and Human 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 March 22, 2024. This computer matching program will commence on March 22, 2024, 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 SNAP benefits administered by the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services.

### Participating Agencies

Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (source agency); Federal Communications Commission (recipient agency) and Universal Service Administrative Company.

### Authority for Conducting the Matching Program

The authority to conduct the matching program for the FCC's ACP is 47 U.S.C. 1752(a)-(b). The authority to conduct the matching program for the FCC's Lifeline program is 47 U.S.C. 254(a)-(c), (j).

### Purpose(s)

The purpose of this new 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 in Iowa. 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 Iowa Department of Health and Human Services which will respond either “yes” or “no” that the individual is enrolled in a qualifying assistance program: SNAP administered by the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services.

#### 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.

**Marlene Dortch,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024–03444 Filed 2–20–24; 8:45 am]

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#### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[FR ID 203614]

##### Deletion of Item From February 15, 2024 Open Meeting

The following items were adopted by the Commission on February 13, 2024 and deleted from the list of items scheduled for consideration at the Thursday, February 15, 2024, Open Meeting. The items were previously listed in the Commission’s Sunshine Notice on Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

Item No.	Bureau	Subject
5 .....	MEDIA .....	<i>Title:</i> Restricted Adjudicatory Matter. <i>Summary:</i> The Commission will consider a restricted adjudicatory matter from the Media Bureau.
6 .....	ENFORCE- MENT.	<i>Title:</i> Enforcement Bureau Action. <i>Summary:</i> The Commission will consider an enforcement action.

Federal Communications Commission.

Dated: February 13, 2024.

**Marlene Dortch,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024–03445 Filed 2–20–24; 8:45 am]

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#### FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

[Docket No. 24–05]

##### Notice of Filing of Complaint and Assignment; Impact Products, LLC and Safety Zone, LLC, Complainants, v. Mediterranean Shipping Company, S.A., Respondent

Served: February 14, 2024.

Notice is given that a complaint has been filed with the Federal Maritime Commission (the “Commission”) by Impact Products, LLC and Safety Zone, LLC (the “Complainants”) against Mediterranean Shipping Company, S.A. (the “Respondent”). Complainants state that the Commission has jurisdiction over the complaint pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 41301 through 41309 and personal jurisdiction over the Respondent as an ocean common carrier, as defined in 46 U.S.C. 40102(18), that has entered into a service contract, as defined in 46 U.S.C. 40102(21), with the Complainants.

Complainant Impact Products, LLC is a corporation located in Toledo, Ohio. Complainant Safety Zone, LLC is a corporation located in Guilford, Connecticut. Complainants are shippers as this term is defined under 46 U.S.C. 40102(23).

Complainants identify Respondent as a company existing under the laws of Switzerland with its headquarters

located in Geneva, Switzerland and as a global ocean carrier.

Complainants allege that Respondent violated 46 U.S.C. 41102(c) and 41104(a)(10) and 46 CFR 545.5. Complainants allege these violations arose from assessment of demurrage, detention, per diem, and yard storage charges during periods of time in which the charges were not just or reasonable because of circumstances outside the control of the Complainants and its agents and service providers, and from the acts or omissions of the Respondent that led to the assessment of these charges.

An answer to the complaint must be filed with the Commission within 25 days after the date of service.

The full text of the complaint can be found in the Commission’s electronic Reading Room at <https://www2.fmc.gov/readingroom/proceeding/24-05/>. This proceeding has been assigned to the Office of Administrative Law Judges. The initial decision of the presiding judge shall be issued by February 14, 2025, and the final decision of the Commission shall be issued by August 29, 2025.

**David Eng,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024–03508 Filed 2–20–24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6730–02–P**

#### FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

[Docket No. 24–10]

##### Impact Products, LLC and Safety Zone, LLC, Complainants v. Yang Ming Marine Transport Corp. Respondent; Notice of Filing of Complaint and Assignment

Served: February 14, 2024.

Notice is given that a complaint has been filed with the Federal Maritime Commission (the “Commission”) by Impact Products, LLC and Safety Zone, LLC (the “Complainants”) against Yang Ming Marine Transport Corp. (the “Respondent”). Complainants state that the Commission has jurisdiction over the complaint pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 41301 through 41309 and personal jurisdiction over the Respondent as an ocean common carrier, as defined in 46 U.S.C. 40102(18), that has entered into a service contract, as defined in 46 U.S.C. 40102(21), with the Complainants. Complainant Impact Products, LLC is a corporation located in Toledo, Ohio. Complainant Safety Zone, LLC is a corporation located in Guilford, Connecticut. Complainants are shippers as this term is defined under 46 U.S.C. 40102(23).

Complainants identify Respondent as a company existing under the laws of Taiwan with a principal place of business in Keelung, Taiwan and as a global ocean carrier. Complainants allege that Respondent violated 46 U.S.C. 41102(c) and 41104(a)(10) and 46 CFR 545.5. Complainants allege these violations arose from assessment of demurrage, detention, per diem, and yard storage charges during periods of time in which the charges were not just or reasonable because of circumstances