

this chapter will be investigated by the Commission.

(f) *Records available to public*—(1) *Commission records*. A copy of every annual employment report, equal employment opportunity program, and reports on complaints regarding violation of equal employment provisions of Federal, State, Territorial, or local law, and copies of all exhibits, letters, and other documents filed as part thereof, all amendments thereto, all correspondence between the permittee or licensee and the Commission pertaining to the reports after they have been filed and all documents incorporated therein by reference, are open for public inspection at the offices of the Commission.

(2) *Records to be maintained locally for public inspection by licensees or permittees*—(i) *Records to be maintained*. Each licensee or permittee required to file annual employment reports, equal employment opportunity programs, and annual reports on complaints regarding violations of equal employment provisions of Federal, State, Territorial, or local law shall maintain for public inspection, in the same manner and in the same locations as required for the keeping and posting of tariffs as set forth in §61.72 of this chapter, a file containing a copy of each such report and copies of all exhibits, letters, and other documents filed as part thereto, all correspondence between the permittee or licensee and the Commission pertaining to the reports after they have been filed and all documents incorporated therein by reference.

(ii) *Period of retention*. The documents specified in paragraph (f)(2)(i) of this section shall be maintained for a period of 2 years.

[35 FR 12894, Aug. 14, 1970, as amended at 36 FR 3119, Feb. 18, 1971. Redesignated at 38 FR 22481, Aug. 21, 1973]

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AUTHORITY: 47 U.S.C. 154, 301, 302, 303, 309 and 332.

SOURCE: 58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 59 FR 18499, Apr. 19, 1994.

Subpart A—General Information

§ 24.1 Basis and purpose.

This section contains the statutory basis for this part of the rules and provides the purpose for which this part is issued.

(a) *Basis.* The rules for the personal communications services (PCS) in this part are promulgated under the provisions of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, that vests authority in the Federal Communications Commission to regulate radio transmission and to issue licenses for radio stations.

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(b) *Purpose.* This part states the conditions under which portions of the radio spectrum are made available and licensed for PCS.

(c) *Scope.* The rules in this part apply only to stations authorized under this part. Rules in subparts D and E apply only to stations authorized under those subparts.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993. Redesignated at 59 FR 18499, Apr. 19, 1994, and amended at 59 FR 32854, June 24, 1994]

§ 24.2 Other applicable rule parts.

Other FCC rule parts applicable to licensees in the personal communications services include the following:

(a) *Part 0.* This part describes the Commission's organization and delegations of authority. Part 0 of this chapter also lists available Commission publications, standards and procedures for access to Commission records, and location of Commission Field Offices.

(b) *Part 1.* This part includes rules of practice and procedure for license applications, adjudicatory proceedings, procedures for reconsideration and review of the Commission's actions; provisions concerning violation notices and forfeiture proceedings; and the environmental requirements that, if applicable, must be complied with prior to the initiation of construction.

(c) *Part 2.* This part contains the Table of Frequency Allocations and special requirements in international regulations, recommendations, agreements, and treaties. This part also contains standards and procedures concerning the marketing and importation of radio frequency devices, and for obtaining equipment authorization.

(d) *Part 5.* This part contains rules prescribing the manner in which parts of the radio frequency spectrum may be made available for experimentation.

(e) *Part 15.* This part contains rules setting out the regulations under which an intentional, unintentional, or incidental radiator may be operated without an individual license. It also contains the technical specifications, administrative requirements and other conditions relating to the marketing of part 15 devices. Unlicensed PCS devices operate under subpart D of part 15.

(f) *Part 17*. This part contains requirements for construction, marking and lighting of antenna towers.

(g) Part 20 of this chapter governs commercial mobile radio services.

(h) *Part 21*. This part contains rules concerning point-to-point microwave service authority relating to communications common carriers.

(i) *Part 68*. This part contains technical standards for connection of terminal equipment to the telephone network.

(j) *Part 94*. This part contains rules concerning the private microwave service relating to point-to-point communication requirements.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993. Redesignated and amended at 59 FR 18499, Apr. 19, 1994]

§ 24.3 Permissible communications.

PCS licensees may provide any mobile communications service on their assigned spectrum. Fixed services may be provided on a co-primary basis with mobile operations. Broadcasting as defined in the Communications Act is prohibited.

[61 FR 45356, Aug. 29, 1996]

§ 24.5 Terms and definitions.

Assigned Frequency. The center of the frequency band assigned to a station.

Authorized Bandwidth. The maximum width of the band of frequencies permitted to be used by a station. This is normally considered to be the necessary or occupied bandwidth, whichever is greater.

Average Terrain. The average elevation of terrain between 3 and 16 kilometers from the antenna site.

Base Station. A land station in the land mobile service.

Broadband PCS. PCS services operating in the 1850–1890 MHz, 1930–1970 MHz, 2130–2150 MHz, and 2180–2200 MHz bands.

Effective Radiated Power (e.r.p.) (*in a given direction*). The product of the power supplied to the antenna and its gain relative to a half-wave dipole in a given direction.

Equivalent Isotropically Radiated Power (e.i.r.p.). The product of the power supplied to the antenna and the antenna gain in a given direction relative to an isotropic antenna.

Fixed Service. A radiocommunication service between specified fixed points.

Fixed Station. A station in the fixed service.

Land Mobile Service. A mobile service between base stations and land mobile stations, or between land mobile stations.

Land Mobile Station. A mobile station in the land mobile service capable of surface movement within the geographic limits of a country or continent.

Land Station. A station in the mobile service not intended to be used while in motion.

Mobile Service. A radiocommunication service between mobile and land stations, or between mobile stations.

Mobile Station. A station in the mobile service intended to be used while in motion or during halts at unspecified points.

Narrowband PCS. PCS services operating in the 901–902 MHz, 930–931 MHz, and 940–941 MHz bands.

National Geodetic Reference System (NGRS): The name given to all geodetic control data contained in the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) data base. (Source: National Geodetic Survey, U.S. Department of Commerce)

PCS Relocator. A PCS entity that pays to relocate a fixed microwave link from its existing 2 GHz facility to other media or other fixed channels.

Personal Communications Services (PCS). Radio communications that encompass mobile and ancillary fixed communication that provide services to individuals and businesses and can be integrated with a variety of competing networks.

UTAM. The Unlicensed PCS Ad Hoc Committee for 2 GHz Microwave Transition and Management, which coordinates relocation in the 1910–1930 MHz band.

Voluntarily Relocating Microwave Incumbent. A microwave incumbent that voluntarily relocates its licensed facilities to other media or fixed channels.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993. Redesignated at 59 FR 18499, Apr. 19, 1994, and amended at 61 FR 29691, June 12, 1996; 62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997]

Subpart B—Applications and Licenses

GENERAL FILING REQUIREMENTS

§ 24.10 Scope.

This subpart contains some of the procedures and requirements for filing applications for licenses in the personal communications services. One also should consult subparts F and G of this part. Other Commission rule parts of importance that may be referred to with respect to licensing and operation of radio services governed under this part include 47 CFR parts 0, 1, 2, 5, 15, 17 and 20.

[59 FR 32854, June 24, 1994]

§ 24.11 Initial authorization.

(a) An applicant must file an application for an initial authorization in each market and frequency block desired.

(b) Blanket licenses are granted for each market and frequency block. Applications for individual sites are not required and will not be accepted.

[59 FR 32854, June 24, 1994]

§ 24.12 Eligibility.

Any entity, other than those precluded by section 310 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. 310, or §§ 99.202(c) or 99.204, is eligible to hold a license under this part.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993; 59 FR 15269, Mar. 31, 1994]

§ 24.15 License period.

Licenses for service areas will be granted for ten year terms from the date of original issuance or renewal.

§ 24.16 Criteria for comparative renewal proceedings.

A renewal applicant involved in a comparative renewal proceeding shall receive a preference, commonly referred to as a renewal expectancy, which is the most important comparative factor to be considered in the proceeding, if its past record for the relevant license period demonstrates that the renewal applicant:

(a) Has provided “substantial” service during its past license term. “Sub-

stantial” service is defined as service which is sound, favorable, and substantially above a level of mediocre service which might just minimally warrant renewal; and

(b) Has substantially complied with applicable Commission rules, policies and the Communications Act.

§ 24.18 Notification to the Arecibo Observatory.

(a) The requirements in this section are intended to minimize possible interference at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico. Licensees must make reasonable efforts to protect the Observatory from interference. Licensees planning to construct and operate a new station at a permanent fixed location on the islands of Puerto Rico, Desecheo, Mona, Vieques or Culebra in services in which individual station licenses are issued by the FCC; planning to construct and operate a new station at a permanent fixed location on these islands that may cause interference to the operations of the Arecibo Observatory in services in which individual station licenses are not issued by the FCC; or planning a modification of any existing station at a permanent fixed location on these islands that would increase the likelihood of causing interference to the operations of the Arecibo Observatory must notify the Interference Office, Arecibo Observatory, Post Office Box 995, Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00613, in writing or electronically (e-mail address: prcz@naic.edu), of the technical parameters of the planned operation. Carriers may wish to use the interference guidelines provided by Cornell University as guidance in designing facilities to avoid interference to the Observatory. The notification must include identification of the geographical coordinates of the antenna location (NAD-83 datum), the antenna height, antenna directivity (if any), proposed channel and FCC Rule Part, type of emission, and effective isotropic radiated power.

(b) In services in which individual station licenses are issued by the FCC, the notification required in paragraph (a) of this section should be sent at the same time the application is filed with

the FCC, and at least 20 days in advance of the applicant's planned operation. The application must state the date that notification in accordance with paragraph (a) was made. In services in which individual station licenses are not issued by the FCC, the notification required in paragraph (a) of this section should be sent at least 45 days in advance of the applicant's planned operation. In the latter services, the Interference Office must inform the FCC of a notification by an applicant within 20 days if the Office plans to file comments or objections to the notification. After the FCC receives an application from a service applicant or is informed by the Interference Office of a notification from a service applicant, the FCC will allow the Interference Office a period of 20 days for comments or objections in response to the application or notification.

(c) If an objection to any planned service operation is received during the 20-day period from the Interference Office, the FCC will take whatever action is deemed appropriate.

[63 FR 41203, Aug. 3, 1998]

Subpart C—Technical Standards

§24.50 Scope.

This subpart sets forth the technical requirements for use of the spectrum and equipment in the personal communications services.

§24.51 Equipment authorization.

(a) Each transmitter utilized for operation under this part and each transmitter marketed, as set forth in §2.803 of this chapter, must be of a type that has been authorized by the Commission under its certification procedure for use under this part.

(b) Any manufacturer of radio transmitting equipment to be used in these services may request equipment authorization following the procedures set forth in subpart J of part 2 of this chapter. Equipment authorization for an individual transmitter may be requested by an applicant for a station authorization by following the procedures set forth in part 2 of this chapter.

(c) Applicants for certification of transmitters that operate in these services must determine that the equipment complies with IEEE C95.1-1991, "IEEE Standards for Safety Levels with Respect to Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields, 3 kHz to 300 GHz" as measured using methods specified in IEEE C95.3-1991, "Recommended Practice for the Measurement of Potentially Hazardous Electromagnetic Fields—RF and Microwave." The applicant for certification is required to submit a statement affirming that the equipment complies with these standards as measured by an approved method and to maintain a record showing the basis for the statement of compliance with IEEE C.95.1-1991.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993. Redesignated at 59 FR 18499, Apr. 19, 1994, as amended at 63 FR 36604, July 7, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 36604, July 7, 1998, §24.51 was amended by removing paragraph (b) and redesignating paragraphs (c) and (d) as (b) and (c); by removing from paragraphs (a) and newly redesignated (c) the term "type acceptance" and replacing it with "certification"; and by removing the last sentence from newly redesignated paragraph (b), effective Oct. 5, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§24.51 Equipment authorization.

* * * * *

(b) The Commission periodically publishes a list of type accepted equipment, entitled "Radio Equipment List, Equipment Accepted for Licensing." Copies of this list are available for public reference at the Commission's offices in Washington, DC, at each of its field offices, and may be ordered from its copy contractor.

(c)* * * Such equipment if approved or accepted will not normally be included in the Commission's Radio Equipment List but will be individually enumerated on the station authorization.

* * * * *

§24.52 RF hazards.

Licensees and manufacturers are subject to the radiofrequency radiation exposure requirements specified in §1.1307(b), §2.1091 and §2.1093 of this chapter, as appropriate. Applications for equipment authorization of mobile

or portable devices operating under this section must contain a statement confirming compliance with these requirements for both fundamental emissions and unwanted emissions. Technical information showing the basis for this statement must be submitted to the Commission upon request.

[61 FR 41018, Aug. 7, 1996]

§24.53 Calculation of height above average terrain (HAAT).

(a) HAAT is determined by subtracting average terrain elevation from antenna height above mean sea level.

(b) Average terrain elevation shall be calculated using elevation data from a 30 arc second or better Digital Elevation Models (DEMs). DEM data is available from United States Geological Survey (USGS). The data file shall be identified. If 30 arc second data is used, the elevation data must be processed for intermediate points using interpolation techniques; otherwise, the nearest point may be used. If DEM data is not available, elevation data from the Defense Mapping Agency's Digital Chart of the World (DCW) may be used.

(c) Radial average terrain elevation is calculated as the average of the elevation along a straight line path from 3 to 16 kilometers extending radially from the antenna site. At least 50 evenly spaced data points for each radial shall be used in the computation.

(d) Average terrain elevation is the average of the eight radial average terrain elevations (for the eight cardinal radials).

(e) The position location of the antenna site shall be determined to an accuracy of no less than ± 5 meters in both the horizontal (latitude and longitude) and vertical (ground elevation) dimensions with respect to the National Geodetic Reference System.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993; 59 FR 15269, Mar. 31, 1994]

§24.55 Antenna structures; air navigation safety.

Licensees that own their antenna structures must not allow these antenna structures to become a hazard to air navigation. In general, antenna structure owners are responsible for registering antenna structures with

the FCC if required by part 17 of this chapter, and for installing and maintaining any required marking and lighting. However, in the event of default of this responsibility by an antenna structure owner, each FCC permittee or licensee authorized to use an affected antenna structure will be held responsible by the FCC for ensuring that the antenna structure continues to meet the requirements of part 17 of this chapter. *See* §17.6 of this chapter.

(a) *Marking and lighting.* Antenna structures must be marked, lighted and maintained in accordance with part 17 of this chapter and all applicable rules and requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration.

(b) *Maintenance contracts.* Antenna structure owners (or licensees and permittees, in the event of default by an antenna structure owner) may enter into contracts with other entities to monitor and carry out necessary maintenance of antenna structures. Antenna structure owners (or licensees and permittees, in the event of default by an antenna structure owner) that make such contractual arrangements continue to be responsible for the maintenance of antenna structures in regard to air navigation safety.

[61 FR 4366, Feb. 6, 1996]

Subpart D—Narrowband PCS

§24.100 Scope.

This subpart sets out the regulations governing the licensing and operations of personal communications services authorized in the 901–902, 930–931, and 940–941 MHz bands (900 MHz band).

§24.101 Multiple ownership restrictions.

(a) Narrowband PCS licensees shall not have an ownership interest in more than three of the 26 channels listed in §24.129 in any geographic area. For purposes of this restriction, a narrowband PCS licensee is:

(1) Any institutional investor, as defined in §24.720(h), with an ownership interest of ten or more percent in a narrowband PCS license; and

(2) Any other person or entity with an ownership interest of five or more percent in a narrowband PCS license.

(b) In cases where a party applies for a license after August 16, 1994 or has a license transferred to it after that date, and the party has indirect ownership, through an interest in an intervening entity (or entities) that has ownership in the narrowband license, that indirect ownership shall be attributable if the percentages of ownership at each level, multiplied together, equal five or more percent ownership of the narrowband PCS license, except that if the ownership percentage for an interest in any link in the chain exceeds 50 percent or represents actual control, it shall be treated as if it were a 100 percent interest.

Example: Party X has a non-controlling ownership interest of 25 percent in Company Y, which in turn has a non-controlling ownership interest of 10 percent in Company Z, the narrowband PCS licensee. Party X's effective ownership interest in Company Z is Party X's ownership interest in Company Y (25 percent) times Company Y's ownership interest in Company Z (10 percent). Therefore, Party X's effective ownership interest in Company Z is 2.5 percent, and is not attributable.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) of this section, the following interests shall not constitute attributable ownership interests for purposes of paragraph (a) of this section:

(1) A limited partnership interest held by an institutional investor (as defined §24.720(h)) where the limited partner is not materially involved, directly or indirectly, in the management or operation of the PCS holdings of the partnership, and the licensee so certifies. The criteria which would assure adequate insulation for the purposes of this certification require:

(i) Prohibiting limited partners from acting as employees of the limited partnership if responsibilities relate to the carrier activities of the licensee;

(ii) Barring the limited partners from serving as independent contractors;

(iii) Restricting communication among limited partners and the general partner regarding day-to-day activities of the licensee;

(iv) Empowering the general partner to veto admissions of new general partners;

(v) Restricting the circumstances in which the limited partners can remove the general partner;

(vi) Prohibiting the limited partners from providing services to the partnership relating to the PCS holdings of the licensee; and

(vii) Stating that the limited partners may not become involved in the management or operation of the licensee. See 47 CFR 73.3555 Note 2(g)(2); Memorandum of Opinion and Order in MM Docket 83-46, FCC 85-252 (released June 24, 1985), as modified on reconsideration in the Memorandum of Opinion and Order in MM Docket No. 83-46, FCC 86-410 (released November 28, 1986).

(2) Institutional investors who held limited partnership interests prior to March 2, 1995 shall be granted one year from that date to amend their limited partnership agreements to comply with the insulation rules and so certify to the Commission. During this transition period, the licensee in which an institutional investor holds an interest shall also certify to the Commission that the institutional investor limited partner(s) are not materially involved, directly or indirectly, in the management or operation of the licensee.

[60 FR 13917, Mar. 15, 1995; 60 FR 26375, May 17, 1995]

§24.102 Service areas.

Narrowband PCS service areas are nationwide, regional, Major Trading Areas (MTAs) and Basic Trading Areas (BTAs) as defined below. MTAs and BTAs are based on the Rand McNally 1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide, 123rd Edition, at pages 38-39 ("BTA/MTA Map"). Rand McNally organizes the 50 States and the District of Columbia into 47 MTAs and 487 BTAs. The BTA/MTA Map is available for public inspection at the Office of Engineering and Technology's Technical Information Center, Room 7317, 2025 M Street, NW., Washington, DC.

(a) The nationwide service area consists of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and United States Virgin Islands.

(b) The regional service areas are defined as follows:

(1) Region 1 (Northeast): The Northeast Region consists of the following MTAs: Boston-Providence, Buffalo-Rochester, New York, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh.

(2) Region 2 (South): The South Region consists of the following MTAs: Atlanta, Charlotte-Greensboro-Greenville-Raleigh, Jacksonville, Knoxville, Louisville-Lexington-Evansville, Nashville, Miami-Fort Lauderdale, Richmond-Norfolk, Tampa-St. Petersburg-Orlando, and Washington-Baltimore; and, Puerto Rico and United States Virgin Islands.

(3) Region 3 (Midwest): The Midwest Region consists of the following MTAs: Chicago, Cincinnati-Dayton, Cleveland, Columbus, Des Moines-Quad Cities, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Omaha.

(4) Region 4 (Central): The Central Region consists of the following MTAs: Birmingham, Dallas-Fort Worth, Denver, El Paso-Albuquerque, Houston, Kansas City, Little Rock, Memphis-Jackson, New Orleans-Baton Rouge, Oklahoma City, San Antonio, St. Louis, Tulsa, and Wichita.

(5) Region 5 (West): The West Region consists of the following MTAs: Honolulu, Los Angeles-San Diego, Phoenix, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose, Seattle (including Alaska), and Spokane-Billings; and, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

(c) The MTA service areas are based on the Rand McNally *1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide*, 123rd Edition, at pages 38-39, with the following exceptions and additions:

(1) Alaska is separated from the Seattle MTA and is licensed separately.

