At the bidders conference, the MPUC was asked whether it had considered lowering the bid window to less than 2 weeks. We want all bidders to take note of this response:

The Commission believes that a bid window of 2 weeks may be necessary to properly evaluate bids and publicly deliberate its decision.

However, we allow the following supplemental approaches in response to bidders' concerns. First, it is possible that the Commission <u>could</u> accept a bid in less than 2 weeks. Therefore, we encourage bidders to take advantage of this possibility, such as by proposing a series of prices each held open for a specified time period. Second, bidders may submit additional prices after the submission of their Phase 2 proposals and before the Commission designates the winning bidder for the applicable SO class. Please note that these additional prices would be a price option <u>in addition to</u> the prices in the bidder's Phase 2 proposal, not <u>in replacement of</u> the prices originally bid.