FREQUENCY PROPOSAL REPORT FACT SHEET – For Call Signs with Only NPSPAC Frequencies

This document provides information about the Frequency Proposal Report (FPR) that reconfiguring 800 MHz licensees will receive related to exchanging their existing 800 MHz frequencies pursuant to the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC's) 800 MHz Report & Order. An FPR contains proposed new frequencies and other information to assist licensees in the reconfiguration process.

For call signs with any NPSPAC frequencies the FPR will include all licensed frequencies. Copies of the FPRs are provided to Sprint.

Please note that the FPR does not constitute authorization to operate on the proposed frequencies. An application must be filed with and granted by the FCC prior to commencing operations on the new frequencies.

For frequency proposals involving channels being replaced in the NPSPAC band (821-824/866-869 MHz, the FCC has required a new frequency exactly 15 MHz down from those currently authorized. For instance, a NPSPAC licensee operating on 821.2125/866.2125 MHz will be moved to 806.2125 / 851.2125 MHz. Following clearing of the current users of the 806/809 – 851/854 MHz (also known as the "1-120" channels), clearing of Sprint operations, and once all NPSPAC users are themselves reconfigured, NPSPAC licensees will have the same co-channel environment as they have before reconfiguration.

Note: The TA relies on data contained in the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS). This data is known to have inaccuracies and inconsistencies. If you believe that any of the criteria above are not met by the proposed frequencies, please contact the TA, or immediately raise the issue with Sprint upon initiation of reconfiguration discussions.

Pursuant to the 800 MHz Report and Order, reconfiguring licensees are entitled to receive comparable facilities. The TA notes that licensees in the NPSPAC band are going to have the same co-channel environment after their reconfiguration.

Comparability: Pursuant to the 800 MHz Report and Order, comparable facilities are those that will provide the same level of service/operational capability as the incumbent's existing facilities. The FCC has stated that comparable frequencies include:

- Equivalent channel capacity
- Equivalent signaling capability, baud rate, and access time
- Coextensive geographic coverage
- Equivalent operating costs

Licensees should keep in mind that the FCC requires that licensees receive comparable, not necessarily better, facilities, including frequencies. The FCC has also determined that reconfiguring licensees are not entitled to their choice of specific frequencies.

Reconfiguring Frequencies:

Since all NPSPAC licenses, whether they have base-station frequencies and locations or not, are being reconfigured, the FPR will include all NPSPAC frequencies in the 821/824 and 866/869 MHz ranges.

If you believe your license contains frequencies not covered in the FPR but that are supposed to be reconfigured, please contact the TA at (888) 800-8220 or comments@800TA.org.

Information in the Frequency Proposal Report:

An FPR contains information on current and proposed base station transmit frequencies as well as the co-channel environment for non-NPSPAC channels. **Note, the information available in the FPRs will vary depending on whether the call sign has NPSPAC frequencies or not.** Recently, the TA implemented online FPRs available via a unique URL (web address) for each call sign. The online FPR provides constantly updated co-channel information for non-NPSPAC frequencies. Updated FPRs can be viewed on-screen or exported as an Acrobat pdf file.

NPSPAC frequencies will not have Sections 3 and 4 (described below) that provide co-channel information regarding their proposed channels in their online FPRs. There will be other online tools available for the NPSPAC frequencies through the URLs that allow licensees to review the progress of clearing the 851-854 MHz band prior to their relocation and to review their current co-channel environment.

If you do not have Internet access and want to access your updated co-channel environment, you may contact the TA at comments@800TA.org or 888-800-8220 and provide the call sign(s) to request copies of updated reports.

Since the co-channel environment may change during the reconfiguration program, you may wish to periodically check your co-channel environment for updates. Suggested milestones for accessing an updated FPR online include:

- Prior to signing the Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement (FRA) with Sprint,
- Prior to reconfiguration if more than two weeks have elapsed since the FRA was signed,
- While assessing unresolved issues after reconfiguration, if any, and
- Prior to the closing the deal with Sprint.