(2) Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands are licensed as a single MTA-like area.

(3) Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands are licensed as a single MTA-like area.

(4) American Samoa is licensed as a single MTA-like area.

(d) The BTA service areas are based on the Rand McNally *1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide*, 123rd Edition, at pages 38-39, with the following additions licensed separately as BTA-like areas: American Samoa; Guam; Northern Mariana Islands; Mayagüez/Agua-dilla-Ponce, Puerto Rico; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and the United States Virgin Islands. The Mayagüez/Agua-dilla-Ponce BTA-like service area consists of the following municipios:

Adjuntas, Aguada, Aguadilla, Añasco, Arroyo, Cabo Rojo, Coamo, Guánica, Guayama, Guayanilla, Hormigueros, Isabela, Jayuya, Juana Díaz, Lajas, Las Marias, Maricao, Maunabo, Mayagüez, Moca, Patillas, Peñuelas, Ponce, Quebradillas, Rincón, Sabana Grande, Salinas, San Germán, Santa Isabel, Villalba, and Yauco. The San Juan BTA-like service area consists of all other municipios in Puerto Rico.

[59 FR 14118, Mar. 25, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 46199, Sept. 7, 1994]

§ 24.103 Construction requirements.

(a) Nationwide narrowband PCS licensees shall construct base stations that provide coverage to a composite area of 750,000 square kilometers or serve 37.5 percent of the U.S. population within five years of initial license grant date; and, shall construct base stations that provide coverage to a composite area of 1,500,000 square kilometers or serve 75 percent of the U.S. population within ten years of initial license grant date.

(b) Regional narrowband PCS licensees shall construct base stations that provide coverage to a composite area of 150,000 square kilometers or serve 37.5 percent of the population of the service area within five years of initial license grant date; and, shall construct base stations that provide coverage to a composite area of 300,000 square kilometers or serve 75 percent of the service area population within ten years of initial license grant date.

(c) MTA narrowband PCS licensees shall construct base stations that provide coverage to a composite area of 75,000 square kilometers or 25 percent of the geographic area, or serve 37.5 percent of the population of the service area within five years of initial license grant date; and, shall construct base stations that provide coverage to a composite area of 150,000 square kilometers or 50 percent of the geographic area, or serve 75 percent of the population of the service area within ten years of initial license grant date.

(d) BTA narrowband PCS licensees shall construct at least one base station and begin providing service in its BTA within one year of initial license grant date.

(e) In demonstrating compliance with the above construction requirements, licensees must base their calculations on signal field strengths that ensure reliable service for the technology utilized.

(1) For the purpose of this section, the service radius of a base station may be calculated using the following formula:

$$d_{km} = 2.53 \times h_m^{0.34} \times p^{0.17}$$

where d_{km} is the radial distance in kilometers,

h_m is the antenna HAAT of the base station in meters, and

p is the e.r.p. of the base station in watts.

(2) Alternatively, licensees may use any service radius contour formula developed or generally used by industry, provided that such formula is based on the technical characteristics of their system.

(f) Upon meeting the five and ten year benchmarks in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this section, licensees shall file a map and other supporting documentation that demonstrates compliance with the geographic area or population coverage requirement. BTA licensees shall file a statement indicating commencement of service. The filing must be received at the Commission on or before expiration of the relevant period.

(g) If the sale of a license is approved, the new licensee is held to the original build-out requirement.

(h) Failure by a licensee to meet the above construction requirements shall result in forfeiture of the license and ineligibility to regain it.

NOTE: Population-based construction requirements contained in this section shall be based on the 1990 census.

[59 FR 14118, Mar. 25, 1994]

§ 24.129 Frequencies.

The following frequencies are available for narrowband PCS. All licenses on channels indicated with an (*) will be eligible for bidding credits of 25 percent, and all licenses indicated with an (**) will be eligible for bidding credits of 40 percent, as set forth in § 24.309(b) if competitive bidding is used to award such licenses.

(a) Eleven frequencies are available for assignment on a nationwide basis as follows:

(1) Five 50 kHz channels paired with 50 kHz channels:

Channel 1: 940.00–940.05 and 901.00–901.05 MHz;
Channel 2: 940.05–940.10 and 901.05–901.10 MHz;
Channel 3: 940.10–940.15 and 901.10–901.15 MHz;
Channel 4: 940.15–940.20 and 901.15–901.20 MHz;
and,
Channel 5: 940.20–940.25 and 901.20–901.25 MHz.*

(2) Three 50 kHz channels paired with 12.5 kHz channels:

Channel 6: 930.40–930.45 and 901.7500–901.7625 MHz;
Channel 7: 930.45–930.50 and 901.7625–901.7750 MHz; and,
Channel 8: 930.50–930.55 and 901.7750–901.7875 MHz.*

(3) Three 50 kHz unpaired channels:

Channel 9: 940.75–940.80 MHz;
Channel 10: 940.80–940.85 MHz; and,
Channel 11: 940.85–940.90 MHz.*

(b) Six frequencies are available for assignment on a regional basis as follows:

(1) Two 50 kHz channels paired with 50 kHz channels:

Channel 12: 940.25–940.30 and 901.25–901.30 MHz; and,
Channel 13: 940.30–940.35 and 901.30–901.35 MHz.**

(2) Four 50 kHz channels paired with 12.5 kHz channels:

Channel 14: 930.55–930.60 and 901.7875–901.8000 MHz;
Channel 15: 930.60–930.65 and 901.8000–901.8125 MHz;
Channel 16: 930.65–930.70 and 901.8125–901.8250 MHz; and,
Channel 17: 930.70–930.75 and 901.8250–901.8375 MHz.**

(c) Seven frequencies are available for assignment on a MTA basis as follows:

(1) Two 50 kHz channels paired with 50 kHz channels:

Channel 18: 940.35–940.40 and 901.35–901.40 MHz; and,
Channel 19: 940.40–940.45 and 901.40–901.45 MHz.*

(2) Three 50 kHz channels paired with 12.5 kHz channels:

Channel 20: 930.75–930.80 and 901.8375–901.8500 MHz;

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Channel 21: 930.80–930.85 and 901.8500–901.8625 MHz; and,
 Channel 22: 930.85–930.90 and 901.8625–901.8750 MHz.*

(3) Two 50 kHz unpaired channels:

Channel 23: 940.90–940.95 MHz; and,
 Channel 24: 940.95–941.00 MHz.*

(d) Two 50 kHz channels paired with 12.5 kHz channels are available for assignment on a BTA basis:

Channel 25: 930.90–930.95 and 901.8750–901.8875 MHz; and,
 Channel 26: 930.95–931.00 and 901.8875–901.9000 MHz.*

NOTE 1: Operations in markets or portions of markets which border other countries, such as Canada and Mexico, will be subject to on-going coordination arrangements with neighboring countries.

[59 FR 44069, Aug. 26, 1994]

§ 24.130 Paging response channels.

(a) The channels listed in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section are available to licensees of conventional one-way paging base stations licensed pursuant to part 22 or part 90 of this chapter as of the application filing deadline for the paging response channels. Eligibility for response channels shall be based on the authorized service area of each existing paging licensee. This service area is defined as the area within a 32.2 kilometer radius of the licensee's base stations or, in the case of "F," "G," "H," or "K" class stations under §§ 22.502(c) and 90.495(b)(1) of this chapter, as the area that is within the service area radius specified in § 22.504(b)(2) of this chapter. Existing paging licensees are eligible to bid for any response channel in any BTA or MTA which encompasses an authorized base station or which is partly or wholly overlapped by a licensee's service area. These channels shall be used only in paired communications with existing paging channels to provide mobile-to-base station communications. Until two years after the date of initial license grant, eligible paging licensees are limited to a maximum of two response channels within the same geographic area. Licenses for paging response channels are not counted toward the multiple ownership restrictions of § 24.101.

UNPAIRED FREQUENCIES (MHz)

	License area
Mobile transmit ¹ (12.5 kHz bandwidth): 901.90625, 901.94375, 901.98125, 901.91875, 901.95625, 901.99375, 901.93125, 901.96875	BTA
Base or mobile transmit (50 kHz bandwidth): 940.775, 940.825, 940.875	Nationwide
940.925, 940.975	MTA

¹ Limited to paging licensees authorized under parts 22 and 90 of this chapter.

(b) The following four 12.5 kHz unpaired channels are available for assignment on a MTA basis:

- A: 901.9000–901.9125 MHz;
- B: 901.9125–901.9250 MHz;
- C: 901.9250–901.9375 MHz; and
- D: 901.9375–901.9500 MHz.

(c) The following four 12.5 kHz unpaired channels are available for assignment on a BTA basis:

- E: 901.9500–901.9625 MHz;
- F: 901.9625–901.9750 MHz;
- G: 901.9750–901.9875 MHz; and
- H: 901.9875–902.0000 MHz.

[59 FR 14119, Mar. 25, 1994; 59 FR 15269, Mar. 31, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 44069, Aug. 26, 1994; 59 FR 46200, Sept. 7, 1994]

§ 24.131 Authorized bandwidth.

The authorized bandwidth of narrowband PCS channels will be 10 kHz for 12.5 kHz channels and 45 kHz for 50 kHz channels. For aggregated adjacent channels, a maximum authorized bandwidth of 5 kHz less than the total aggregated channel width is permitted.

§ 24.132 Power and antenna height limits.

(a) Stations transmitting in the 901–902 MHz band are limited to 7 watts e.r.p.

(b) Mobile stations transmitting in the 930–931 MHz and 940–941 MHz bands are limited to 7 watts e.r.p.

(c) Base stations transmitting in the 930–931 MHz and 940–941 MHz bands are limited to 3500 watts e.r.p. per authorized channel and are unlimited in antenna height except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section.

(d)(1) MTA and regional base stations located between 200 kilometers (124 miles) and 80 kilometers (50 miles) from their licensed service area border

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are limited to the power levels in the following table:

Antenna HAAT in meters (feet) (see §24.53 for HAAT HAAT calculation method)	Effective radiated power (e.r.p.) (watts)
183 (600) and below	3500
183 (600) to 208 (682)	3500 to 2584
208 (682) to 236 (775)	2584 to 1883
236 (775) to 268 (880)	1883 to 1372
268 (880) to 305 (1000)	1372 to 1000
305 (1000) to 346 (1137)	1000 to 729
346 (1137) to 394 (1292)	729 to 531
394 (1292) to 447 (1468)	531 to 387
447 (1468) to 508 (1668)	387 to 282
508 (1668) to 578 (1895)	282 to 206
578 (1895) to 656 (2154)	206 to 150
656 (2154) to 746 (2447)	150 to 109
746 (2447) to 848 (2781)	109 to 80
848 (2781) to 963 (3160)	80 to 58
963 (3160) to 1094 (3590)	58 to 42
1094 (3590) to 1244 (4080)	42 to 31
1244 (4080) to 1413 (4636)	31 to 22
Above 1413 (4636)	16

(2) For heights between the values listed in the table, linear interpolation shall be used to determine maximum e.r.p.

(e) MTA, BTA and regional base stations located less than 80 kilometers (50 miles) from the licensed service area border must limit their effective radiated power in accordance with the following formula:

$$PW = 0.0175 \times dkm^{**6.6666} \times hm^{**} - 3.1997$$

PW is effective radiated power in watts
 dkm is distance in kilometers
 hm is antenna HAAT in meters; see §24.53 for HAAT0 calculation method

(f) All power levels specified in this section are expressed in terms of the maximum power, averaged over a 100 millisecond interval, when measured with instrumentation calibrated in terms of an rms-equivalent voltage with a resolution bandwidth equal to or greater than the authorized bandwidth.

(g) Additionally, PCS stations will be subject to any power limits imposed by international agreements.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993; 59 FR 15269, Mar. 31, 1994, as amended at 62 FR 27511, May 20, 1997]

§ 24.133 Emission limits.

(a) The power of any emission shall be attenuated below the transmitter power (P), as measured in accordance with §99.132(f), in accordance with the following schedule:

(1) For transmitters authorized a bandwidth greater than 10 kHz:

(i) On any frequency outside the authorized bandwidth and removed from the edge of the authorized bandwidth by a displacement frequency (f_d in kHz) of up to and including 40 kHz: at least $116 \text{ Log}_{10} ((f_d+10)/6.1)$ decibels or 50 plus $10 \text{ Log}_{10} (P)$ decibels or 70 decibels, whichever is the lesser attenuation;

(ii) On any frequency outside the authorized bandwidth and removed from the edge of the authorized bandwidth by a displacement frequency (f_d in kHz) of more than 40 kHz: at least $43+10 \text{ Log}_{10} (P)$ decibels or 80 decibels, whichever is the lesser attenuation.

(2) For transmitters authorized a bandwidth of 10 kHz:

(i) On any frequency outside the authorized bandwidth and removed from the edge of the authorized bandwidth by a displacement frequency (f_d in kHz) of up to and including 20 kHz: at least $116 \times \text{Log}_{10} ((f_d+5)/3.05)$ decibels or $50+10 \times \text{Log}_{10} (P)$ decibels or 70 decibels, whichever is the lesser attenuation;

(ii) On any frequency outside the authorized bandwidth and removed from the edge of the authorized bandwidth by a displacement frequency (f_d in kHz) of more than 20 kHz: at least $43+10 \text{ Log}_{10} (P)$ decibels or 80 decibels, whichever is the lesser attenuation.

(b) The measurements of emission power can be expressed in peak or average values provided they are expressed in the same parameters as the transmitter power.

(c) When an emission outside of the authorized bandwidth causes harmful interference, the Commission may, at its discretion, require greater attenuation than specified in this section.

(d) The following minimum spectrum analyzer resolution bandwidth settings will be used: 300 Hz when showing compliance with paragraphs (a)(1)(i) and (a)(2)(i) of this section; and 30 kHz when showing compliance with paragraphs (a)(1)(ii) and (a)(2)(ii) of this section.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993. Redesignated at 59 FR 18499, April 19, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 14119, Mar. 25, 1994]

§ 24.134 Co-channel separation criteria.

The minimum co-channel separation distance between base stations in different service areas is 113 kilometers

(70 miles). A co-channel separation distance is not required for the base stations of the same licensee or when the affected parties have agreed to other co-channel separation distances.

§ 24.135 Frequency stability.

(a) The frequency stability of the transmitter shall be maintained within ± 0.0001 percent (± 1 ppm) of the center frequency over a temperature variation of -30° Celsius to $+50^{\circ}$ Celsius at normal supply voltage, and over a variation in the primary supply voltage of 85 percent to 115 percent of the rated supply voltage at a temperature of 20° Celsius.

(b) For battery operated equipment, the equipment tests shall be performed using a new battery without any further requirement to vary supply voltage.

(c) It is acceptable for a transmitter to meet this frequency stability requirement over a narrower temperature range provided the transmitter ceases to function before it exceeds these frequency stability limits.

Subpart E—Broadband PCS

SOURCE: 59 FR 32854, June 24, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 24.200 Scope.

This subpart sets out the regulations governing the licensing and operations of personal communications services authorized in the 1850–1910 and 1930–1990 MHz bands.

§ 24.202 Service areas.

Broadband PCS service areas are Major Trading Areas (MTAs) and Basic Trading Areas (BTAs) as defined below. MTAs and BTAs are based on the Rand McNally *1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide*, 123rd Edition, at pages 38–39 (“BTA/MTA Map”). Rand McNally organizes the 50 states and the District of Columbia into 47 MTAs and 487 BTAs. The BTA/MTA Map is available for public inspection as the Office of Engineering and Technology’s Technical Information Center, room 7317, 2025 M Street, NW., Washington, DC.

(a) The MTA service areas are based on the Rand McNally *1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide*, 123rd Edition,

at pages 38–39, with the following exceptions and additions:

(1) Alaska is separated from the Seattle MTA and is licensed separately.

(2) Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands are licensed as a single MTA-like area.

(3) Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands are licensed as a single MTA-like area.

(4) American Samoa is licensed as a single MTA-like area.

(b) The BTA service areas are based on the Rand McNally *1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide*, 123rd Edition, at pages 38–39, with the following additions licensed separately as BTA-like areas: American Samoa; Guam; Northern Mariana Islands; Mayagüez/Agua-dilla-Ponce, Puerto Rico; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and the United States Virgin Islands. The Mayagüez/Agua-dilla-Ponce BTA-like service area consists of the following municipios: Adjuntas, Aguada, Aguadilla, Añasco, Arroyo, Cabo Rojo, Coamo, Guánica, Guayama, Guayanilla, Hormigueros, Isabela, Jayuya, Juana Díaz, Lajas, Las Marias, Mayagüez, Maricao, Maunabo, Moca, Patillas, Peñuelas, Ponce, Quebradillas, Rincón, Sabana Grande, Salinas, San Germán, Santa Isabel, Villalba, and Yauco. The San Juan BTA-like service area consists of all other municipios in Puerto Rico.

[59 FR 32854, June 24, 1994; 59 FR 40835, Aug. 10, 1994]

§ 24.203 Construction requirements.

(a) Licensees of 30 MHz blocks must serve with a signal level sufficient to provide adequate service to at least one-third of the population in their licensed area within five years of being licensed and two-thirds of the population in their licensed area within 10 years of being licensed. Licensees may choose to define population using the 1990 census or the 2000 census. Failure by any licensee to meet these requirements will result in forfeiture or non-renewal of the license and the licensee will be ineligible to regain it.

(b) Licensees of 10 MHz blocks must serve with a signal level sufficient to provide adequate service to at least one-quarter of the population in their licensed area within five years of being

licensed, or make a showing of substantial service in their licensed area within five years of being licensed. Population is defined as the 1990 population census. Licensees may elect to use the 2000 population census to determine the five-year construction requirement. Failure by any licensee to meet these requirements will result in forfeiture of the license and the licensee will be ineligible to regain it.

(c) Licensees must file maps and other supporting documents showing compliance with the respective construction requirements within the appropriate five- and ten-year benchmarks of the date of their initial licenses.

§ 24.229 Frequencies.

The frequencies available in the Broadband PCS service are listed in this section in accordance with the frequency allocations table of § 2.106 of this chapter.

(a) The following frequency blocks are available for assignment on an MTA basis:

Block A: 1850–1865 MHz paired with 1930–1945 MHz; and

Block B: 1870–1885 MHz paired with 1950–1965 MHz.

(b) The following frequency blocks are available for assignment on a BTA basis:

Block C: 1895–1910 MHz paired with 1975–1990 MHz;

Block D: 1865–1870 MHz paired with 1945–1950 MHz;

Block E: 1885–1890 MHz paired with 1965–1970 MHz; and

Block F: 1890–1895 MHz paired with 1970–1975 MHz.

[59 FR 32854, June 24, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 13917, Mar. 15, 1995; 60 FR 26375, May 17, 1995; 61 FR 33868, July 1, 1996; 62 FR 660, Jan. 6, 1997]

§ 24.232 Power and antenna height limits.

(a) Base stations are limited to 1640 watts peak equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) with an antenna height up to 300 meters HAAT. See § 24.53 for HAAT calculation method. Base station antenna heights may exceed 300 meters with a corresponding reduction in power; see Table 1 of this

section. In no case may the peak output power of a base station transmitter exceed 100 watts. The service area boundary limit and microwave protection criteria specified in § 24.236 and § 24.237 apply.

TABLE 1.—REDUCED POWER FOR BASE STATION ANTENNA HEIGHTS OVER 300 METERS

HAAT in meters	Maximum e.i.r.p. (watts)
≤300	1,640
≤500	1,070
≤1,000	490
≤1,500	270
≤2,000	160

(b) Mobile/portable stations are limited to 2 watts e.i.r.p. peak power and the equipment must employ means to limit the power to the minimum necessary for successful communications.

(c) Peak transmit power must be measured over any interval of continuous transmission using instrumentation calibrated in terms of an rms-equivalent voltage. The measurement results shall be properly adjusted for any instrument limitations, such as detector response times, limited resolution bandwidth capability when compared to the emission bandwidth, sensitivity, *etc.*, so as to obtain a true peak measurement for the emission in question over the full bandwidth of the channel.

