



**FREQUENCY PROPOSAL REPORT FACT SHEET**  
**For B/ILT/SMR Call Signs in the U.S. Virgin Islands**

This document provides information about the Frequency Proposal Report (FPR) that reconfiguring B/ILT/SMR licensees in the U.S. Virgin Islands (“USVI”) will receive from the 800 MHz Transition Administrator, LLC (TA). Pursuant to the Federal Communication Commission’s (FCC’s) 800 MHz Third Report and Order and Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Third Report and Order), certain incumbent licensees in Puerto Rico are retuning from their existing frequencies in the 816.5-821/861.5-866 MHz portion of the band to new frequencies.<sup>1</sup> The FCC tentatively concluded to adopt for USVI the same band plan it adopted for Puerto Rico.

An FPR identifies a licensee’s current frequencies designated for reconfiguration and contains the proposed new frequencies and other information to assist licensees in the reconfiguration process.

Licensees should be aware that a separate FPR is generated for each site-specific call sign authorized for fixed primary locations and copies of the FPRs are provided to Sprint Nextel.

FPRs do not constitute an 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.

The TA has evaluated proposed frequencies and location information to ascertain that:

- A new frequency has been proposed for each reconfiguring frequency that you are currently authorized to operate pursuant to your call sign.
- The new frequency is consistent with the 800 MHz band plan for the region(s) in which your call sign has licensed locations.
- You are eligible to operate on the frequency(ies) that have been proposed.
- If the proposed frequencies are currently licensed to Sprint Nextel, the frequencies will be vacated prior to your relocation. If the proposed frequencies are currently licensed to other licensees, they will be reconfigured prior to your relocation.
- You will have no co-channel licensees and locations that are not in compliance with the FCC’s short-spacing rules found in 47 C.F.R. § 90.621, or with whom you are not already co-channelled on a short-spaced basis.

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 Nextel upon initiation of reconfiguration discussions.

Pursuant to the 800 MHz Report and Order, reconfiguring licensees are entitled to receive comparable facilities. The TA has not made a determination that your proposed frequencies are comparable to your

<sup>1</sup> See Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band, *Third Report and Order and Third Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, 25 FCC Rcd 4443, 4451-4452 ¶ 25 (2010).

existing frequencies or will provide the same operational capability your system had prior to relocation. Licensees are responsible for determining whether their proposed frequency(ies) are comparable and may use a qualified expert to assist them in making that determination.

**Right to Resources:** Reconfiguring licensees may utilize certified Frequency Coordinators or other qualified experts or consultants to review proposed frequencies to help determine if they are comparable. Sprint Nextel will reimburse reasonable costs for such services, but any such costs must be negotiated with Sprint Nextel and approved by the TA. Licensees should be aware that the cost of using outside expertise to analyze whether proposed frequencies are comparable is considered a transactional cost. The TA will take a hard look at any request involving transactional costs that exceed two percent of hard costs to determine if the transactional costs are excessive or unreasonable.

The TA encourages reconfiguring licensees to evaluate resources selected for reconfiguration work based on proven experience performing similar tasks and to carefully consider the competency of resources with limited historical experience. The TA cautions that the costs of using unqualified personnel to perform reconfiguration tasks will not be recoverable.

Please see the 800 MHz Reconfiguration Handbook, which is available on the TA's website at [www.800TA.org](http://www.800TA.org), for additional information and guidance regarding using external resources to evaluate your proposed frequencies and related Sprint Nextel funding of such costs.

**Reconfiguring Frequencies:** Not all of the frequencies of a B/ILT/SMR license may need to be reconfigured. The attached FPR contains information regarding only your permanent base station frequencies on your site-specific license that must be reconfigured. Your mobile and control station frequencies will be changed to appropriate frequencies in the 806-824 MHz range 45 MHz below the related base station frequencies. If your license includes additional base station frequencies in ranges that are not subject to reconfiguration, they will not be listed on the FPR.

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

**Information in the Frequency Proposal Report:** An FPR contains information about current and proposed base station transmit frequencies as well as the co-channel environment for non-NPSPAC channels. The information available in the FPRs will vary depending on whether the call sign has NPSPAC frequencies or not. Online FPRs are available via a unique URL (web address) for each call sign. The online FPR provides frequently updated co-channel information for non-NPSPAC frequencies. Note; Sections 3 and 4 described below are only available via the URL or by contacting the TA and requesting a full FPR. Updated FPRs may be viewed on-screen or exported as an Acrobat .pdf file.