Your FPR includes the following information for the listed call sign:

Section 1: Licensee name and address information, as well as a unique URL (web address) to access the online FPR associated with your listed call sign via the Internet. Sections 3 and 4 described below are only available for **non-NPSPAC frequencies** (851-865 MHz) via the URL or by contacting the TA and requesting a full FPR.

Section 2.1: The current base station transmit frequencies for every **non-NPSPAC** fixed location identified in the FCC's database that requires reconfiguration and proposed replacement frequencies.

- In the 800 MHz band, base station (also known as repeater) frequencies are in the 851-869 MHz range.
- On your license, base stations are fixed locations with a station class code starting with the letters "FB" (e.g., FB2).
- Base station frequencies determine the mobile and control station transmit frequencies used by the system in the 806-824 MHz range.
  - Mobile and control stations, or non-base station fixed locations, are identified on licenses by station class codes "MO" or "FX" (e.g., FX1).
  - Your new frequencies for mobile and control stations will be 45 MHz lower than your proposed base station channels. For instance, if you currently operate on 866.2875 MHz and are being moved to 851.2875 MHz, your mobiles will move from 821.2875 MHz to 8806.2875 MHz.
  - If you have a license with frequencies in the 866-869 MHz range that does not have a base station location, please make a point of including this information in your negotiations with Sprint
  - If you have a license with frequencies only in the 821-824 MHz range, please make a point of including this information in your negotiations with Sprint.

Section 2.2: The current frequencies for every granted **NPSPAC** location and frequency identified in the FCC's database for the call sign and the replacement frequencies specified by FCC rules.

Section 3: **(For non-NPSPAC locations and frequencies only)** A listing of the expected co-channel licensees on the proposed frequency(ies) to which your system will be reconfigured. This is a projection of the co-channel environment after Sprint has fully relocated out of your area. The unique URL (web address) in Section 1 of your mailed FPR Summary Sheet will provide access to this section online.

A "co-channel" licensee is another party authorized to use the same frequencies as those on your license. For instance, if you are authorized to use 852.5125 MHz and ACME Towing is also authorized to use 852.5125 MHz, you are co-channel licensees.

- Generally, there are no restrictions on licensing another user on a co-channel basis at sites beyond 113 km (70 miles) from an existing license.[1]
- This list will contain no data if, immediately following reconfiguration of your entire NPSPAC region and Sprint clearing, it is expected that you will have no co-channel licenses within 113 km (70 miles) of your locations.[2]

[1] Certain locations in the western United States specified in Section 90.621 of the FCC's rules have a standard co-channel separation of 169 km (105 miles). The short-space distances for those sites are also adjusted.

- If there are co-channel licensees on the list, it is likely (but not certain) that they are historical co-channel licensees currently co-channeled on your existing frequencies. In proposing new frequencies, every effort was made to move existing non-Sprint co-channel licensees to the same new proposed frequencies.
- If your FPR contains proposed co-channel licensees that are not current co-channel licensees, the TA will have analyzed the relevant separation distance(s) to ensure the distances comply with FCC rules regarding short-spacing. If you do not believe the distance complies with the FCC's rules, please contact the TA or raise the concern immediately upon initiating discussions with Sprint. Please note that your co- channel environment may change during reconfiguration, and licensees are encouraged to update their co-channel information periodically.

Section 4: **(For non-NPSPAC locations and frequencies only)** A reference listing of current co-channel licensees 113 kilometers (70 miles), or closer to your licensed location, including a calculation of the distance from your site to the co-channel site. This list is organized by your current frequencies and locations requiring reconfiguration. The unique URL (web address) in Section 1 of your mailed FPR Summary Sheet will provide access to this section online.

- The FCC permits co-channel licensees on a "short-spaced" basis at distances less than 113 km (70 miles). If applicable, this section will show existing short-spaced co-channel locations, as this provides information to consider in determining comparability. The information in this section contains no analysis of compliance to FCC short-spacing rules for these "historical" co-channel licensees.[3]
- This list is likely to include many Sprint licenses, but may include other non- Sprint licensees.
- If there is an overlying market-based license (also known as an EA license), this list will also include the co-channel EA licensee. There will be no distance listed, however, because EA licenses do not identify site-specific operations.