§ 24.235 Frequency stability.

The frequency stability shall be sufficient to ensure that the fundamental emission stays within the authorized frequency block.

§ 24.236 Field strength limits.

The predicted or measured median field strength at any location on the border of the PCS service area shall not exceed 47 dBuV/m unless the parties agree to a higher field strength.

§ 24.237 Interference protection.

(a) All licensees are required to coordinate their frequency usage with the co-channel or adjacent channel incumbent fixed microwave licensees in the 1850–1990 MHz band. Coordination must occur before initiating operations from any base station. Problems that arise during the coordination process

are to be resolved by the parties to the coordination. Licensees are required to coordinate with all users possibly affected, as determined by Appendix I to this subpart E (Appendix E of the Memorandum Opinion and Order, GEN Docket No. 90-314, FCC 94-144; TIA Telecommunications Systems Bulletin 10-F, "Interference Criteria for Microwave Systems," May 1994, (TSB10-F)); or an alternative method agreed to by the parties.

(b) The results of the coordination process need to be reported to the Commission only if the parties fail to agree. Because broadband PCS licensees are required to protect fixed microwave licensees in the 1850-1990 MHz band, the Commission will be involved in the coordination process only upon complaint of interference from a fixed microwave licensee. In such a case, the Commission will resolve the issues.

(c) In all other respects, coordination procedures are to follow the requirements of §101.103(d) of this chapter to the extent that these requirements are not inconsistent with those specified in this part.

(d) The licensee must perform an engineering analysis to assure that the proposed facilities will not cause interference to existing OFS stations within the coordination distance specified in Table 2 of a magnitude greater than that specified in the criteria set forth in paragraph (e) and (f) of this section, unless there is prior agreement with the affected OFS licensee. Interference calculations shall be based on the sum of the power received at the terminals of each microwave receiver from all of the applicant's current and proposed PCS operations.

TABLE 2.—COORDINATION DISTANCES IN KILOMETERS
[PCS Base Station Antenna HAAT in Meters]

e.i.r.p. (W)	5	10	20	50	100	150	200	250	300	500	1000	1500	2000
0.1	90	93	99	110	122	131	139	146	152	173	210	239	263
0.5	96	100	105	116	128	137	145	152	158	179	216	245	269
1	99	103	108	119	131	140	148	155	161	182	219	248	272
2	120	122	126	133	142	148	154	159	164	184	222	250	274
5	154	157	161	168	177	183	189	194	198	213	241	263	282
10	180	183	187	194	203	210	215	220	225	240	268	291	310
20	206	209	213	221	229	236	242	247	251	267	296	318	337
50	241	244	248	255	264	271	277	282	287	302	331	354	374
100	267	270	274	282	291	297	303	308	313	329	358	382	401
200	293	296	300	308	317	324	330	335	340	356	386	409	.....
500	328	331	335	343	352	359	365	370	375	391	421	.....	.....
1000	354	357	361	369	378	385	391	397	402	418	.....	.....	.....
1200	361	364	368	376	385	392	398	404	409	.....	.....	.....	.....
1640	372	375	379	388	397	404	410	416	421	.....	.....	.....	.....

Note: If actual value does not match table values, round to the closest higher value on this table. See Section 24.53 for HAAT calculation method.

(e) For microwave paths of 25 kilometers or less, interference determinations shall be based on the C/I criteria set forth in TIA Telecommunications Systems Bulletin 10-F, "Interference Criteria for Microwave Systems," May 1994 (TSB10-F).

(f) For microwave paths longer than 25 kilometers, the interference protection criterion shall be such that the interfering signal will not produce more than 1.0 dB degradation of the practical threshold of the microwave receiver for analog system, or such that the interfering signal will not cause an increase in the bit error rate

(BER) from 10E-6 to 10E-5 for digital systems.

(g) The development of the C/I ratios and interference criteria specified in paragraphs (e) and (f) of this section and the methods employed to compute the interfering power at the microwave receivers shall follow generally acceptable good engineering practices. The procedures described for computing interfering signal levels in (Appendix I to this subpart E Appendix E of the Memorandum Opinion and Order, GEN Docket No. 90-314, FCC 94-144) shall be applied. Alternatively, procedures for determining interfering signal levels

and other criteria as may be developed by the Electronics Industries Association (EIA), the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or any other recognized authority will be acceptable to the Commission.

[59 FR 32854, June 24, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 29691, June 21, 1996]

§ 24.238 Emission limits.

(a) On any frequency outside a licensee's frequency block, the power of any emission shall be attenuated below the transmitter power (P) by at least $43 + 10 \log (P)$ dB.

(b) Compliance with these provisions is based on the use of measurement instrumentation employing a resolution bandwidth of 1 MHz or greater. However, in the 1 MHz bands immediately outside and adjacent to the frequency block a resolution bandwidth of at least one percent of the emission bandwidth of the fundamental emission of the transmitter may be employed. The emission bandwidth is defined as the width of the signal between two points, one below the carrier center frequency and one above the carrier center frequency, outside of which all emissions are attenuated at least 26 dB below the transmitter power.

(c) When measuring the emission limits, the nominal carrier frequency shall be adjusted as close to the licensee's frequency block edges, both upper and lower, as the design permits.

(d) The measurements of emission power can be expressed in peak or average values, provided they are expressed in the same parameters as the transmitter power.

(e) When an emission outside of the authorized bandwidth causes harmful interference, the Commission may, at its discretion, require greater attenuation than specified in this section.

POLICIES GOVERNING MICROWAVE RELOCATION FROM THE 1850-1990 MHZ BAND

§ 24.239 Cost-sharing requirements for broadband PCS.

Frequencies in the 1850-1990 MHz band listed in § 101.147(c) of this chapter have been allocated for use by PCS. In accordance with procedures specified in

§§ 101.69 through 101.81 of this chapter, PCS entities (both licensed and unlicensed) are required to relocate the existing Fixed Microwave Services (FMS) licensees in these bands if interference to the existing FMS operations would occur. All PCS entities who benefit from spectrum clearance by other PCS entities or a voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent, must contribute to such relocation costs. PCS entities may satisfy this requirement by entering into private cost-sharing agreements or agreeing to terms other than those specified in § 24.243. However, PCS entities are required to reimburse other PCS entities or voluntarily relocating microwave incumbents that incur relocation costs and are not parties to the alternative agreement. In addition, parties to a private cost-sharing agreement may seek reimbursement through the clearinghouse (as discussed in § 24.241) from PCS entities that are not parties to the agreement. The cost-sharing plan is in effect during all phases of microwave relocation specified in § 101.69 of this chapter.

[62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997]

§ 24.241 Administration of the Cost-Sharing Plan.

The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, under delegated authority, will select an entity to operate as a neutral, not-for-profit clearinghouse. This clearinghouse will administer the cost-sharing plan by, *inter alia*, maintaining all of the cost and payment records related to the relocation of each link and determining the cost-sharing obligation of subsequent PCS entities. The cost-sharing rules will not take effect until an administrator is selected.

[61 FR 29691, June 12, 1996]

§ 24.243 The cost-sharing formula.

A PCS relocater who relocates an interfering microwave link, i.e. one that is in all or part of its market area and in all or part of its frequency band or a voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent, is entitled to pro rata reimbursement based on the following formula:

$$R_N = \frac{C}{N} \times \frac{[120 - (T_m)]}{120}$$

(a) R_N equals the amount of reimbursement.

(b) C equals the actual cost of relocating the link. Actual relocation costs include, but are not limited to, such items as: Radio terminal equipment (TX and/or RX—antenna, necessary feed lines, MUX/Modems); towers and/or modifications; back-up power equipment; monitoring or control equipment; engineering costs (design/path survey); installation; systems testing; FCC filing costs; site acquisition and civil works; zoning costs; training; disposal of old equipment; test equipment (vendor required); spare equipment; project management; prior coordination notification under §101.103(d) of this chapter; site lease renegotiation; required antenna upgrades for interference control; power plant upgrade (if required); electrical grounding systems; Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) (if required); alternate transport equipment; and leased facilities. C also includes voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent's independent third party appraisal of its compensable relocation costs and incumbent transaction expenses that are directly attributable to the relocation, subject to a cap of two percent of the "hard" costs involved. C may not exceed \$250,000 per link, with an additional \$150,000 permitted if a new or modified tower is required.

(c) N equals the number of PCS entities that would have interfered with the link. For the PCS relocater, $N = 1$. For the next PCS entity that would have interfered with the link, $N = 2$, and so on.

(d) T_m equals the number of months that have elapsed between the month the PCS relocater obtains reimbursement rights and the month that the clearinghouse notifies a later-entrant of its reimbursement obligation. A PCS relocater obtains reimbursement rights on the date that it signs a relocation agreement with a microwave incumbent.

[62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997]

§24.245 Reimbursement under the Cost-Sharing Plan.

(a) *Registration of reimbursement rights.* (1) To obtain reimbursement, a PCS relocater must submit documentation of the relocation agreement to the clearinghouse within ten business days of the date a relocation agreement is signed with an incumbent.

(2) To obtain reimbursement, a voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent must submit documentation of the relocation to the clearinghouse within ten business days of the date that relocation occurs.

(b) *Documentation of expenses.* Once relocation occurs, the PCS relocater or the voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent, must submit documentation itemizing the amount spent for items listed in §24.243(b). The voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent, must also submit an independent third party appraisal of its compensable relocation costs. The appraisal should be based on the actual cost of replacing the incumbent's system with comparable facilities and should exclude the cost of any equipment upgrades or items outside the scope of §24.243(b). The PCS relocater or the voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent, must identify the particular link associated with appropriate expenses (*i.e.*, costs may not be averaged over numerous links). If a PCS relocater pays a microwave incumbent a monetary sum to relocate its own facilities, the PCS relocater must estimate the costs associated with relocating the incumbent by itemizing the anticipated cost for items listed in §24.243(b). If the sum paid to the incumbent cannot be accounted for, the remaining amount is not eligible for reimbursement. A PCS relocater may submit receipts or other documentation to the clearinghouse for all relocation expenses incurred since April 5, 1995.

(c) *Full Reimbursement.* A PCS relocater who relocates a microwave link that is either fully outside its market area or its licensed frequency band may seek full reimbursement through the clearinghouse of compensable costs, up to the reimbursement cap as

defined in §24.243(b). Such reimbursement will not be subject to depreciation under the cost-sharing formula.

[61 FR 29692, June 12, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997]

§24.247 Triggering a reimbursement obligation.

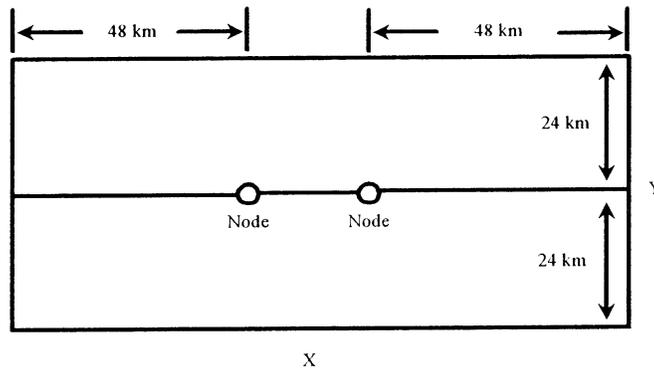
(a) *Licensed PCS.* The clearinghouse will apply the following test to determine if a PCS entity preparing to initiate operations must pay a PCS relocater or a voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent in accordance with the formula detailed in §24.243:

(1) All or part of the relocated microwave link was initially co-channel with the licensed PCS band(s) of the subsequent PCS entity;

(2) A PCS relocater has paid the relocation costs of the microwave incumbent; and

(3) The subsequent PCS entity is preparing to turn on a fixed base station at commercial power and the fixed base station is located within a rectangle (Proximity Threshold) described as follows:

(i) The length of the rectangle shall be x where x is a line extending through both nodes of the microwave link to a distance of 48 kilometers (30 miles) beyond each node. The width of the rectangle shall be y where y is a line perpendicular to x and extending for a distance of 24 kilometers (15 miles) on both sides of x . Thus, the rectangle is represented as follows:



(ii) If the application of the Proximity Threshold test indicates that a reimbursement obligation exists, the clearinghouse will calculate the reimbursement amount in accordance with the cost-sharing formula and notify the subsequent PCS entity of the total amount of its reimbursement obligation.

(b) *Unlicensed PCS.* UTAM's reimbursement obligation is triggered either:

(1) When a county is cleared of microwave links in the unlicensed allocation, and UTAM invokes a Zone 1 power cap as a result of third party relocation activities; or

(2) A county is cleared of microwave links in the unlicensed allocation and UTAM reclassifies a Zone 2 county to Zone 1 status.

[61 FR 29692, June 12, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997]

§24.249 Payment issues.

(a) *Timing.* On the day that a PCS entity files its prior coordination notice (PCN) in accordance with §101.103(d) of this chapter, it must file a copy of the PCN with the clearinghouse. The clearinghouse will determine if any reimbursement obligation exists and notify the PCS entity in writing of its repayment obligation, if any. When the PCS entity receives a written copy of such

obligation, it must pay directly to the PCS relocater or the voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent the amount owed within thirty days, with the exception of those businesses that qualify for installment payments. A business that qualifies for an installment payment plan must make its first installment payment within thirty days of notice from the clearinghouse. UTAM's first payment will be due thirty days after its reimbursement obligation is triggered, as described in § 24.247(b).

(b) *Eligibility for Installment Payments.* PCS licensees that are allowed to pay for their licenses in installments under our designated entity rules will have identical payment options available to them with respect to payments under the cost-sharing plan. The specific terms of the installment payment mechanism, including the treatment of principal and interest, are the same as those applicable to the licensee's installment auction payments. If, for any reason, the entity eligible for installment payments is no longer eligible for such installment payments on its license, that entity is no longer eligible for installment payments under the cost-sharing plan. UTAM may make quarterly payments over a five-year period with an interest rate of prime plus 2.5 percent. UTAM may also negotiate separate repayment arrangements with other parties.

[61 FR 29693, June 12, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997]

§ 24.251 Dispute resolution under the Cost-Sharing Plan.

Disputes arising out of the cost-sharing plan, such as disputes over the amount of reimbursement required, must be brought, in the first instance, to the clearinghouse for resolution. To the extent that disputes cannot be resolved by the clearinghouse, parties are encouraged to use expedited ADR procedures, such as binding arbitration, mediation, or other ADR techniques.

[61 FR 29693, June 12, 1996]

§ 24.253 Termination of cost-sharing obligations.

The cost-sharing plan will sunset for all PCS entities on April 4, 2005, which

is ten years after the date that voluntary negotiations commenced for A and B block PCS entities. Those PCS entities that are paying their portion of relocation costs on an installment basis must continue the payments until the obligation is satisfied.

[61 FR 29693, June 12, 1996]

APPENDIX I TO SUBPART E—A PROCEDURE FOR CALCULATING PCS SIGNAL LEVELS AT MICROWAVE RECEIVERS (APPENDIX E OF THE MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER)

The new Rules adopted in Part 24 stipulate that estimates of interference to fixed microwave operations from a PCS operation will be based on the sum of signals received at a microwave receiver from the PCS operation. This appendix describes a procedure for computing this PCS level.

In general, the procedure involves four steps:

1. Determine the geographical coordinates of all microwave receivers operating on co-channel and adjacent frequencies within the coordination distance of each base station and the characteristics of each receiver, *i.e.*, adjacent channel susceptibility, antenna gain, pattern and height, and line and other losses.
2. Determine an equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) for each base station and equivalent e.i.r.p. values for the mobiles and portables associated with each base station. Determine the values of pertinent correction and weighting factors based on building heights and density and distribution of portables. Close-in situations, prominent hills, and extra tall buildings require special treatment.
3. Based on PCS e.i.r.p. values, correction and weighting factors, and microwave receiving system characteristics determined above, calculate the total interference power at the input of each microwave receiver, using the Longley-Rice propagation model.
4. Based on the interference power level computed in step 3, determine interference to each microwave receiver using criteria described in Part 24 and EIA/TIA Bulletin 10-F.

The interference from each base station and the mobiles and portables associated with it is calculated as follows:

$$P_{rbi} = 10 \text{Log} (p_{tbi}) - L_{bi} - UC_i + G_{mwi} - C_i - BP_i$$

$$P_{rmi} = 10 \text{Log} (n_{mi} \times p_{tmi}) - L_{mi} - UC_i + G_{mwi} - C_i$$

$$P_{rpsi} = 10 \text{Log} (n_{psi} \times p_{tpsi}) - L_{psi} - UC_i + G_{mwi} - C_i$$

$$P_{rptbi} = 10 \text{Log} (n_{ptbi} \times p_{tptbi}) - L_{ptbi} - UC_i - (BP_i - BH_i) + G_{mwi} - C_i$$

$$P_{rptpi} = 10 \text{Log} (n_{ptpi} \times p_{tptpi}) - L_{ptpi} - (UC_i - BH_i) + G_{mwi} - C_i$$

where:

P refers to Power in dBm

p refers to power in milliwatts

P_{rbi} =Power at MW receiver from ith base station in dBm
 p_{rbi} =e.i.r.p. transmitted from ith base station in milliwatts, which equals average power per channel x number of channels x antenna gain with respect to an isotropic antenna—line loss
 L_{bi} =Path loss between MW and base station site in dB
 UC_i =Urban correction factor in dB
 G_{mwi} =Gain of MW antenna in pertinent direction (dBi)
 C_i =Channel discrimination of MW system in dB
 P_{rmi} =Power at MW receiver from mobiles associated with ith base station
 p_{rmi} =e.i.r.p. transmitted from mobiles associated with ith base station
 n_{mi} =Number of mobiles associated with ith base station
 L_{mi} =Path loss between MW and mobile transmitters in dB
 P_{rpsi} =Power at MW receiver from outdoor portables (s for sidewalk)
 p_{rpsi} =e.i.r.p. transmitted from outdoor portables associated with ith base station
 n_{psi} =Number of outdoor portables associated with ith base station
 L_{psi} =Path loss between MW and outdoor portables in dB
 P_{rptbi} =Power at MW receiver from indoor portables (b for building)
 p_{rptbi} =e.i.r.p. transmitted from indoor portables associated with ith base station

n_{pbi} =number of indoor portables associated with ith base station
 L_{pbi} =Path loss in dB between MW and base station site (using average building height divided by 2 as effective antenna height)
 P_{rptri} =Power at MW receiver from rooftop portables (r for rooftop)
 p_{rptri} =e.i.r.p. transmitted from rooftop portables associated with ith base station
 n_{rptri} =Number of rooftop portables associated with ith base station
 L_{rptri} =Path loss in dB between MW and base station site (using average building height as effective antenna height)
 BP_i =Building penetration loss at street level in dB
 BH_i =Height gain for portables in buildings $dB=2.5 \times (nf-1)$, where nf is number of floors

NOTE: where C_i varies from channel-to-channel, which often is the case, the summation process is more complex, requiring summation at a channel level first.

Finally, the total PCS interference power at a given microwave receiver from all the base stations in a given frequency band is found by summing the contributions from the individual stations. Likewise, the total interference power at a given microwave receiver from all mobiles and portables operating in a given frequency band is found by summing the contributions from the mobiles and portables associated with each cell.

$$P_{rb} = \sum_i P_{rbi} \text{ milliwatts}$$

$$P_{rm} = \sum_i (P_{rmi} + P_{rpsi} + P_{rptbi} + P_{rptri}) \text{ milliwatts}$$

$$P = 10 \text{ Log}(p) \text{ dBm}$$

Base Stations. Interference from each base station to each microwave should normally be considered independently. A group of base stations having more or less (within ± 50 percent) the same height above average terrain, the same e.i.r.p., basically the same path to a microwave receiving site, and subtending an angle to that receiving site of less than 5 degrees, may be treated as a group, using the total power of the group and the average antenna height of the group to calculate path loss, L.