If you do not have Internet access and want to access your updated co-channel environment, you may contact the TA by phone at 888-800-8220 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 using the online tools. Suggested milestones for checking online include:

- Prior to signing the Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement (FRA) with Sprint Nextel,



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

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 via the URL or by contacting the TA and requesting a full FPR.

**Section 2.1:** The current base station transmit frequencies for every fixed location identified in the FCC's ULS database that requires reconfiguration and the 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 862.2875 MHz and are being moved to 855.8625 MHz, your mobiles will move from 817.2875 MHz to 810.8625 MHz.
  - If you have a license with reconfiguring frequencies in the 851-866 MHz range that does not have a base station location, please make a point of including this information in your negotiations with Sprint Nextel. Some of these frequencies may be associated with a base station on another call sign and can be included in your negotiations with Sprint Nextel. Others not associated with any base station may be secondary licenses that will not be reconfigured.
  - If you have a license with frequencies only in the 806-824 MHz range, please make a point of including this information in your negotiations with Sprint Nextel. Some of these licenses may be associated with base stations on another call sign and can be included in your negotiations with Sprint Nextel. Others not associated with any base station may be secondary licenses that will not be reconfigured.
  - The FCC provided guidance regarding reconfiguration of certain secondary authorizations, including mobile-only authorizations, FB2T



temporary site licenses, and secondary licenses for offset channels, in a February 12, 2007 letter, which is available on the TA's website at [http://www.800TA.org/content/fccguidance/DA\\_07-641\\_02.12.07.pdf](http://www.800TA.org/content/fccguidance/DA_07-641_02.12.07.pdf)

**Section 2.2:** The current frequencies for any granted public safety **NPSPAC** location and frequency identified in the FCC's database for the call sign and the proposed replacement frequencies specified by FCC rules for the 800 MHz band plan under which the locations on the call sign operate. **Note, this section will appear but not be populated for B/ILT or SMR call signs.**

**Section 3:** 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 Nextel has fully relocated out of your area based on data available at the time your FPR was produced. This section is only available via the online FPR. 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 855.5125 MHz and ACME Towing is also authorized to use 855.5125 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.
- This list will contain no data if, immediately following reconfiguration of your entire NPSPAC region and Sprint Nextel clearing, it is expected that you will have no co-channel licenses within 113 km (70 miles) of your locations.<sup>2</sup>
- 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, efforts were made to move existing non-Sprint Nextel co-channel licensees to the same new proposed frequencies.

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<sup>2</sup> 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 later, other licensees may be relocated to the same frequency and be placed within 113 km (70 miles) 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 Nextel has reconfigured its systems, the frequencies relinquished by Sprint Nextel 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 an FCC grant of a license that will be available for review via the FCC's ULS database. If your reconfiguration negotiations are delayed such that your implementation will be after many other licensees have reconfigured, the TA recommends using the Call Sign Radius search tool discussed below to evaluate an updated proposed environment.

- If your FPR contains proposed co-channel licensees that are not current co-channel licensees, the TA has 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 Nextel. Please note that your co-channel environment may change during reconfiguration, and licensees are encouraged to review their co-channel information periodically.

**Section 4:** 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. This section is only available via the online FPR. 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 with FCC short-spacing rules for these "historical" co-channel licensees.<sup>3</sup>
- This list is likely to include many Sprint Nextel licenses, but may include other non-Sprint Nextel 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.

**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:**

- 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).

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<sup>3</sup> The FCC's rules for short-spacing can be found in 47 C.F.R. § 90.621.



- The user can also select from data sets that include just proposed frequencies in the search range or proposed and granted non-Sprint Nextel channels found in ULS. Sprint Nextel licenses are not included in the searchable data to improve search times and reduce the size of the downloads.
- Reports may be exported in common data formats including Excel and Adobe Acrobat.

**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; (2) you have received frequencies on which you are not eligible to operate pursuant to the 800 MHz Report and Order or Third Report and Order; or (3) there are co-channel stations to your proposed non-NPSPAC frequencies that do not comply with the FCC's co-channel separation rules, please notify the TA by phone at (888) 800-8220 or via email at [comments@800TA.org](mailto:comments@800TA.org) 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). When you are contacted by Sprint Nextel to negotiate your reconfiguration agreement you should identify this issue to Sprint Nextel as soon as possible and work with Sprint Nextel to identify and agree to alternative frequencies. The TA requests that you and Sprint Nextel coordinate with the TA for TA review of any 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](http://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.