Section 5: An explanation of the remark codes found in Sections 2, 3, and 4.

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[2] As a reconfiguring licensee, you should be aware of changes that may occur after reconfiguration to the co-channel environment of your frequencies. For example, not all NPSPAC regions are reconfiguring simultaneously. For instance, within an adjacent region that reconfigures in a later Wave, other licensees may be relocated to the same frequency and be placed within 113 km (70 mi.) of your site. This will always be planned according to appropriate FCC rules regarding separation between co-channel users. Reasonable attempts will be made to keep the same licensees across regional boundaries as co-channel licensees. Once a NPSPAC region is fully reconfigured and Sprint has moved out, the frequencies relinquished by Sprint will be available to new users. Under current FCC rules, those new users are allowed to come within the standard 113 km (70 mile) spacing limit. All reconfiguring systems will require FCC grant of a license that will be available for review via the FCC's ULS system.

[3] FCC rules for short-spacing can be found in 47 C.F.R. Part 90.621.

Online Tools available through the unique URL - For every call sign, the TA will make available an online tool that allows licensees to perform searches of the co-channel environment.

Call Sign Radius Search Tool: (available late February 2006)

- Every fixed base station location on the license can be used as the center point of a search.
- The user specifies a limited radius (up to 250 kilometers) and a limited frequency range for their search.
- The frequency range can be a single frequency or a range of up to 50 KHz (0.050 MHz).
- The user can also select from data sets that include just proposed frequencies in the search range or proposed and granted non-Sprint channels found in ULS. Sprint licenses are not included in the searchable data to improve search times and reduce the size of the downloads.
- Reports may be exported in several common data formats including Excel and Adobe Acrobat.

NPSPAC Progress Checker: (available mid-March 2006)

- This tool is intended for call signs with a current 866-869 MHz NPSPAC base station, and is provided for informational purposes only. Reconfiguring NPSPAC licensees must coordinate the scheduling of their reconfiguration with Sprint who will be using the 851-854 MHz frequencies before NPSPAC reconfiguration.
- For each base station frequency (866-869 MHz) and location, the tool will provide a report listing the current FCC licensing status for any non-Sprint or non-Southern Company 851-854 MHz base station frequency and location that must be reconfigured prior to NPSPAC relocation.
- Reports may be exported in several common data formats including Excel and Adobe Acrobat.
- Users are reminded that the FCC licensing environment may not reflect the most current operating environment.
  - Reconfiguring licenses in the 851-854 MHz will have both old and new channels on their licenses for a period of time, and may operationally discontinue use of their original 851-854 MHz channels well before deleting those channels from their FCC license.
  - Sprint, and in certain circumstances Southern Company, will be using the 851- 854 MHz channel on an interim basis prior to NPSPAC reconfiguration.

What if there is a problem with proposed frequencies? If you believe that: (1) you have not received a proposed frequency for each frequency (or call sign) that you operate which is required to be reconfigured; or (2) that you have received frequencies that you are not eligible to operate pursuant to the 800 MHz Report and Order. Please notify the TA and we will review your proposed frequencies and respond promptly.

If you believe that the new frequency(ies) contained in your FPR are not comparable to your existing frequency(ies), you should compile information including the technical details regarding why the frequency is not comparable (e.g., it does not work within your combiner scheme). In the near future, you will be contacted by Sprint to negotiate a reconfiguration agreement, and you should identify this issue to Sprint as soon as possible and work with Sprint to identify and agree to alternative frequencies. The TA requests that you and Sprint coordinate with the TA for TA review of revised frequencies.

How do I report interference before, during, or after reconfiguration? Licensees experiencing interference problems before, during, or after reconfiguration should visit the 800 MHz interference reporting website at www.publicsafety800mhzinterference.com. The interference notification website was created as a result of the FCC's requirements in the 800 MHz Report and Order and can be used to submit interference reports to local wireless carriers for investigation and resolution.