Mobile Stations. The e.i.r.p. from mobile transmitters is weighted according to the number of base station channels expected to be devoted to mobile operation at any given

time. The antenna height of mobiles used in calculating path loss, L, is assumed to be 2 meters.

Portable Stations. The e.i.r.p. from the portable units associated with each base station is weighted according to the estimated portion of portables associated with that cell expected to be operated inside buildings at any given time and the portion which could be expected to be operating from elevated locations, such as balconies or building rooftops. For example, in the case of service intended for business use in an urban area, one might expect that perhaps 85 percent of the portables in use at any given time would be operating from within buildings and perhaps

5 percent might be operating from rooftops or balconies. The remaining 10 percent would be outside at street level.

Calculation of an equivalent e.i.r.p. for cells in suburban areas will involve different weighting criteria.

Urban Correction Factor. The urban correction factor (UC) depends on the height and density of buildings surrounding a base station. For the core area of large cities, it is assumed to be 35 dB. For medium size cities and fringe areas of large cities (4- to 6-story buildings with scattered taller buildings and lower buildings and open spaces) it is assumed to be 25 dB; for small cities and towns, 15 dB, and for suburban residential areas (one- and two-story, single family houses with scattered multiple-story apartment buildings, shopping centers and open areas), 10 dB.

The unadjusted urban correction factor, UC, should not be applied to base station antenna heights that are greater than 50 percent of the average building height for a cell.

Building Height and Building Penetration Factors. The building height correction, BH, is a function of the average building height within the nominal coverage area of the base station. It is used in conjunction with the building penetration loss, BP, to adjust the expected interference contribution from that portion of the portables transmitting from within buildings. The adjustment is given by:

BP=20 dB in urban areas
BP=10 dB in suburban areas
BH=2.5×(nf-1) dB

where nf is the average height (number of floors) of the buildings in the area.

(Note that this formula implies a net gain when the average building height is greater than 8 floors). All buildings more than twice the average height should be considered individually. The contribution to BH from that portion of portables in the building above the average building height should be increased by a factor of $20\text{Log}(h)$ dB, where h is the height of the portables above the average building height in meters.

Channel Discrimination Factor. A factor based on the interference selectivity of the microwave receiver.

Propagation Model. The PCS to microwave path loss, L, is calculated using the Longley-Rice propagation model, Version 1.2.2., in the point-to-point mode. The Longley-Rice [1] model was derived from NBS Technical Note 101 [2], and updated in 1982 by Hufford [3]. Version 1.2.2 incorporated modifications described in a letter by Hufford [4] in 1985. Terrain elevations used as input to the model should be from the U.S. Geological Survey 3-second digitized terrain database.

Special Situations. If a cell size is large compared to the distance between the cell and a microwave receiving site so that it subtends

an angle greater than 5 degrees, the cell should be subdivided and calculations should be based on the expected distribution of mobiles and portables within each subdivision.

If terrain elevations within a cell differ by more than a factor of two-to-one, the cell should be subdivided and microwave interference calculations should be based on the average terrain elevation for each subdivision.

If a co-channel PCS base station lies within the main beam of a microwave antenna (± 5 degrees), there is no intervening terrain obstructions, and the power at the microwave receiver from that base station, assuming free space propagation, would be 3 dB or less below the interference threshold, interference will be assumed to exist unless the PCS licensee can demonstrate otherwise by specific path loss calculations based on terrain and building losses.

If any part of a cell or cell subdivision lies within the main beam of a co-channel microwave antenna, there is no intervening terrain obstructions, and the accumulative power of 5 percent or less of the mobiles, assuming free space propagation would be 3 dB or less below the interference threshold, interference will be assumed to exist unless the PCS licensee can demonstrate otherwise by specific path loss calculations based on terrain and building losses.

If a building within a cell or cell subdivision lies within the main beam of a co-channel microwave antenna, there is no intervening terrain obstructions, and the cumulative power of 5 percent or fewer of the portables, assuming free space propagation, would be 3 dB or less below the interference threshold, interference will be assumed to exist unless the PCS licensee can demonstrate otherwise by specific path loss calculations based on terrain and building losses.

REFERENCES:

1. Longley, A.G. and Rice, P.L., "Prediction of Tropospheric Radio Transmission Loss Over Irregular Terrain, A Computer Method-1968", ESSA Technical Report ERL 79-ITS 67, Institute for Telecommunications Sciences, July 1968.
2. Rice, P.L. Longley, A.G., Norton, K.A., Barsis, A.P., "Transmission Loss Predictions for Tropospheric Communications Circuits," NBS Technical Note 101 (Revised), Volumes I and II, U.S. Department of Commerce, 1967.
3. Hufford, G.A., Longley, A.G. and Kissick, W.A., "A Guide to the use of the ITS Irregular Terrain Model in the Area Prediction Mode", NTIA Report 82-100, U.S. Department of Commerce, April 1982. Also, Circular letter, dated January 30, 1985, from G.A. Hufford, identifying modifications to the computer program.
4. Hufford, G.A., Memorandum to Users of the ITS Irregular Terrain Model, Institute

for Telecommunications Sciences, U.S. Department of Commerce, January 30, 1985.

Subpart F—Competitive Bidding Procedures for Narrowband PCS

SOURCE: 59 FR 26747, May 24, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 24.301 Narrowband PCS subject to competitive bidding.

Mutually exclusive initial applications to provide narrowband PCS service are subject to competitive bidding procedures. The general competitive bidding procedures found in 47 CFR part 1, subpart Q, will apply unless otherwise provided in this part.

§ 24.302 Competitive bidding design for narrowband PSC licensing.

(a) The Commission will employ the following competitive bidding designs when choosing from among mutually exclusive initial applications to provide narrowband PCS service:

(1) Single round sealed bid auctions (either sequential or simultaneous);

(2) Sequential oral auctions;

(3) Simultaneous multiple round auctions.

(b) The Commission may design and test alternative procedures. The Commission will announce by Public Notice before each auction the competitive bidding design to be employed in a particular auction.

(c) The Commission may use combinatorial bidding, which would allow bidders to submit all or nothing bids on combinations of licenses, in addition to bids on individual licenses. The Commission may require that to be declared the high bid, a combinatorial bid must exceed the sum of the individual bids by a specified amount. Combinatorial bidding may be used with any type of auction design.

(d) The Commission may use single combined auctions, which combine bidding for two or more substitutable licenses and award licenses to the highest bidders until the available licenses are exhausted. This technique may be used in conjunction with any type of auction.

§ 24.303 Competitive bidding mechanisms.

(a) *Sequencing.* The Commission will establish and may vary the sequence in which narrowband PCS licenses will be auctioned.

(b) *Grouping.* In the event the Commission uses either a simultaneous multiple round competitive bidding design or combinatorial bidding, the Commission will determine which licenses will be auctioned simultaneously or in combination.

(c) *Reservation Price.* The Commission may establish a reservation price, either disclosed or undisclosed, below which a license subject to auction will not be awarded.

(d) *Minimum Bid Increments.* The Commission may, by announcement before or during an auction, require minimum bid increments in dollar or percentage terms. The Commission may also establish by Public Notice a suggested opening bid or a minimum opening bid on each license.

(e) *Stopping Rules.* The Commission may establish stopping rules before or during multiple round auctions in order to terminate an auction within a reasonable time.

(f) *Activity Rules.* The Commission may establish activity rules which require a minimum amount of bidding activity. In the event that the Commission establishes an activity rule in connection with a simultaneous multiple round auction, each bidder will be entitled to request and will be automatically granted one activity rule waiver during each stage of an auction, or one automatic waiver during a specified number of bidding rounds. The Commission may change by Public Notice the number and frequency of such automatic activity rule waivers for a specific auction.

(g) *Bidder Identification During Auctions.* The Commission may choose, on an auction-by-auction basis, to release the identity of the bidders associated with bidder identification numbers. The Commission will announce by Public Notice before each auction whether bidder identities will be revealed.

[59 FR 44069, Aug. 26, 1994]

§24.304 Withdrawal, default and disqualification penalties.

(a) When the Commission conducts a simultaneous multiple round auction pursuant to §24.302(a)(3), the Commission will impose penalties on bidders who withdraw high bids during the course of an auction, or who default on payments due after an auction closes or who are disqualified.

(1) *Bid withdrawal prior to close of auction.* A bidder who withdraws a high bid during the course of an auction will be subject to a penalty equal to the difference between the amount bid and the amount of the winning bid the next time the license is offered by the Commission. No withdrawal penalty would be assessed if the subsequent winning bid exceeds the withdrawn bid. This penalty amount will be deducted from any upfront payments or down payments that the withdrawing bidder has deposited with the Commission.

(2) *Default or disqualification after close of auction.* See §1.2104(g)(2) of this chapter.

(b) When the Commission conducts single round sealed bid auctions or sequential oral auctions, the Commission may modify the penalties to be paid in the event of bid withdrawal, default or disqualification; provided, however, that such penalties shall not exceed the penalties specified above.

(c) In the case of single round bidding for narrowband PCS licenses:

(1) If a bid is withdrawn before the Commission releases the initial public notice announcing the winning bidder(s), no bid withdrawal penalty will be assessed.

(2) If a bid is withdrawn after the Commission releases the initial public notice announcing the winning bidder(s), the bid withdrawal penalty will be equal to the difference between the high bid amount and the amount of the next highest valid bid. A bid will be considered valid for this purpose if the bidder has not already been designated the winning bidder on more licenses than it is permitted to be awarded. Losing bidders will only be subject to this bid withdrawal penalty for a period of 30 days after the Commission releases the initial public notice announcing the winning bidders.

(d) In the case of oral sequential bidding for narrowband PCS licenses:

(1) If a bid is withdrawn before the Commission has declared the bidding to be closed for the license bid on, no bid withdrawal penalty will be assessed.

(2) If a bid is withdrawn after the Commission has declared the bidding to be closed for the license bid on, the bid withdrawal penalty of §1.2104(g) and paragraphs (a) (1) and (2) of this section will apply.

[59 FR 26747, May 24, 1994, as amended at 63 FR 2348, Jan. 15, 1998]

§24.305 Bidding application (FCC Form 175 and 175-S Short-Form).

All applicants for initial provision of narrowband PCS service must submit applications on FCC Forms 175 and 175-S pursuant to the procedures set forth in §1.2105 of part 1 of this chapter. The Commission will issue a public notice announcing the date of a narrowband PCS auction, the licenses which are to be auctioned, and the date on or before which applicants intending to participate in an upcoming narrowband PCS auction must file their applications in order to be eligible for that auction. The public notice will also contain information necessary for completion of the application as well as other important information such as the materials which must accompany the Forms, any filing fee that must accompany the application or any upfront payment that will need to be submitted, and the location where the application must be filed.

§24.306 Submission of upfront payments and down payments.

(a) Where the Commission uses simultaneous multiple round auctions or oral sequential auctions bidders will be required to submit an upfront payment pursuant to the procedures set forth in §1.2106 of this chapter.

(b) Winning bidders in an auction must submit a down payment to the Commission in accordance with the procedures set forth in §1.2107 (a) and (b) of this chapter.

§24.307 Long-Form applications.

Winning bidders will be required to submit long form applications on FCC

Form 600, as modified, within ten (10) business days after being notified that they are the winning bidder. Applications on FCC Form 600 shall be submitted pursuant to the procedures set forth in subpart G of this part and §1.2107 (c) and (d) of this chapter and any associated public notices. Only auction winners will be eligible to file applications on FCC Form 401 for initial narrowband PCS licenses in the event of mutual exclusivity between applicants filing Form 175. Winning bidders need not complete Schedule B to Form 401.

[59 FR 26747, May 24, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§24.308 License grant, denial, default, and disqualification.

(a) Unless eligible for installment payments and/or a bidding credit, each winning bidder is required to pay the balance of its winning bid in a lump sum payment within five (5) business days following the award of the license. Grant of the license will be conditioned upon full and timely payment of the winning bid amount.

(b) A bidder who withdraws its bid, defaults on a payment or is disqualified will be subject to the penalties specified in §1.2109 of this chapter.

[59 FR 44070, Aug. 26, 1994]

§24.309 Designated entities.

(a) Designated entities entitled to preferences in the narrowband PCS service are small businesses and businesses owned by members of minority groups and/or women as defined in §§24.320(b) and 24.320(c).

(b) Designated entities will be eligible for certain special narrowband PCS provisions as follows:

(1) *Installment payments.* (i) Small businesses, including small businesses owned by members of minority groups and women, will be eligible to pay the full amount of their winning bids on any regional, MTA or BTA license in installments over the term of the license pursuant to the terms set forth in §1.2110(g) of this chapter.

(ii) Businesses owned by members of minority groups and women that are winning bidders for the regional licenses indicated by an (**) in §24.129

may pay the full amount of their winning bids (less the applicable bidding credit and down payment) in installments with

(A) Interest imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted, plus 2.5 percent;

(B) Interest-only payments for the first two years; and

(C) Principal and interest payments amortized over the remaining eight years of the license.

(2) *Bidding credits.* Businesses owned by member of minority groups and women, including small businesses owned by members of minority groups and women, will be eligible for a twenty-five (25) percent bidding credit when bidding on the following licenses:

(i) The nationwide licenses on Channel 5, Channel 8 and Channel 11; and

(ii) All MTA licenses on Channel 19, Channel 22, Channel 24; and

(iii) All BTA licenses on Channel 26. This bidding credit will reduce by 25 percent the bid price that businesses owned by members of minority groups and women will be required to pay to obtain a license. Businesses owned by women and/or minorities, including small businesses owned by women and/or minorities will be eligible for a forty (40) percent bidding credit when bidding on all regional licenses on Channel 13 and Channel 17. In §24.129, the licenses that will be eligible for 25 percent bidding credits are indicated by an (*); the licenses that will be eligible for 40 percent bidding credits are indicated by an (**).

(c) *Short-Form Application Certification; Long-Form Application Disclosure.* (1) All applicants for licenses under the designated entity provisions set forth in this section shall certify on their short-form applications (Form 175) that they are eligible for those preferences pursuant to this section.

(2) In addition to the requirements in subpart I, all designated entity applicants that are winning bidders shall, in an exhibit to their long-form applications—

(i) Identify each member of the applicant's control group, regardless of the size of the member's total interest in

the applicant, and each member's minority group or gender classification, if applicable;

(ii) Disclose the gross revenues of the applicant and its affiliates, and other persons that hold interests in the applicant and their affiliates (including all members of the applicant's control group); and

(iii) Certify that the personal net worth of the applicant (if an individual), each affiliate and each person that hold an interest in the applicant is less than \$40 million.

(d) *Audits.* Applicants and licensees claiming eligibility under this section shall be subject to random audits by the Commission.

(e) *Definitions.* The terms affiliate, business owned by members of minority groups and women, consortium of small businesses, control group, gross revenues, members of minority groups, passive equity, personal net worth, and small business used in this section are defined in § 24.320.

(f) *Unjust enrichment.* Designated entities using installment payments, bidding credits or tax certificates to obtain a narrowband PCS license will be subject to the unjust enrichment provisions contained in § 1.2111 of this chapter.

[59 FR 44070, Aug. 26, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 50511, Oct. 4, 1994; 63 FR 2348, Jan. 15, 1998]

§ 24.320 Definitions.

(a) *Scope.* The definitions in this section apply to §§ 24.309–24.315 of this subpart, unless otherwise specified in those sections.

(b) *Small Business; Consortium of Small Businesses.*

(1) A *small business* is an entity that:

(i) Together with its affiliates has average annual gross revenues that are not more than \$40 million for the preceding three calendar years;

(ii) Has no attributable investor or affiliate that has a personal net worth of \$40 million or more;

(iii) Has a control group all of whose members and affiliates are considered in determining whether the entity meets the \$40 million annual gross revenues and personal net worth standards; and

(iv) Such control group holds 50.1 percent of the entity's voting interest, if a corporation, and at least 25 percent of the entity's equity on a fully diluted basis, except that a business owned by members of minority groups and/or women (as defined in paragraph (c) of this section) may also qualify as a small business if a control group that is 100 percent composed of members of minority groups and/or women holds 50.1 percent of the entity's voting interests, if a corporation, and 50.1 percent of the entity's total equity on a fully diluted basis and no single other investor holds more than 49.9 percent of passive equity in the entity.

(2) *Attribution and Aggregation of Gross Revenues and Personal Net Worth.*

(i) Except as specified in paragraphs (b)(1) (iii) and (iv), the gross revenues of the applicant (or licensee) and its affiliates, and other persons that hold interests in the applicant (or licensee) and their affiliates shall be considered on a cumulative basis and aggregated for purposes of determining whether the applicant (or licensee) is a small business.

(ii) The personal net worth of individual applicants (or licensees) and other persons that hold interests in the applicant (or licensee), and their affiliates, if less than \$40 million, shall not be considered for purposes of determining whether the applicant (or licensee) is eligible to bid as a small business.

(iii) Where an applicant (or licensee) is a consortium of small businesses, the gross revenues of each small business shall not be aggregated.

(iv) The gross revenues and personal net worth of a person that holds an interest in the applicant (or licensee) shall not be considered so long as:

(A) Such person holds no more than 25 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) passive equity and is not a member of the applicant's or control group; and

(B) The applicant has a control group that owns at least 25 percent of the applicant's total equity and, if a corporation, holds at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's voting interests.

(v) The gross revenues, total assets and personal net worth of a person that holds an interest in the applicant shall not be considered so long as:

(A) Such person holds no more than 49.9 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) passive equity and is not a member of the applicant's control group; and

(B) The applicant has a control group that consists entirely of members of minority groups and/or women and that owns at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's total equity and, if a corporation, at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's voting interests.

(3) A *small business consortium* is a conglomerate organization formed as a joint venture between mutually-independent business firms, each of which individually satisfies the definition of a small business.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (B): Ownership interests shall be calculated on a fully diluted basis; all agreements such as warrants, stock options and convertible debentures will generally be treated as if the rights thereunder already have been fully exercised, except that such agreements may not be used to appear to terminate or divest ownership interests before they actually do so.

(c) *Business Owned by Members of Minority Groups and/or Women.* A *business owned by members of minority groups and/or women* is an entity:

(1) That has a control group composed 100 percent of members of minority groups and/or women who are United States Citizens, and

(2) Such control group owns and holds 50.1 percent of the voting interests, if a corporation, and

(i) Owns and holds 50.1 percent of the total equity in the entity, provided that all other investors hold passive interests; or

(ii) Holds 25 percent of the total equity in the entity, provided that no single other investor holds more than 25 percent passive equity interests in the entity. In a partnership, all general partners must be members of minority groups and/or women. Ownership interests shall be calculated on a fully diluted basis; all agreements such as warrants, stock options and convertible debentures will generally be treated as if the rights thereunder already have been fully exercised, except that such agreements may not be used to appear to terminate or divest ownership interests before they actually do so.

(d) *Gross Revenues.* *Gross revenues* shall mean all income received by an entity, whether earned or passive, before any deductions are made for costs of doing business (*e.g.*, cost of goods sold), as evidenced by audited quarterly financial statements for the relevant period.

(e) *Members of Minority Groups.* *Members of minority groups* include Blacks, Hispanics, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Asians and Pacific Islanders.

(f) *Members of Minority Groups.* *Members of minority groups* includes individuals of African American, Hispanic-surnamed, American Eskimo, Aleut, American Indian and Asian American extraction.

(g) *Passive Equity.* *Passive equity* shall mean:

(1) For corporations, non-voting stock or stock that includes no more than fifteen percent of the voting equity;

(2) For partnerships, joint ventures and other non-corporate entities, limited partnership interests and similar interests that do not afford the power to exercise control of the entity.

(h) *Control Group.* A *control group* is an entity, or a group of individuals or entities, that possess *de jure* control and *de facto* control of an applicant or licensee, and as to which the applicant's or licensee's charters, articles of incorporation, bylaws, agreements and any other relevant documents (and amendments thereto) provide:

(1) That the entity and/or its members own unconditionally at least 50.1 percent of the total voting interests of a corporation;

(2) That the entity and/or its members receive at least 50.1 percent of the annual distribution of any dividends paid on the voting stock of a corporation;

(3) That, in the event of dissolution or liquidation of a corporation, the entity and/or its members are entitled to receive 100 percent of the value of each share of stock in its possession and a percentage of the retained earnings of the concern that is equivalent to the amount of equity held in the corporation; and

(4) That the entity and/or its members have the right to receive dividends, profits and regular and liquidating distributions from the business in proportion to its interest in the total equity of the applicant or licensee.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (H): Voting control does not always assure *de facto* control, such as, for example, when the voting stock of the control group is widely dispersed (*see, e.g.*, § 24.720(e)(2)(iii)).

(i) *Affiliate*. Determinations regarding whether an individual or entity will be considered an *affiliate* of:

(1) An applicant or

(2) A person holding an attributable interest in an applicant under paragraph (b)(2) will be made pursuant to the general affiliation rules set forth in § 24.710(l).

[59 FR 44071, Aug. 26, 1994, as amended at 62 FR 27511, May 20, 1997]

EDITORIAL NOTE: At 62 FR 27511, May 20, 1997, § 24.320(e) was revised to read as set forth in the text.

Subpart G—Interim Application, Licensing and Processing Rules for Narrowband PCS

SOURCE: 59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 24.403 Authorization required.

No person shall use or operate any device for the transmission of energy or communications by radio in the services authorized by this part except as provided in this part.

§ 24.404 Eligibility.

(a) *General*. Authorizations will be granted upon proper application if:

(1) The applicant is qualified under the applicable laws and the regulations, policies and decisions issued under the laws, including §§ 24.101 and 24.12;

(2) There are frequencies available to provide satisfactory service; and

(3) The public interest, convenience or necessity would be served by a grant.

(b) *Alien ownership*. A narrowband PCS authorization to provide Commercial Mobile Radio Service may not be granted to or held by:

(1) Any alien or the representative of any alien.

(2) Any corporation organized under the laws of any foreign government.

(3) Any corporation of which more than one-fifth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens or their representatives or by a foreign government or representative thereof or any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country.

(4) Any corporation directly or indirectly controlled by any other corporation of which more than one-fourth of the capital stock is owned or voted by aliens, their representatives, or by a foreign government or representative thereof, or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country, if the Commission finds that the public interest will be served by the refusal or revocation of such license. A Narrowband PCS authorization to provide Private Mobile Radio Service may not be granted to or held by a foreign government or a representative thereof.

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 55581, Oct. 28, 1996]

§ 24.405 Formal and informal applications.

(a) Except for an authorization under any of the conditions stated in section 308(a) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 308(a)), the Commission may grant only upon written application received by it, the following authorization: Station licenses; modifications of licenses; renewals of licenses; transfers and assignments of station licenses, or any right thereunder.

(b) Except as may be otherwise permitted by this part, a separate written application shall be filed for each instrument of authorization requested. Applications may be:

(1) "Formal applications" where the Commission has prescribed in this Part a standard form; or

(2) "Informal applications" (normally in letter form) where the Commission has not prescribed a standard form.

(c) An informal application will be accepted for filing only if:

(1) A standard form is not prescribed or clearly applicable to the authorization requested;

(2) It is a document submitted, in duplicate, with a caption which indicates clearly the nature of the request, radio service involved, location of the station, and the application file number (if known); and

(3) It contains all the technical details and informational showings required by the rules and states clearly and completely the facts involved and authorization desired.

§24.406 Filing of Narrowband PCS applications, fees, and numbers of copies.

(a) As prescribed by §§24.305, 24.307, and 24.409, standard formal application forms applicable to the narrowband PCS may be obtained from either:

(1) Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554; or

(2) By calling the Commission's Forms Distribution Center, (202) 418-3676.

(b) Applications for the initial provision of narrowband PCS service must be filed on FCC Form 175 in accordance with the rules in §24.305 and part 1, subpart Q of this chapter. In the event of mutual exclusivity between applicants filing FCC Form 175, only auction winners will be eligible to file subsequent long form applications on FCC Form 600 for initial narrowband PCS licenses. Mutually exclusive applications filed on Form 175 are subject to competitive bidding under those rules. Narrowband PCS applicants filing Form 600 need not complete Schedule B.

(c) All applications for Narrowband PCS radio station authorizations (other than applications for initial provision of narrowband PCS service filed on FCC Form 175) shall be submitted for filing to: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554, Attention: Narrowband PCS Processing Section. Applications requiring fees as set forth at part 1, subpart G of this chapter must be filed in accordance with §0.401(b) of this chapter.

(d) All correspondence or amendments concerning a submitted application shall clearly identify the name of the applicant, applicant identification number or Commission file number (if known) or station call sign of the application involved, and may be sent di-

rectly to the Common Carrier Bureau, Narrowband PCS Processing Section.

(e) Except as otherwise specified, all applications, amendments, correspondence, pleadings and forms (including FCC Form 175) shall be submitted on one original paper copy and with three microfiche copies, including exhibits and attachments thereto, and shall be signed as prescribed by §1.743 of this chapter. Unless otherwise provided by the FCC, filings of five pages or less are exempt from the requirement to submit on microfiche, as well as emergency filings like letters requesting special temporary authority. Those filing any amendments, correspondence, pleadings, and forms must simultaneously submit the original hard copy which must be stamped "original". In addition to the original hard copy, those filing pleadings, including pleadings under §1.2108 of this chapter shall also submit 2 paper copies as provided in §1.51 of this chapter.

(1) Microfiche copies. Each microfiche copy must be a copy of the signed original. Each microfiche copy shall be a 148mm × 105mm negative (clear transparent characters appearing on an opaque background) at 24× to 27× reduction for microfiche or microfiche jackets. One of the microfiche sets must be a silver halide camera master or a copy made on silver halide film such as Kodak Direct Duplicatory Film. The microfiche must be placed in paper microfiche envelopes and submitted in a B6 (125 mm × 176 mm) or 5 × 7.5 inch envelope. All applicants must leave Row "A" (the first row for page images) of the first fiche blank for in-house identification purposes.

(2) All applications and all amendments must have the following information printed on the mailing envelope, the microfiche envelope, and on the title area at the top of the microfiche: (i) The name of the applicant; (ii) The type of application (e.g. nationwide, regional, MTA, BTA, response channel); (iii) The month and year of the document; (iv) Name of the document; (v) File number, applicant identification number, and call sign, if assigned; and (vi) The identification number and date of the Public Notice announcing the auction in response to

which the application was filed (if applicable). Each microfiche copy of pleadings shall include: (A) The month and year of the document; (B) Name of the document; (C) Name of the filing party; (D) File number, applicant identification number, and call sign, if assigned; (E) The identification number and date of the Public Notice announcing the auction in response to which the application was filed (if applicable). Abbreviations may be used if they are easily understood.

[59 FR 44072, Aug. 26, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§§ 24.407–24.408 [Reserved]

§ 24.409 Standard application forms and permissive changes or minor modifications for the narrowband Personal Communications Service.

(a) Applications for the initial provision of narrowband PCS service must be filed on FCC Forms 175 and 175-S.

(b) Subsequent application by auction winners or non-mutually exclusive applicants for narrowband PCS radio station(s) under part 24. FCC Form 600 (“Application for New or Modified Common Carrier Radio Station Under part 22”) shall be submitted by each auction winner for each narrowband PCS license applied for on FCC Form 175. In the event that mutual exclusivity does not exist between applicants filing FCC Form 175, the Commission will so inform the applicant and the applicant will also file FCC Form 401. Blanket licenses are granted for each market frequency block. Applications for individual sites are not needed and will not be accepted. See § 24.11. Narrowband PCS applicants filing Form 401 need not complete Schedule B.

(c) Extensions of time and reinstatement. When a licensee cannot complete construction in accordance with the provisions of § 24.103, a timely application for extension of time (FCC Form 489) must be filed.

(d) License for mobile subscriber station—These stations are considered to be associated with and covered by the authorization issued to the carrier

serving the land mobile station. No additional authorization is required.

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§ 24.410 [Reserved]

§ 24.411 Miscellaneous forms.

(a) Licensee qualifications. FCC Form 430 (“Common Carrier and Satellite Radio Licensee Qualifications Report”) shall be filed by Narrowband Personal Communications Service licensees only as required by Form 490 (Application for Assignment or Transfer of Control Under part 22).

(b) Renewal of station license. Except for renewal of special temporary authorizations, FCC Form 405 (“Application for Renewal of Station License”) must be filed in duplicate by the licensee between thirty (30) and sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date of the license sought to be renewed.

§ 24.412 [Reserved]

§ 24.413 General application requirements.

(a) Each application (including applications filed on Forms 175 and 600) for a radio station authorization or for consent to assignment or transfer of control in the narrowband PCS shall disclose fully the real party or parties in interest and must include the following information:

(1) A list of its subsidiaries, if any. Subsidiary means any business five per cent or more whose stock, warrants, options or debt securities are owned by the applicant or an officer, director, stockholder or key management personnel of the applicant. This list must include a description of each subsidiary’s principal business and a description of each subsidiary’s relationship to the applicant.

(2) A list of its affiliates, if any. Affiliate means any business which holds a five per cent or more interest in the applicant, or any business in which a five per cent or more interest is held by another company which holds a five per cent interest in the applicant (e.g. Company A owns 5% of Company B and 5% of Company C; Companies B and C are affiliates).

(3) A list of the names, addresses, citizenship and principal business of any person holding five per cent or more of each class of stock, warrants, options or debt securities together with the amount and percentage held, and the name, address, citizenship and principal place of business of any person on whose account, if other than the holder, such interest is held. If any of these persons are related by blood or marriage, include such relationship in the statement.

(4) In the case of partnerships, the name and address of each partner, each partner's citizenship and the share or interest participation in the partnership. This information must be provided for all partners, regardless of their respective ownership interests in the partnership. A signed and dated copy of the partnership agreement must be included in the application. This information must be included in Exhibit V of the application.

(b) Each application for a radio station authorization in the narrowband PCS must:

(1) Submit the information required by the Commission's rules, requests, and application forms;

(2) Be maintained by the applicant substantially accurate and complete in all significant respects in accordance with the provisions of Sec. 1.65 of this chapter; and

(3) Show compliance with and make all special showings that may be applicable.

(c) Where documents, exhibits, or other lengthy showings already on file with the Commission contain information which is required by an application form, the application may specifically refer to such information, if:

(1) The information previously filed is over one A4 (21 cm×29.7 cm) or 8.5×11 inch (21.6 cm×27.9 cm) page in length, and all information referenced therein is current and accurate in all significant respects under §1.65 of this chapter; and

(2) The reference states specifically where the previously filed information can actually be found, including mention of:

(i) The station call sign or application file number whenever the ref-

erence is to station files or previously filed applications;

(ii) The title of the proceeding, the docket number, and any legal citations, whenever the reference is to a docketed proceeding. However, questions on an application form which call for specific technical data, or which can be answered by a "yes" or "no" or other short answer shall be answered as appropriate and shall not be cross-referenced to a previous filing.

(d) In addition to the general application requirements of subpart F and §§1.2105, 24.413 and 24.415 of this part, applicants shall submit any additional documents, exhibits, or signed written statements of fact:

(1) As may be required by these rules; and

(2) As the Commission, at any time after the filing of an application and during the term of any authorization, may require from any applicant, permittee, or licensee to enable it to determine whether a radio authorization should be granted, denied, or revoked.

(e) Except when the Commission has declared explicitly to the contrary, an informational requirement does not in itself imply the processing treatment of decisional weight to be accorded the response.

(f) All applicants (except applicants filing FCC Form 175) are required to indicate at the time their application is filed whether or not a Commission grant of the application may have a significant environmental impact as defined by 47 CFR 1.1307. If answered affirmatively, the requisite environmental assessment as prescribed in §1.1311 of this chapter must be filed with the application and Commission environmental review must be completed prior to construction. See §1.1312 of this chapter. All narrowband PCS licensees are subject to a continuing obligation to determine whether subsequent construction may have a significant environmental impact prior to undertaking such construction and to otherwise comply with §§1.1301 through 1.1319 of this chapter. See 47 CFR 1.1312.

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§ 24.414 [Reserved]

§ 24.415 Technical content of applications; maintenance of list of station locations.

(a) All applications required by this part shall contain all technical information required by the application forms or associated public notice(s). Applications other than initial applications for a narrowband PCS license must also comply with all technical requirements of the rules governing the narrowband PCS (see subparts C and D as appropriate). The following paragraphs describe a number of general technical requirements.

(b) Each application (except applications for initial licenses filed on Form 175) for a radio station authorization for narrowband PCS must comply with the provisions of §§ 24.129 through 24.135.

(c)—(i) [Reserved]

(j) The location of the transmitting antenna shall be considered to be the station location. Narrowband PCS licensees must maintain a current list of all station locations, which must describe the transmitting antenna site by its geographical coordinates and also by conventional reference to street number, landmark, or the equivalent. All such coordinates shall be specified in terms of degrees, minutes, and seconds to the nearest second of latitude and longitude.

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994; 59 FR 43898, Aug. 25, 1994]

§§ 24.417–24.418 [Reserved]

§ 24.419 Waiver of rules.

(a) *Request for waivers.* (1) Waivers of these rules may be granted upon application or by the Commission on its own motion. Requests for waivers shall contain a statement of reasons sufficient to justify a waiver. Waivers will not be granted except upon an affirmative showing:

(i) That the underlying purpose of the rule will not be served, or would be frustrated, by the application in a particular case, and that grant of the waiver is otherwise in the public interest; or

(ii) That the unique facts and circumstances of a particular case render

application of the rule inequitable, unduly burdensome or otherwise contrary to the public interest. Applicants must also show the lack of a reasonable alternative.

(2) If the information necessary to support a waiver request is already on file, the applicant may cross-reference to the specific filing where it may be found.

(b) *Denial of waiver, alternate showing required.* If a waiver is not granted, the application will be dismissed as defective unless the applicant has also provided an alternative proposal which complies with the Commission's rules (including any required showings).

§ 24.420 Defective applications.

(a) Unless the Commission shall otherwise permit, an application will be unacceptable for filing and will be returned to the applicant with a brief statement as to the omissions or discrepancies if:

(1) The application is defective with respect to completeness of answers to questions, informational showings, execution, or other matters of a formal character; or

(2) The application does not comply with the Commission's rules, regulations, specific requirements for additional information or other requirements. See also 47 CFR 1.2105.

(b) Some examples of common deficiencies which result in defective applications under paragraph (a) of this section are:

(1) The application is not filled out completely and signed;

(2)–(4) [Reserved]

(5) The application (other than an application filed on FCC Form 175) does not include an environmental assessment as required for an action that may have a significant impact upon the environment, as defined in § 1.1307 of this chapter.

(6) [Reserved]

(7) The application is filed prior to the Public Notice issued under § 24.305 announcing the application filing date for the relevant auction or after the cutoff date prescribed in that public notice;

(c) [Reserved]

(d) If an applicant is requested by the Commission to file any documents or

any supplementary or explanatory information not specifically required in the prescribed application form, a failure to comply with such request within a specified time period will be deemed to render the application defective and will subject it to dismissal.

§24.421 Inconsistent or conflicting applications.

While an application is pending and undecided, no subsequent inconsistent or conflicting application may be filed by the same applicant, his successor or assignee, or on behalf or for the benefit of the same applicant, his successor or assignee.

§24.422 Amendment of application for Narrowband Personal Communications Service filed on FCC Form 175.

(a) The Commission will provide bidders a limited opportunity to cure defects in FCC Form 175 specified herein except for failure to sign the application and to make certifications. These are defects which may not be cured. See also Section 1.2105 of this chapter.

(b) In the Narrowband PCS, applicants will be permitted to amend their Form 175 applications to make minor amendments to correct minor errors or defects such as typographical errors. Applicants will also be permitted to amend FCC Form 175, to make ownership changes or changes in the identification of parties to bidding consortia, provided such changes do not result in a change in control of the applicant and do not involve another applicant (or parties in interest to an applicant) who has applied for any of the same licenses as the applicant. Amendments which change control of the applicant will be considered major amendments. An FCC Form 175 which is amended by a major amendment will be considered to be newly filed and cannot be resubmitted after applicable filing deadlines. See also §1.2105 of this chapter.

[59 FR 44072, Aug. 26, 1994]

§24.423 Amendment of applications for Narrowband Personal Communications Service (other than applications filed on FCC Form 175).

This section applies to all applications for Narrowband Personal Commu-

nications Service other than applications filed on FCC Form 175.

(a) *Amendments as of right.* A pending application may be amended as a matter of right if the application has not been designated for hearing.

(1) Amendments shall comply with §24.429, as applicable; and

(2) Amendments which resolve interference conflicts or amendments under §24.429 may be filed at any time.

(b) The Commission or the presiding officer may grant requests to amend an application designated for hearing only if a written petition demonstrating good cause is submitted and properly served upon the parties of record.

(c) *Major amendments, minor amendments.* The Commission will classify all amendments as minor except in the cases listed below. An amendment shall be deemed to be a major amendment subject to §24.427 under any of the following circumstances:

(1) Change in technical proposal. If the amendment results in a substantial change in the engineering proposal such as (but not necessarily limited to) a change in, or an addition of, a radio frequency; or

(2) Amendment to proposed service area. If the amendment extends the reliable service area of the proposed facilities outside its MTA, BTA, or other applicable market area as defined in §24.102; or

(3) A substantial change in ownership or control.

(d) If a petition to deny (or other formal objection) has been filed, any amendment, requests for waiver, (or other written communications) shall be served on the petitioner, unless waiver of this requirement is granted pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section. See also 47 CFR 1.2108.

(e) The Commission may waive the service requirements of paragraph (d) of this section and prescribe such alternative procedures as may be appropriate under the circumstances to protect petitioners' interests and to avoid undue delay in a proceeding, if an applicant submits a request for waiver which demonstrates that the service requirement is unreasonably burdensome.

(f) Any amendment to an application shall be signed and shall be submitted

in the same manner, and with the same number of copies, as was the original application. Amendments may be made in letter form if they comply in all other respects with the requirements of this chapter.

(g) An application will be considered to be a newly filed application if it is amended by a major amendment (as defined in this section), except in the following circumstances:

(1)–(2) [Reserved]

(3) The amendment reflects only a change in ownership or control found by the Commission to be in the public interest;

(4) [Reserved]

(5) The amendment corrects typographical transcription, or similar clerical errors which are clearly demonstrated to be mistakes by reference to other parts of the application, and whose discovery does not create new or increased frequency conflicts.

(6) The amendment does not create new or increased frequency conflicts, and is demonstrably necessitated by events which the applicant could not have reasonably foreseen at the time of filing, such as, for example:

(i) The loss of a transmitter or receiver site by condemnation, natural causes, or loss of lease or option; or

(ii) Obstruction of a proposed transmission path caused by the erection of a new building or other structure.

§ 24.424 [Reserved]

§ 24.425 Application for temporary authorizations.

(a) In circumstances requiring immediate or temporary use of facilities, request may be made for special temporary authority to install and/or operate new or modified equipment. Any such request may be submitted as an informal application in the manner set forth in § 24.405 and must contain full particulars as to the proposed operation including all facts sufficient to justify the temporary authority sought and the public interest therein. No such request will be considered unless the request is received by the Commission at least 10 days prior to the date of proposed construction or operation or, where an extension is sought, expiration date of the existing temporary

authorization. A request received within less than 10 days may be accepted upon due showing of sufficient reasons for the delay in submitting such request.

(b) Special temporary authorizations may be granted without regard to the 30-day public notice requirements of Sec. 24.427(b) when:

(1) The authorization is for a period not to exceed 30 days and no application for regular operation is contemplated to be filed;

(2) The authorization is for a period not to exceed 60 days pending the filing of an application for such regular operation;

(3) The authorization is to permit interim operation to facilitate completion of authorized construction or to provide substantially the same service as previously authorized; or

(4) The authorization is made upon a finding that there are extraordinary circumstances requiring operation in the public interest and that delay in the institution of such service would seriously prejudice the public interest.

(c) Temporary authorizations of operation not to exceed 180 days may be granted under the standards of section 309(f) of the Communications Act where extraordinary circumstances so require. Extensions of the temporary authorization for a period of 180 days each may also be granted, but the renewal applicant bears a heavy burden to show that extraordinary circumstances warrant such an extension.

(d) In cases of emergency found by the Commission, involving danger to life or property or due to damage of equipment, or during a national emergency proclaimed by the President or declared by the Congress or during the continuance of any war in which the United States is engaged and when such action is necessary for the national defense or safety or otherwise in furtherance of the war effort, or in cases of emergency where the Commission finds that it would not be feasible to secure renewal applications from existing licensees or otherwise to follow normal licensing procedure, the Commission will grant radio station authorizations and station licenses, or

modifications or renewals thereof, during the emergency found by the Commission or during the continuance of any such national emergency or war, as special temporary licenses, only for the period of emergency or war requiring such action, without the filing of formal applications.

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994; 59 FR 37164, July 21, 1994]

§ 24.426 Receipt of application; applications in the narrowband Personal Communications Services filed on FCC Form 175 and other applications in the narrowband PCS Service.

(a) All applications for the initial provision of narrowband PCS service must be submitted on FCC Forms 175 and 175-S. Mutually exclusive initial applications in the narrowband Personal Communications Services are subject to competitive bidding. FCC Form 600 ("Application for New or Modified Common Carrier Radio Station Under Part 22") must be submitted by each winning bidder for each narrowband PCS license applied for on FCC Form 175. In the event that mutual exclusivity does not exist between applicants filing FCC Form 175, the applicant will also file FCC Form 401. The aforementioned Forms 175, 175-S, and 401 are subject to the provisions of 47 CFR part 1, subpart Q ("Competitive Bidding Proceedings") and subpart F of this part. Blanket licenses are granted for each market frequency block. Applications for individual sites are not needed and will not be accepted. See § 24.11.

(b) Applications received for filing are given a file number. The assignment of a file number to an application is merely for administrative convenience and does not indicate the acceptance of the application for filing and processing. Such assignment of a file number will not preclude the subsequent return or dismissal of the application if it is found to be not in accordance with the Commission's rules.

(c) Acceptance of an application for filing merely means that it has been the subject of a preliminary review as to completeness. Such acceptance will not preclude the subsequent return or dismissal of the application if it is

found to be defective or not in accordance with the Commission's rules. (See § 24.413 for additional information concerning filing of applications.)

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§ 24.427 Public notice period.

(a) At regular intervals, the Commission will issue a public notice listing:

(1) The acceptance for filing of all applications and major amendments thereto;

(2) Significant Commission actions concerning applications listed as acceptable for filing;

(3) Information which the Commission in its discretion believes of public significance. Such notices are solely for the purpose of informing the public and do not create any rights in an applicant or any other person;

(4) Special environmental considerations as required by part 1 of this chapter.

(b) The Commission will not grant any application until expiration of a period of thirty (30) days following the issuance date of a public notice listing the application, or any major amendments thereto, as acceptable for filing. Provided, that the Commission will not grant an application filed on Form 600 filed either by a winning bidder or by an applicant whose Form 175 application is not mutually exclusive with other applicants, until the expiration of a period of forty (40) days following the issuance of a public notice listing the application, or any major amendments thereto, as acceptable for filing. See also 47 CFR 1.2108.

(c) As an exception to paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2) and (b) of this section, the public notice provisions are not applicable to applications:

(1) For authorization of a minor technical change in the facilities of an authorized station where such a change would not be classified as a major amendment (as defined by Sec. 24.423) were such a change to be submitted as an amendment to a pending application;

(2) For issuance of a license subsequent to a radio station authorization or, pending application for a grant of such license, any special or temporary

authorization to permit interim operation to facilitate completion of authorized construction or to provide substantially the same service as would be authorized by such license;

(3) For extension of time to complete construction of authorized facilities, see § 24.103;

(4) For temporary authorization pursuant to § 24.425(b);

(5) [Reserved]

(6) For an authorization under any of the proviso clauses of section 308(a) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 308(a));

(7) For consent to an involuntary assignment or transfer of control of a radio authorization; or

(8) For consent to a voluntary assignment or transfer of control of a radio authorization, where the assignment or transfer does not involve a substantial change in ownership or control.

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994; 59 FR 37164, July 21, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§ 24.428 Dismissal and return of applications.

(a) Except as provided under § 24.429, any application may be dismissed without prejudice as a matter of right if the applicant requests its dismissal prior to designation for hearing or, in the case of applications filed on Forms 175 and 175-S, prior to auction. An applicant's request for the return of his application after it has been accepted for filing will be considered to be a request for dismissal without prejudice. Applicants requesting dismissal of their applications are also subject to 47 CFR 1.2104. Requests for dismissal shall comply with the provisions of § 24.429 as appropriate.

(b) A request to dismiss an application without prejudice will be considered after designation for hearing only if:

(1) A written petition is submitted to the Commission and is properly served upon all parties of record, and

(2) The petition complies with the provisions of § 24.429 (whenever applicable) and demonstrates good cause.

(c) The Commission will dismiss an application for failure to prosecute or for failure to respond substantially

within a specified time period to official correspondence or requests for additional information. Dismissal shall be without prejudice if made prior to designation for hearing or prior to auction, but dismissal may be made with prejudice for unsatisfactory compliance with § 24.429 or after designation for hearing or after the applicant is notified that it is the winning bidder under the auction process.

§ 24.429 Ownership changes and agreements to amend or to dismiss applications or pleadings.

(a) Applicability. Subject to the provisions of 47 CFR 1.2105 (Bidding Application and Certification Procedures; Prohibition of Collusion), this section applies to applicants and all other parties interested in pending applications who wish to resolve contested matters among themselves with a formal or an informal agreement or understanding. This section applies only when the agreement or understanding will result in:

(1) A major change in the ownership of an applicant to which §§ 24.423(c) and 24.423(g) apply or which would cause the applicant to lose its status as a designated entity under § 24.309, or

(2) The individual or mutual withdrawal, amendment or dismissal of any pending application, amendment, petitioner or other pleading.

(b) If the amendment would, if granted, cause the applicant to lose its status as a designated entity under § 24.309, the applicant must comply with the obligations imposed by § 24.309 (Designated Entities) and § 1.2111 (Assignment of transfer of control; unjust enrichment) before the amendment will be granted.

(c) The provisions of 47 CFR 22.927 will apply in the event of the individual or mutual withdrawal, amendment or dismissal of any pending application, amendment, petitioner or other pleading.

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994; 59 FR 37164, July 21, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 44072, Aug. 26, 1994]

§24.430 Opposition to applications.

(a) Petitions to deny (including petitions for other forms of relief) and responsive pleadings for Commission consideration must comply with §1.2108 of this chapter and must:

(1) Identify the application or applications (including applicant's name, station location, Commission file numbers and radio service involved) with which it is concerned;

(2) Be filed in accordance with the pleading limitations, filing periods, and other applicable provisions of §§1.41 through 1.52 of this chapter except where otherwise provided in §1.2108 of this chapter;

(3) Contain specific allegations of fact which, except for facts of which official notice may be taken, shall be supported by affidavit of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof, and which shall be sufficient to demonstrate that the petitioner (or respondent) is a party in interest and that a grant of, or other Commission action regarding, the application would be prima facie inconsistent with the public interest;

(4) Be filed within thirty (30) days after the date of public notice announcing the acceptance for filing of any such application or major amendment thereto (unless the Commission otherwise extends the filing deadline); and

(5) Contain a certificate of service showing that it has been mailed to the applicant no later than the date of filing thereof with the Commission.

(b) A petition to deny a major amendment to a previously filed application may only raise matters directly related to the amendment which could not have been raised in connection with the underlying, previously filed application. This does not apply to petitioners who gain standing because of the major amendment.

(c) Parties who file frivolous petitions to deny may be subject to sanctions including monetary forfeitures, license revocation, if they are FCC licensees, and may be prohibited from participating in future auctions.

[59 FR 44072, Aug. 26, 1994]

§24.431 Mutually exclusive applications.

(a) The Commission will consider applications to be mutually exclusive if their conflicts are such that the grant of one application would effectively preclude by reason of harmful electrical interference, or other practical reason, the grant of one or more of the other applications. The Commission will presume "harmful electrical interference" to mean interference which would result in a material impairment to service rendered to the public despite full cooperation in good faith by all applicants or parties to achieve reasonable technical adjustments which would avoid electrical conflict.

(b) Mutually exclusive applications filed on Form 175 for the initial provision of narrowband PCS service are subject to competitive bidding in accordance with the procedures in subpart F of this part and in 47 CFR part 1, subpart Q.

(c) An application will be entitled to comparative consideration with one or more conflicting applications only if the Commission determines that such comparative consideration will serve the public interest.

§24.432 Consideration of applications.

(a) Applications for an instrument of authorization will be granted if, upon examination of the application and upon consideration of such other matters as it may officially notice, the Commission finds that the grant will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. See also §1.2108.

(b) The grant shall be without a formal hearing if, upon consideration of the application, any pleadings or objections filed, or other matters which may be officially noticed, the Commission finds that:

(1) The application is acceptable for filing, and is in accordance with the Commission's rules, regulations, and other requirements;

(2) The application is not subject to a post-auction hearing or to comparative consideration pursuant to §24.431 with another application(s);

(3) A grant of the application would not cause harmful electrical interference to an authorized station;

(4) There are no substantial and material questions of fact presented; and

(5) The applicant is qualified under current FCC regulations and policies.

(c) If the Commission should grant without a formal hearing an application for an instrument of authorization which is subject to a petition to deny filed in accordance with §24.430, the Commission will deny the petition by the issuance of a Memorandum Opinion and Order which will concisely report the reasons for the denial and dispose of all substantial issues raised by the petition.

(d) Whenever the Commission, without a formal hearing, grants any application in part, or subject to any terms or conditions other than those normally applied to applications of the same type, it shall inform the applicant of the reasons therefor, and the grant shall be considered final unless the Commission should revise its action (either by granting the application as originally requested, or by designating the application for a formal evidentiary hearing) in response to a petition for reconsideration which:

(1) Is filed by the applicant within thirty (30) days from the date of the letter or order giving the reasons for the partial or conditioned grant;

(2) Rejects the grant as made and explains the reasons why the application should be granted as originally requested; and,

(3) Returns the instrument of authorization.

(e) The Commission will designate an application for a formal hearing, specifying with particularity the matters and things in issue, if, upon consideration of the application, any pleadings or objections filed, or other matters which may be officially noticed, the Commission determines that:

(1) A substantial and material question of fact is presented (see also §1.2108);

(2) The Commission is unable for any reason to make the findings specified in paragraph (a) of this section and the application is acceptable for filing, complete, and in accordance with the Commission's rules, regulations, and other requirements; or

(3) The application is entitled to comparative consideration (under

§24.431) with another application (or applications).

(f) The Commission may grant, deny or take other action with respect to an application designated for a formal hearing pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section or part 1 of this chapter.

(g) [Reserved]

(h) Reconsideration or review of any final action taken by the Commission will be in accordance with Subpart A of part 1 of this chapter.

§§ 24.433–24.438 [Reserved]

§24.439 Transfer of control or assignment of station authorization.

(a) Approval required. Authorizations shall be transferred or assigned to another party, voluntarily (for example, by contract) or involuntarily (for example, by death, bankruptcy, or legal disability), directly or indirectly or by transfer of control of any corporation holding such authorization, only upon application and approval by the Commission. A transfer of control or assignment of station authorization in the narrowband Personal Communications Service is also subject to §24.309 (Designated Entities) and §1.2111 (Assignment or transfer of control: unjust enrichment).

(1) A change from less than 50% ownership to 50% or more ownership shall always be considered a transfer of control.

(2) In other situations a controlling interest shall be determined on a case-by-case basis considering the distribution of ownership, and the relationships of the owners, including family relationships.

(3) *Forbearance from pro forma assignments and transfers of control.* PCS licensees that are telecommunications carriers as defined in 47 U.S.C. 153 are subject to streamlined procedures for *pro forma*, i.e., non-substantial, transfers and assignments. A *pro forma* assignee or transferee is not required to seek prior FCC approval for the transaction, but must notify the FCC no later than 30 days after the event causing the assignment or transfer, either by filing an FCC Form 490 or in letter form. If a letter is submitted, it must contain a certification that the transfer or assignment is non-substantial

and, together with all previous non-substantial transactions, does not involve a change in the licensee's ultimate control. A single letter may be filed for a transfer or assignment of control of more than one authorization if each authorization affected is identified by call sign in the letter. Licensees must concurrently update ownership information on their FCC Form 430, if necessary.

(b) Form required—(1) Assignment.

(i) FCC Form 490 shall be filed to assign a license or permit.

(ii) In the case of involuntary assignment, FCC Form 490 shall be filed within 30 days of the event causing the assignment.

(2) *Transfer of control.* (i) FCC Form 490 shall be submitted in order to transfer control of a corporation holding a license or permit.

(ii) In the case of involuntary transfer of control, FCC Form 490 shall be filed within 30 days of the event causing the transfer.

(3) *Form 430.* Whenever an application must be filed under paragraph (a) (1) or (2) of this section, the assignee or transferee shall file FCC Form 430 ("Common Carrier Radio License Qualification Report") unless an accurate report is on file with the Commission.

(4) *Notification of completion.* The Commission shall be notified by letter of the date of completion of the assignment or transfer of control.

(5) If the transfer of control of a license is approved, the new licensee is held to the original build-out requirement of § 24.103.

(c) In acting upon applications for transfer of control or assignment, the Commission will not consider whether the public interest, convenience, and necessity might be served by the transfer or assignment of the authorization to a person other than the proposed transferee or assignee.

(d) [Reserved]

[59 FR 26749, May 24, 1994, as amended at 63 FR 10344, Mar. 3, 1998]

§§ 24.440–24.442 [Reserved]

§ 24.443 Extension of time to complete construction.

(a) If construction is not completed within the time period set forth in

§ 24.103, the authorization will automatically expire. Before the period for construction expires an application for an extension of time to complete construction (FCC Form 489) may be filed. See paragraph (b) of this section. Within 30 days after the authorization expires an application for reinstatement may be filed on FCC Form 489.

(b) An application for extension of time to complete construction may be made on FCC Form 489. Extension of time requests must be filed prior to the expiration of the construction period. Extensions will be granted only if the licensee shows that the failure to complete construction is due to causes beyond his control. An application for modification of an authorization (under construction) does not extend the initial construction period. If additional time to construct is required, an FCC Form 489 must be submitted.

§ 24.444 Termination of authorization.

(a)(1) All authorizations shall terminate on the date specified on the authorization or on the date specified by these rules, unless a timely application for renewal has been filed.

(2) If no application for renewal has been made before the authorization's expiration date, a late application for renewal will only be considered if it is filed within 30 days of the expiration date and shows that the failure to file a timely application was due to causes beyond the applicant's control. During this 30 day period reinstatement applications must be filed on FCC Form 489. Service to subscribers need not be suspended while a late filed renewal application is pending, but such service shall be without prejudice to Commission action on the renewal application and any related sanctions. See also § 24.16 (Criteria for Comparative Renewal Proceedings).

(b) Special Temporary Authority. A special temporary authorization shall automatically terminate upon failure to comply with the conditions in the authorization.

Subpart H—Competitive Bidding Procedures for Broadband PCS

SOURCE: 59 FR 37604, July 22, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§ 24.701 Broadband PCS subject to competitive bidding.

Mutually exclusive initial applications to provide broadband PCS service are subject to competitive bidding procedures. The general competitive bidding procedures found in 47 CFR part 1, subpart Q will apply unless otherwise provided in this part.

§ 24.702 Competitive bidding design for Broadband PCS licensing.

(a) The Commission will employ the following competitive bidding designs when choosing from among mutually exclusive initial applications to provide broadband PCS service:

(1) Simultaneous multiple round auctions.

(2) Sequential auctions.

(b) The Commission may design and test alternative procedures. The Commission will announce by Public Notice before each auction the competitive bidding design to be employed in a particular auction.

(c) The Commission may use combinatorial bidding, which would allow bidders to submit all or nothing bids on combinations of licenses, in addition to bids on individual licenses. The Commission may require that to be declared the high bid, a combinatorial bid must exceed the sum of the individual bids by a specified amount or percentage. Combinatorial bidding may be used with any type of auction design.

(d) The Commission may use single combined auctions, which combine bidding for two or more substitutable licenses and award licenses to the highest bidders until the available licenses are exhausted. This technique may be used in conjunction with any type of auction.

§ 24.703 Competitive bidding mechanisms.

(a) *Sequencing.* The Commission will establish and may vary the sequence in which broadband PCS licenses will be auctioned.

(b) *Grouping.* In the event the Commission uses either a simultaneous multiple round competitive bidding design or combinatorial bidding, the Commission will determine which li-

censes will be auctioned simultaneously or in combination.

(c) *Reservation Price.* The Commission may establish a reservation price, either disclosed or undisclosed, below which a license subject to auction will not be awarded.

(d) *Minimum Bid Increments.* The Commission will, by announcement before or during an auction, require minimum bid increments in dollar or percentage terms.

(e) *Stopping Rules.* The Commission will establish stopping rules before or during multiple round auctions in order to terminate an auction within a reasonable time.

(f) *Activity Rules.* The Commission will establish activity rules which require a minimum amount of bidding activity. In the event that the Commission establishes an activity rule in connection with a simultaneous multiple-round auction, bidders will be entitled to request and be granted waivers of such rule. The Commission will specify the number of waivers permitted in an auction, the frequency with which they may be exercised, and the method of operation of waivers by Public Notice prior to each auction.

(g) *Suggested Minimum Bid.* The Commission may establish suggested minimum bids on each license. Bids below the suggested minimum bid would count as activity under the activity rule only if no bids at or above the suggested minimum bid are received.

(h) *Bidder Identification During Auctions.* The Commission may choose, on an auction-by-auction basis, to release the identity of the bidders associated with bidder identification numbers. The Commission will announce by Public Notice before each auction whether bidder identities will be revealed.

[59 FR 37604, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 53371, Oct. 24, 1994]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, § 24.703 was removed, effective Nov. 23, 1998.

§ 24.704 Withdrawal, default and disqualification penalties.

See § 1.2104 of this chapter.

[63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, § 24.704 was revised, effective

Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§24.704 Withdrawal, default and disqualification penalties.

(a) When the Commission conducts a simultaneous multiple round auction pursuant to §24.702(a)(1), the Commission will impose penalties on bidders who withdraw high bids during the course of an auction, who default on payments due after an auction closes, or who are disqualified.

(1) *Bid withdrawal prior to close of auction.* A bidder who withdraws a high bid during the course of an auction will be subject to a penalty equal to the difference between the amount bid and the amount of the winning bid the next time the license is offered by the Commission. No withdrawal penalty would be assessed if the subsequent winning bid exceeds the withdrawn bid. This penalty amount will be deducted from any upfront payments or down payments that the withdrawing bidder was deposited with the Commission.

(2) *Default or disqualification after close of auction.* See §1.2104(g)(2) of this chapter.

(3) *Erroneous Bids.* If at any point during an auction an erroneous bid is withdrawn in the same round in which it was submitted, the bid withdrawal payment will be the greater of

(i) The minimum bid increment for that license and round; and

(ii) The standard bid withdrawal payment, as defined in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, calculated as if the bidder had made the minimum accepted bid. If an erroneous bid is withdrawn in the round immediately following the round in which it was submitted, and the auction is in Stage I or Stage II, the withdrawal payment will be the greater of

(A) Two times the minimum bid increment during the round in which the erroneous bid was submitted, and

(B) The standard withdrawal payment, as defined in paragraph (a)(1) of this section, calculated as if the bidder had made a bid one bid increment above the minimum accepted bid. If an erroneous bid is withdrawn two or more rounds following the round in which it was submitted, the bidder will not be eligible for any reduction in the bid withdrawal payment as defined in paragraph (a)(1) of this section. During Stage III of an auction, if an erroneous bid is not withdrawn during the round in which it was submitted, the bidder will not be eligible for any reduction in the bid withdrawal payment as defined in paragraph (a)(1) of this section.

(b) When the Commission conducts sequential oral auctions pursuant to §24.702(a)(2), the Commission may modify the penalties set forth in subsection (a) above to be paid in the event of bid withdrawal, default or disqualification; provided, however, that such

penalties shall not exceed the penalties specified above.

(1) If a bid is withdrawn before the Commission has declared the bidding to be closed for the license bid on, no bid withdrawal penalty will be assessed.

(2) If a bid is withdrawn after the Commission has declared the bidding to be closed for the license bid on, the penalty specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section will apply.

[59 FR 37604, July 22, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 33868, July 1, 1996; 63 FR 2349, Jan. 15, 1998]

§24.705 Bidding application (FCC Form 175 and 175-S Short-Form).

All applicants to participate in competitive bidding for broadband PCS licenses must submit applications on FCC Forms 175 and 175-S pursuant to the provisions of §§ 1.2105 of the chapter and 24.813. The Commission will issue a Public Notice announcing the availability of broadband PCS licenses and, in the event that mutually exclusive applications are filed, the date of the auction for those licenses. This Public Notice also will specify the date on or before which applicants intending to participate in a broadband PCS auction must file their applications in order to be eligible for that auction, and it will contain information necessary for completion of the application as well as other important information such as the materials which must accompany the Forms, any filing fee that must accompany the application or any upfront payment that will need to be submitted, and the location where the application must be filed.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.705 was removed, effective Nov. 23, 1998.

§24.706 Submission of upfront payments and down payments.

(a) All auction participants are required to submit an upfront payment in accordance with §1.2106 of this chapter. Any C block applicant that has previously been in default on any Commission licenses or has previously been delinquent on any non-tax debt owed to any Federal agency must submit an upfront payment equal to 50 percent more than that set for each particular license.

(b) Winning bidders in an auction must submit a down payment to the

§ 24.707

Commission in accordance with §1.2107(b) of this chapter and §§24.711(a)(2) and 24.716(a)(2).

(c) Each eligible bidder for licenses on frequency Blocks D and E subject to auction shall pay an upfront payment of \$0.06 per MHz per pop for the maximum number of licenses (in terms of MHz-pops) on which it intends to bid pursuant to §1.2106 of this chapter and procedures specified by Public Notice.

[61 FR 33868, July 1, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.706 was amended by revising paragraph (a), effective Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§24.706 Submission of upfront payments and down payments.

(a) Where the Commission uses simultaneous multiple round auctions or oral sequential auctions, bidders will be required to submit an upfront payment in accordance with §1.2106 of this chapter, paragraph (c) of this section, and §§24.711(a)(1) and 24.716(a)(1).

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§24.707 Long-form applications.

Each winning bidder will be required to submit a long-form application on FCC Form 600, as modified, within ten (10) business days after being notified that it is the winning bidder. Applications on FCC Form 600 shall be submitted pursuant to the procedures set forth in subpart I of this part and §1.2107 (c) and (d) of this chapter and any associated Public Notices. Only auction winners will be eligible to file applications on FCC Form 600 for initial broadband PCS licenses in the event of mutual exclusivity between applicants filing Form 175. Winning bidders need not complete Schedule B to Form 600.

[59 FR 37604, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994; 62 FR 660, Jan. 6, 1997]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.707 was removed, effective Nov. 23, 1998.

§24.708 License grant, denial, default, and disqualification.

(a) Except with respect to entities eligible for installment payments (see

§24.711), each winning bidder will be required to pay the balance of its winning bid in a lump sum payment within five (5) business days following the award of the license. Grant of the license will be conditioned upon full and timely payment of the winning bid amount.

(b) A bidder who withdraws its bid subsequent to the close of bidding, defaults on a payment due or is disqualified will be subject to the penalties specified in §1.2109 of this chapter.

§24.709 Eligibility for licenses for frequency Blocks C and F.

(a) General Rule. (1) No application is acceptable for filing and no license shall be granted for frequency block C or frequency block F, unless the applicant, together with its affiliates and persons or entities that hold interests in the applicant and their affiliates, have gross revenues of less than \$125 million in each of the last two years and total assets of less than \$500 million at the time the applicant's short-form application (Form 175) is filed.

(2) The gross revenues and total assets of the applicant (or licensee), and its affiliates, and (except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section) of persons or entities that hold interests in the applicant (or licensee), and their affiliates, shall be attributed to the applicant and considered on a cumulative basis and aggregated for purposes of determining whether the applicant (or licensee) is eligible for a license for frequency block C or frequency block F under this section.

(3) Any licensee awarded a license pursuant to this section (or pursuant to §24.839(d)(2)) shall maintain its eligibility until at least five years from the date of initial license grant, except that a licensee's (or other attributable entity's) increased gross revenues or increased total assets due to nonattributable equity investments (i.e., from sources whose gross revenues and total assets are not considered under paragraph (b) of this section), debt financing, revenue from operations or other investments, business development or expanded service shall not be considered.

(4) In order to be eligible for participation in a C block auction, an applicant must certify that it is not in default on any Commission licenses and that it is not delinquent on any non-tax debt owed to any Federal agency. See §24.706 of this part.

(5) An applicant for participation in a C block auction must state under penalty of perjury whether or not it has ever been in default on any Commission licenses or has ever been delinquent on any non-tax debt owed to any Federal agency. See §24.706 of this part.

(b) *Exceptions to General Rule.* (1) *Small Business Consortia.* Where an applicant (or licensee) is a *consortium of small businesses*, the *gross revenues* and *total assets* of each small business shall not be aggregated.

(2) *Publicly-Traded Corporations.* Where an applicant (or licensee) is a *publicly traded corporation with widely dispersed voting power*, the *gross revenues* and *total assets* of a person or entity that holds an interest in the applicant (or licensee), and its *affiliates*, shall not be considered.

(3) *25 Percent Equity Exception.* The *gross revenues* and *total assets* of a person or entity that holds an interest in the applicant (or licensee), and its *affiliates*, shall not be considered so long as:

(i) Such person or entity, together with its *affiliates*, holds only *nonattributable equity* equaling no more than 25 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity;

(ii) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(5) of this section, such person or entity is not a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group*; and

(iii) The applicant (or licensee) has a *control group* that complies with the minimum equity requirements of paragraph (b)(5) of this section, and, if the applicant (or licensee) is a corporation, owns at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) voting interests, and, if the applicant (or licensee) is a partnership, holds all of its general partnership interests.

(4) *49.9 Percent Equity Exception.* The *gross revenues* and *total assets* of a person or entity that holds an interest in the applicant (or licensee), and its *affiliates*, shall not be considered so long as:

(i) Such person or entity, together with its *affiliates*, holds only *nonattributable equity* equaling no more than 49.9 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity;

(ii) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(6) of this section, such person or entity is not a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group*; and

(iii) The applicant (or licensee) has a *control group* that complies with the minimum equity requirements of paragraph (b)(6) of this section and, if the applicant (or licensee) is a corporation, owns at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) voting interests, and, if the applicant (or licensee) is a partnership, holds all of its general partnership interests.

(5) *Control Group Minimum 25 Percent Equity Requirement.* In order to be eligible to exclude *gross revenues* and *total assets* of persons or entities identified in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, and applicant (or licensee) must comply with the following requirements:

(i) Except for an applicant (or licensee) whose sole control group member is a *preexisting entity*, as provided in paragraph (b)(5)(ii) of this section, at the time the applicant's short-form application (Form 175) is filed and until at least three years following the date of initial license grant, the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group* must own at least 25 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity as follows:

(A) At least 15 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held by *qualifying investors*, either unconditionally or in the form of options exercisable, at the option of the holder, at any time and at any exercise price equal to or less than the market value at the time the applicant files its short-form application (Form 175);

(B) Such *qualifying investors* must hold 50.1 percent of the voting stock and all general partnership interests within the control group, and must have *de facto* control of the control group and of the applicant;

(C) The remaining 10 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity may be owned, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options, by any of the following entities, which may not comply with §24.720(n)(1):

(1) *Institutional Investors*;

(2) Noncontrolling *existing investors* in any *preexisting entity* that is a member of the *control group*;

(3) Individuals that are members of the applicant's (or licensee's) management; or

(4) *Qualifying investors*, as specified in § 24.720(n)(4).

(D) Following termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(5)(i) of this section, *qualifying investors* must continue to own at least 10 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options subject to the restrictions in paragraph (b)(5)(i)(A) of this section. The restrictions specified in paragraph (b)(5)(i)(C)(1) through (4) of this section no longer apply to the remaining equity after termination of such three-year period.

(ii) At the election of an applicant (or licensee) whose *control group's* sole member is a *preexisting entity*, the 25 percent minimum equity requirements set forth in paragraph (b)(5)(i) of this section shall apply, except that only 10 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held by *qualifying investors* and that the remaining 15 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity may be held by *qualifying investors* or noncontrolling *existing investors* in such *control group* member or individuals that are members of the applicant's (or licensee's) management. These restrictions on the identity of the holder(s) of the remaining 15 percent of the licensee's total equity no longer apply after termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(5)(i) of this section.

(6) *Control Group Minimum 50.1 Percent Equity Requirement*. In order to be eligible to exclude *gross revenues* and *total assets* of persons or entities identified in paragraph (b)(4) of this section, an applicant (or licensee) must comply with the following requirements:

(i) Except for an applicant (or licensee) whose sole control group member is a *preexisting entity*, as provided in paragraph (b)(6)(ii) of this section, at the time the applicant's short-form application (Form 175) is filed and until at least three years following the date of initial license grant, the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group* must own

at least 50.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity as follows:

(A) At least 30 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held by *qualifying investors*, either unconditionally or in the form of options, exercisable at the option of the holder, at any time and at any exercise price equal to or less than the market value at the time the applicant files its short-form application (Form 175);

(B) Such *qualifying investors* must hold 50.1 percent of the voting stock and all general partnership interests within the control group and must have *de facto* control of the control group and of the applicant;

(C) The remaining 20.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity may be owned by *qualifying investors*, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options not subject to the restrictions of paragraph (b)(6)(i)(A) of this section, or by any of the following entities which may not comply with § 24.720(n)(1):

(1) *Institutional investors*, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options;

(2) Noncontrolling *existing investors* in any *preexisting entity* that is a member of the *control group*, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options;

(3) Individuals that are members of the applicant's (or licensee's) management, either unconditionally or in the form of stock options; or

(4) *Qualifying investors*, as specified in 24.720(n)(4).

(D) Following termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this section, *qualifying investors* must continue to own at least 20 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity unconditionally or in the form of stock options subject to the restrictions in paragraph (b)(6)(i)(A) of this section. The restrictions specified in paragraph (b)(6)(i)(C)(1) through (4) of this section no longer apply to the remaining equity after termination of such three-year period.

(ii) At the election of an applicant (or licensee) whose *control group's* sole member is a *preexisting entity*, the 50.1 percent minimum equity requirements set forth in paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this

section shall apply, except that only 20 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held by *qualifying investors*, and that the remaining 30.1 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity may be held by *qualifying investors*, or noncontrolling *existing investors* in such *control group* member or individuals that are members of the applicant's (or licensee's) management. These restrictions on the identity of the holder(s) of the remaining 30.1 percent of the licensee's total equity no longer apply after termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(6)(i) of this section.

(7) *Calculation of Certain Interests.* Except as provided in paragraphs (b)(5) and (b)(6) of this section, ownership interests shall be calculated on a fully diluted basis; all agreements such as warrants, stock options and convertible debentures will generally be treated as if the rights thereunder already have been fully exercised, except that such agreements may not be used to appear to terminate or divest ownership interests before they actually do so, in order to comply with the *non-attributable equity* requirements in paragraphs (b)(3)(i) and (b)(4)(i) of this section.

(8) *Aggregation of Affiliate Interests.* Persons or entities that hold interest in an applicant (or licensee) that are *affiliates* of each other or have an identify of interests identified in §24.720(1)(3) will be treated as though they were one person or entity and their ownership interests aggregated for purposes of determining an applicant's (or licensee's) compliance with the *nonattributable equity* requirements in paragraphs (b)(3)(i) and (b)(4)(i) of this section.

Example 1 for paragraph (b)(8). ABC Corp. is owned by individuals, A, B, and C, each having an equal one-third voting interest in ABC Corp. A and B together, with two-thirds of the stock have the power to control ABC Corp. and have an identity of interest. If A & B invest in DE Corp., a broadband PCS applicant for block C, A and B's separate interests in DE Corp. must be aggregated because A and B are to be treated as one person.

Example 2 for paragraph (b)(8). ABC Corp. has subsidiary BC Corp., of which it holds a controlling 51 percent of the stock. If ABC Corp. and BC Corp., both invest in DE Corp.,

their separate interests in DE Corp. must be aggregated because ABC Corp. and BC Corp. are affiliates of each other.

(9) *Special rule for licensees disaggregating or returning certain spectrum in frequency block C.*

(i) In addition to entities qualifying under this section, any entity that was eligible for and participated in the auction for frequency block C, which began on December 18, 1995, or the re-auction for frequency block C, which began on July 3, 1996, will be eligible to bid in any re-auction of block C spectrum that begins within two years of the start date of the first reaction of C block spectrum following the effective date of this rule.

(ii) The following restrictions will apply for any re-auction of frequency block C spectrum conducted after March 24, 1998:

(A) Applicants that elected to disaggregate and surrender to the Commission 15 MHz of spectrum from any or all of their frequency block C licenses, as provided in Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Installment Payment Financing for Personal Communications Services (PCS) Licensees, Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, WT Docket No. 97-82, 12 FCC Rcd 16,436 (1997), as modified by the Order on Reconsideration of the Second Report and Order, WT Docket No. 97-82, FCC 98-46 (rel. Mar. 24, 1998), will not be eligible to apply for such disaggregated spectrum until 2 years from the start of the re-auction of that spectrum.

(B) Applicants that surrendered to the Commission any of their frequency block C licenses, as provided in Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Installment Payment Financing for Personal Communications Services (PCS) Licensees, Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, WT Docket No. 97-82, 12 FCC Rcd 16,436 (1997), as modified by the Order on Reconsideration of the Second Report and Order, WT Docket No. 97-82, FCC 98-46 (rel. Mar. 24, 1998), will not be eligible to apply for the licenses that they surrendered to the Commission until 2 years from the start of the re-auction of those licenses if they elected to apply a credit of 70%

of the down payment they made on those licenses toward the prepayment of licenses they did not surrender.

(c) *Short-Form and Long-Form Applications: Certifications and Disclosure.* (1) *Short-form Application.* In addition to certifications and disclosures required by Part 1, subpart Q of this chapter and §24.813, each applicant for a license for frequency block C or frequency block F shall certify on its short-form application (Form 175) that it is eligible to bid on and obtain such license(s), and (if applicable) that it is eligible for designated entity status pursuant to this section and §24.720, and shall append the following information as an exhibit to its Form 175:

(i) For an applicant that is a *publicly traded corporation with widely disbursed voting power*:

(A) A certified statement that such applicant complies with the requirements of the definition of *publicly traded corporation with widely disbursed voting power* set forth in §24.720(m);

(B) The identify of each *affiliate* of the applicant if not disclosed pursuant to §24.813; and

(C) The applicant's *gross revenues* and *total assets*, computed in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(ii) For all other applicants:

(A) The identity of each member of the applicant's *control group*, regardless of the size of each member's total interest in the applicant, and the percentage and type of interest held;

(B) The citizenship and the gender or minority group classification for each member of the applicant's *control group* if the applicant is claiming status as a *business owned by members of minority groups and/or women*;

(C) The status of each *control group* member that is an *institutional investor*, an *existing investor*, and/or a member of the applicant's management;

(D) The identify of each *affiliate* of the applicant and each *affiliate* of individuals or entities identified pursuant to paragraphs (c)(1)(ii)(A) and (c)(1)(ii)(C) of this section if not disclosed pursuant to §24.813;

(E) A certification that the applicant's sole *control group* member is a *preexisting entity*, if the applicant

makes the election in either paragraph (b)(5)(ii) or (b)(6)(ii) of this section; and

(F) The applicant's *gross revenues* and *total assets*, computed in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(iii) For each applicant claiming status as a *small business consortium*, the information specified in paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section, for each member of such consortium.

(2) *Long-form Application.* In addition to the requirements in subpart I of this part and other applicable rules (e.g., §§20.6(e) and 20.9(b) of this chapter), each applicant submitting a long-form application for a license(s) for frequency block C or frequency block F shall, in an exhibit to its long-form application:

(i) Disclose separately and in the aggregate the *gross revenues* and *total assets*, computed in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, for each of the following: the applicant; the applicant's *affiliates*, the applicant's *control group* members; the applicant's attributable investors; and *affiliates* of its attributable investors;

(ii) List and summarize all agreements or other instruments (with appropriate references to specific provisions in the text of such agreements and instruments) that support the applicant's eligibility for a license(s) for frequency block C or frequency block F and its eligibility under §§24.711, 24.712, 24.714 and 24.720, including the establishment of *de facto* and *de jure* control; such agreements and instruments include articles of incorporation and by-laws, shareholder agreements, voting or other trust agreements, partnership agreements, management agreements, joint marketing agreements, franchise agreements, and any other relevant agreements (including letters of intent), oral or written; and

(iii) List and summarize any investor protection agreements and identify specifically any such provisions in those agreements identified pursuant to paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section, including rights of first refusal, supermajority clauses, options, veto rights, and rights to hire and fire employees and to appoint members to boards of directors or management committees.

(3) *Records Maintenance.* All applicants, including those that are winning bidders, shall maintain at their principal place of business an updated file of ownership, revenue and asset information, including those documents referenced in paragraphs (c)(2)(ii) and (c)(2)(iii) of this section and any other documents necessary to establish eligibility under this section or under the definitions of *small business and/or business owned by members of minority groups and/or women*. Licensees (and their successors in interest) shall maintain such files for the term of the license. Applicants that do not obtain the license(s) for which they applied shall maintain such files until the grant of such license(s) is final, or one year from the date of the filing of their short-form application (Form 175), whichever is earlier.

(d) *Audits.* (1) Applicants and licensees claiming eligibility under this section or §§24.711 through 24.720 shall be subject to audits by the Commission, using in-house and contract resources. Selection for audit may be random, on information, or on the basis of other factors.

(2) Consent to such audits is part of the certification included in the short-form application (Form 175). Such consent shall include consent to the audit of the applicant's or licensee's books, documents and other material (including accounting procedures and practices) regardless of form or type, sufficient to confirm that such applicant's or licensee's representations are, and remain, accurate. Such consent shall include inspection at all reasonable times of the facilities, or parts thereof, engaged in providing and transacting business, or keeping records regarding licensed broadband PCS service and shall also include consent to the interview of principals, employees, customers and suppliers of the applicant or licensee.

(e) *Definitions.* The terms *affiliate, business owned by members of minority groups and/or women*, and *gross revenues* used in this section are defined in §1.2110 of this chapter. The terms *consortium of small businesses, control group, existing investor, institutional investor, nonattributable equity, preexisting entity, publicly traded corporation with widely*

dispersed voting power, qualifying investor, small business, and total assets used in this section are defined in §24.720 of this chapter.

[59 FR 63232, Dec. 7, 1994; 60 FR 5335, Jan. 27, 1995, as amended at 60 FR 37795, July 21, 1995; 61 FR 33868, July 1, 1996; 63 FR 17122, Apr. 8, 1998; 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.709 was amended by adding paragraphs (a)(4) and (a)(5) and by revising paragraphs (b)(9)(i) and (e), effective Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§24.709 Eligibility for licenses for frequency Blocks C and F.

(b) * * *

(9) * * *(i) In addition to entities qualifying under this section, any entity that was eligible for and participated in the auctions for frequency block C, which began on December 18, 1995, and July 3, 1996, will be eligible to bid in a reauction of block C spectrum surrendered pursuant to Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Installment Payment Financing for Personal Communications Services (PCS) Licensees, Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, WT Docket No. 97-82, 12 FCC Rcd 16,436 (1997), as modified by the Order on Reconsideration of the Second Report and Order, WT Docket No. 97-82, FCC 98-46 (rel. Mar. 24, 1998).

* * * * *

(e) *Definitions.* The terms *affiliate, business owned by members of minority groups and women, consortium of small businesses, control group, existing investor, gross revenues, institutional investor, members of minority groups, nonattributable equity, preexisting entity, publicly traded corporation with widely dispersed voting power, qualifying investor, small business and total assets* used in this section are defined in §24.720.

§24.710 Limitation on licenses won at auction for frequency Blocks C and F.

(a) No applicant may be deemed the winning bidder of more than 98 of the licenses available for frequency Blocks C and F. Any applicant who is the high bidder for more than 98 of the licenses available for frequency Blocks C and F shall be required to withdraw its bid(s) for a sufficient number of licenses to achieve compliance with this section

and may be subject to bid withdrawal penalties under §24.704.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (a) of this section, licenses will be deemed to be won by the same bidder if an entity that controls or has the power to control any applicant that wins licenses at the auction, has the power to control any other applicant that wins licenses at the auction.

§24.711 Upfront payments, down payments and installment payments for licenses for frequency Block C.

(a) *Upfront Payments and Down Payments.* (1) Each eligible bidder for licenses subject to auction on frequency Block C shall pay an upfront payment as set forth in a Public Notice pursuant to the procedures in §1.2106 of this chapter.

(2) Each winning bidder shall make a down payment and pay the balance of its winning bids pursuant to §1.2107 and §1.2109 of this chapter.

(b) *Installment payments.* Each eligible licensee of frequency Block C or F may pay the remaining 90 percent of the net auction price for the license in installment payments pursuant to §1.2110(g) of this chapter and under the following terms:

(1) For an eligible licensee with *gross revenues* exceeding \$75 million (calculated in accordance with §24.709(a)(2) and (b)) in each of the two preceding years (calculated in accordance with §24.720(f)), interest shall be imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted, plus 3.5 percent; payments shall include both principal and interest amortized over the term of the license.

(2) For an eligible licensee with *gross revenues* not exceeding \$75 million (calculated in accordance with §24.709(a)(2) and (b)) in each of the two preceding years, interest shall be imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted, plus 2.5 percent; payments shall include interest only for the first year and payments of interest and principal amortized over the remaining nine years of the license term.

(3) For an eligible licensee that qualifies as a Small business or as a consor-

tium of small businesses, interest shall be imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted, plus 2.5 percent; payments shall include interest only for the first two years and payments of interest and principal amortized over the remaining eight years of the license term.

(4) For an eligible licensee that qualifies as a business owned by members of minority groups and/or women, interest shall be imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted; payments shall include interest only for the first three years and payments of interest and principal amortized over the remaining seven years of the license term.

(5) For an eligible licensee that qualifies as a small business owned by members of minority groups and/or women or as a consortium of small business owned by members of minority groups and/or women, interest shall be imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted; payments shall include interest only for the first six years and payments of interest and principal amortized over the remaining four years of the license term.

(c) *Unjust enrichment.* See §1.2111 of this chapter.

[59 FR 63235, Dec. 7, 1994; 60 FR 5335, Jan. 27, 1995, as amended at 60 FR 37796, July 21, 1995; 63 FR 2349, Jan. 15, 1998; 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.711 was amended by revising paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2), effective Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§24.711 Upfront payments, down payments and installment payments for licenses for frequency Block C.

(a) * * *(1) Each eligible bidder for licenses on frequency Block C subject to auction shall pay an upfront payment of \$0.015 per MHz per pop for the maximum number of licenses (in terms of MHz-pops) on which it intends to bid pursuant to §1.2106 of this chapter and procedures specified by Public Notice.

(2) Each winning bidder shall make a down payment equal to ten percent of its winning

bid (less applicable bidding credits); a winning bidder shall bring its total amount on deposit with the Commission (including up-front payment) to five percent of its net winning bid within five business days after the auction closes, and the remainder of the down payment (five percent) shall be paid within five business days after the application required by § 24.809(b) is granted.

* * * * *

§ 24.712 Bidding credits for licenses for frequency Block C.

(a) A winning bidder that qualifies as a small business or a consortium of small businesses as defined in § 24.720(b)(1) or § 24.720(b)(4) of this part may use a bidding credit of fifteen percent, as specified in § 1.2110(e)(2)(iii) of this chapter, to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(b) A winning bidder that qualifies as a very small business or a consortium of very small businesses as defined in § 24.720(b)(2) or § 24.720(b)(5) of this part may use a bidding credit of twenty-five percent as specified in § 1.2110(e)(2)(ii) of this chapter, to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(c) *Unjust enrichment.* See § 1.2111 of this chapter.

[63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, § 24.712 was revised, effective Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§ 24.712 Bidding credits for licenses for frequency Block C.

(a) A winning bidder that qualifies as a small business or a consortium of small businesses may use a bidding credit of twenty-five percent to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(b) *Unjust enrichment.* See § 1.2111 of this chapter.

[59 FR 37604, July 22, 1994; 60 FR 5335, Jan. 27, 1995, as amended at 60 FR 37796, July 21, 1995; 63 FR 2349, Jan. 15, 1998; 63 FR 12659, Mar. 16, 1998]

§ 24.713 [Reserved]

§ 24.714 Partitioned licenses and disaggregated spectrum.

(a) *Eligibility.* (1) Parties seeking approval for partitioning and disaggregation shall request an author-

ization for partial assignment of a license pursuant to § 24.839.

(2) Broadband PCS licensees in spectrum blocks A, B, D, and E may apply to partition their licensed geographic service area or disaggregate their licensed spectrum at any time following the grant of their licenses.

(3) Broadband PCS licensees in spectrum blocks C and F may not partition their licensed geographic service area or disaggregate their licensed spectrum for the first five years of the license term unless it is to an entity that meets the eligibility criteria set forth in § 24.709 at the time the request for partial assignment of license is filed or to an entity that holds license(s) for frequency blocks C and F that met the eligibility criteria set forth in § 24.709 at the time of receipt of such license(s). Partial assignment applications seeking partitioning or disaggregation of broadband PCS licenses in spectrum blocks C and F must include an attachment demonstrating compliance with this section.

(b) *Technical standards*—(1) *Partitioning.* In the case of partitioning, requests for authorization for partial assignment of a license must include, as attachments, a description of the partitioned service area and a calculation of the population of the partitioned service area and the licensed geographic service area. The partitioned service area shall be defined by coordinate points at every 3 seconds along the partitioned service area unless an FCC recognized service area is utilized (i.e., Major Trading Area, Basic Trading Area, Metropolitan Service Area, Rural Service Area or Economic Area) or county lines are followed. The geographic coordinates must be specified in degrees, minutes, and seconds to the nearest second of latitude and longitude and must be based upon the 1927 North American Datum (NAD27). Applicants may supply geographical coordinates based on 1983 North American Datum (NAD83) in addition to those required (NAD27). In the case where an FCC recognized service area or county lines are utilized, applicants need only list the specific area(s) (through use of FCC designations or

county names) that constitute the partitioned area.

(2) *Disaggregation.* Spectrum may be disaggregated in any amount.

(3) *Combined partitioning and disaggregation.* The Commission will consider requests for partial assignment of licenses that propose combinations of partitioning and disaggregation.

(c) *Unjust enrichment*—(1) *Installment payments.* Licensees in frequency Blocks C and F making installment payments that partition their licenses or disaggregate their spectrum to entities not meeting the eligibility standards for installment payments, will be subject to the provisions concerning unjust enrichment as set forth in §§1.2111 of this chapter and 24.716(d).

(2) *Bidding credits.* Licensees in frequency Blocks C and F that received a bidding credit and partition their licenses or disaggregate their spectrum to entities not meeting the eligibility standards for such a bidding credit, will be subject to the provisions concerning unjust enrichment as set forth in §§1.2110(f) of this chapter and 24.717(c).

(3) *Apportioning unjust enrichment payments.* Unjust enrichment payments for partitioned license areas shall be calculated based upon the ratio of the population of the partitioned license area to the overall population of the license area and by utilizing the most recent census data. Unjust enrichment payments for disaggregated spectrum shall be calculated based upon the ratio of the amount of spectrum disaggregated to the amount of spectrum held by the licensee.

(d) *Installment payments*—(1) *Apportioning the balance on installment payment plans.* When a winning bidder elects to pay for its license through an installment payment plan pursuant to §§1.2110(e) of this chapter or 24.716, and partitions its licensed area or disaggregates spectrum to another party, the outstanding balance owed by the licensee on its installment payment plan (including accrued and unpaid interest) shall be apportioned between the licensee and partitionee or disaggregatee. Both parties will be responsible for paying their proportionate share of the outstanding bal-

ance to the U.S. Treasury. In the case of partitioning, the balance shall be apportioned based upon the ratio of the population of the partitioned area to the population of the entire original license area calculated based upon the most recent census data. In the case of disaggregation, the balance shall be apportioned based upon the ratio of the amount of spectrum disaggregated to the amount of spectrum allocated to the licensed area.

(2) *Parties not qualified for installment payment plans.* (i) When a winning bidder elects to pay for its license through an installment payment plan, and partitions its license or disaggregates spectrum to another party that would not qualify for an installment payment plan or elects not to pay for its share of the license through installment payments, the outstanding balance owed by the licensee (including accrued and unpaid interest) shall be apportioned according to §24.714(d)(1).

(ii) The partitionee or disaggregatee shall, as a condition of the approval of the partial assignment application, pay its entire pro rata amount within 30 days of Public Notice conditionally granting the partial assignment application. Failure to meet this condition will result in a rescission of the grant of the partial assignment application.

(iii) The licensee shall be permitted to continue to pay its pro rata share of the outstanding balance and shall receive new financing documents (promissory note, security agreement) with a revised payment obligation, based on the remaining amount of time on the original installment payment schedule. These financing documents will replace the licensee's existing financing documents which shall be marked "superseded" and returned to the licensee upon receipt of the new financing documents. The original interest rate, established pursuant to §1.2110(e)(3)(i) of this chapter at the time of the grant of the initial license in the market, shall continue to be applied to the licensee's portion of the remaining government obligation. We will require, as a further condition to approval of the partial assignment application, that the licensee

execute and return to the U.S. Treasury the new financing documents within 30 days of the Public Notice conditionally granting the partial assignment application. Failure to meet this condition will result in the automatic cancellation of the grant of the partial assignment application.

(iv) A default on the licensee's payment obligation will only affect the licensee's portion of the market.

(3) Parties qualified for installment payment plans. (i) Where both parties to a partitioning or disaggregation agreement qualify for installment payments, the partitionee or disaggregatee will be permitted to make installment payments on its portion of the remaining government obligation, as calculated according to §24.714(d)(1).

(ii) Each party will be required, as a condition to approval of the partial assignment application, to execute separate financing documents (promissory note, security agreement) agreeing to pay their pro rata portion of the balance due (including accrued and unpaid interest) based upon the installment payment terms for which they qualify under the rules. The financing documents must be returned to the U.S. Treasury within thirty (30) days of the Public Notice conditionally granting the partial assignment application. Failure by either party to meet this condition will result in the automatic cancellation of the grant of the partial assignment application. The interest rate, established pursuant to §1.2110(e)(3)(i) of this chapter at the time of the grant of the initial license in the market, shall continue to be applied to both parties' portion of the balance due. Each party will receive a license for their portion of the partitioned market or disaggregated spectrum.

(iii) A default on an obligation will only affect that portion of the market area held by the defaulting party.

(iv) Partitionees and disaggregatees that qualify for installment payment plans may elect to pay some of their pro rata portion of the balance due in a lump sum payment to the U.S. Treasury and to pay the remaining portion of the balance due pursuant to an installment payment plan.

(e) *License term.* The license term for a partitioned license area and for disaggregated spectrum shall be the remainder of the original licensee's license term as provided for in §24.15.

(f) *Construction requirements—(1) Requirements for partitioning.* Parties seeking authority to partition must meet one of the following construction requirements:

(i) The partitionee may certify that it will satisfy the applicable construction requirements set forth in §24.203 for the partitioned license area; or

(ii) The original licensee may certify that it has or will meet its five-year construction requirement and will meet the ten-year construction requirement, as set forth in §24.203, for the entire license area. In that case, the partitionee must only satisfy the requirements for "substantial service," as set forth in §24.16(a), for the partitioned license area by the end of the original ten-year license term of the licensee.

(iii) Applications requesting partial assignments of license for partitioning must include a certification by each party as to which of the above construction options they select.

(iv) Partitionees must submit supporting documents showing compliance with the respective construction requirements within the appropriate five- and ten-year construction benchmarks set forth in §24.203.

(v) Failure by any partitionee to meet its respective construction requirements will result in the automatic cancellation of the partitioned or disaggregated license without further Commission action.

(2) *Requirements for disaggregation.* Parties seeking authority to disaggregate must submit with their partial assignment application a certification signed by both parties stating which of the parties will be responsible for meeting the five- and ten-year construction requirements for the PCS market as set forth in §24.203. Parties may agree to share responsibility for meeting the construction requirements. Parties that accept responsibility for meeting the construction requirements and later fail to do so will

§ 24.716

be subject to license forfeiture without further Commission action.

[62 FR 661, Jan. 6, 1997]

§24.716 Upfront payments, down payments, and installment payments for licenses for frequency Block F.

(a) *Upfront Payments and Down Payments.* (1) Each eligible bidder for licenses subject to auction on frequency Block F shall pay an upfront payment as set forth in a Public Notice pursuant to the procedures in §1.2106 of this chapter.

(2) Each winning bidder shall make a down payment and pay the balance of its winning bids pursuant to §1.2107 and §1.2109 of this chapter.

(b) *Installment Payments.* Each eligible licensee of frequency Block F may pay the remaining 80 percent of the net auction price for the license in installment payments pursuant to §1.2110(e) of this chapter and under the following terms:

(1) For an eligible licensee with *gross revenues* exceeding \$75 million (calculated in accordance with §24.709 (a)(2) and (b)) in each of the two preceding years (calculated in accordance with §24.720(f)), interest shall be imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted, plus 3.5 percent; payments shall include both principal and interest amortized over the term of the license;

(2) For an eligible licensee with *gross revenues* not exceeding \$75 million (calculated in accordance with §24.709 (a)(2) and (b)) in each of the two preceding years (calculated in accordance with §24.720(f)), interest shall be imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted, plus 2.5 percent; payments shall include interest only for the first year and payments of interest and principal amortized over the remaining nine years of the license term; or

(3) For an eligible licensee that qualifies as a small business or as a consortium of small businesses, interest shall be imposed based on the rate for ten-year U.S. Treasury obligations applicable on the date the license is granted; payments shall include interest only for the first two years and payments of

interest and principal amortized over the remaining eight years of the license term.

(c) *Late installment payments.* See §1.2110(f)(4) of this chapter.

(d) *Unjust enrichment.* See §1.2111 of this chapter.

[60 FR 37799, July 21, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 33868, July 1, 1996; 63 FR 2349, Jan. 15, 1998; 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50799, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.716 was amended by revising paragraphs (a)(1) and (a)(2), effective Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§24.716 Upfront payments, down payments and installment payments for licenses for frequency Block F.

(a) * * *(1) Each eligible bidder for licenses on frequency Block F subject to auction shall pay an upfront payment of \$0.06 per MHz per pop for the maximum number of licenses (in terms of MHz-pops) on which it intends to bid pursuant to §1.2106 of this chapter and procedures specified by Public Notice;

(2) Each winning bidder shall make a down payment equal to 20 percent of its winning bid (less applicable bidding credits); a winning bidder shall bring its total amount on deposit with the Commission (including upfront payment) to 10 percent of its net winning bid within five business days after the auction closes, and the remainder of the down payment (10 percent) shall be paid within five business days after the application required by §24.809(b) is granted; and

* * * * *

§24.717 Bidding credits for licenses for frequency Block F.

(a) A winning bidder that qualifies as a small business or a consortium of small businesses as defined in §24.720(b)(1) or §24.720(b)(4) of this part may use a bidding credit of fifteen percent, as specified in §1.2110(e)(2)(iii) of this chapter, to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(b) A winning bidder that qualifies as a very small business or a consortium of very small businesses as defined in §24.720(b)(2) or §24.720(b)(5) of this part may use a bidding credit of twenty-five percent, as specified in §1.2110(e)(2)(ii) of this chapter, to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(c) *Unjust enrichment*. See §1.2111 of this chapter.

[63 FR 50800, Sept. 23, 1998]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50800, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.717 was revised, effective Nov. 23, 1998. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§24.717 Bidding credits for licenses for frequency Block F.

(a) A winning bidder that qualifies as a *small business* or a *consortium of small businesses* may use a bidding credit of 15 percent to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(b) A winning bidder that qualifies as a *very small business* or a *consortium of very small businesses* may use a bidding credit of 25 percent to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(c) *Unjust enrichment*. See §1.2111 of this chapter.

[60 FR 37800, July 21, 1995, as amended at 61 FR 33869, July 1, 1996; 63 FR 2349, Jan. 15, 1998]

§24.720 Definitions.

(a) Scope. The definitions in this section apply to §§24.709 through 24.717, unless otherwise specified in those sections.

(b) *Small business; very small business; consortia*. (1) A *small business* is an entity that, together with its *affiliates* and persons or entities that hold interest in such entity and their affiliates, has average annual *gross revenues* that are not more than \$40 million for the preceding three years.

(2) A *very small business* is an entity that, together with its *affiliates* and persons or entities that hold interests in such entity and their *affiliates*, has average annual *gross revenues* that are not more than \$15 million for the preceding three years.

(3) For purposes of determining whether an entity meets the \$40 million average annual *gross revenues* size standard set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section or the \$15 million average annual *gross revenues* size standard set forth in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, the *gross revenues* of the entity, its *affiliates*, persons or entities holding interests in the entity and their *affiliates* shall be considered on a cumulative basis and aggregated subject to the exceptions set forth in §24.709(b).

(4) A *small business consortium* is a conglomerate organization formed as a

joint venture between or among mutually independent business firms, each of which individually satisfies the definition of a *small business* in paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(3) of this section.

(5) A *very small business consortium* is a conglomerate organization formed as a joint venture between or among mutually independent business firms, each of which individually satisfies the definition of a *very small business* in paragraphs (b)(2) and (b)(3) of this section.

(c) *Business Owned by Members of Minority Groups and/or Women*. A *business owned by members of minority groups and/or women* is an entity:

(1) In which the *qualifying investor* members of an applicant's *control group* are members of minority groups and/or women who are United States citizens; and

(2) That complies with the requirements of §24.709 (b)(3) and (b)(5) or §24.709 (b)(4) and (b)(6).

(d) *Small Business Owned by Members of Minority Groups and/or Women; Consortium of Small Businesses Owned by Members of Minority and/or Women*. A *Small business owned by members of minority groups and/or women* is an entity that meets the definitions in both paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section. A *consortium of small businesses owned by members of minority groups and/or women* is a conglomerate organization formed as a joint venture between mutually-independent business firms, each of which individually satisfies the definitions in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section.

(e) *Rural Telephone Company*. A *rural telephone company* is a local exchange carrier operating entity to the extent that such entity:

(1) Provides common carrier service to any local exchange carrier study area that does not include either:

(i) Any incorporated place of 10,000 inhabitants or more, or any part thereof, based on the most recently available population statistics of the Bureau of the Census; or

(ii) Any territory, incorporated or unincorporated, included in an urbanized area, as defined by the Bureau of the Census as of August 10, 1993;

(2) Provides telephone exchange service, including exchange access, to fewer than 50,000 access lines;

(3) Provides telephone exchange service to any local exchange carrier study area with fewer than 100,000 access lines; or

(4) Has less than 15 percent of its access lines in communities of more than 50,000 on the date of enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

(f) *Gross Revenues.* *Gross revenues* shall mean all income received by an entity, whether earned or passive, before any deductions are made for costs of doing business (e.g., cost of goods sold), as evidenced by audited financial statements for the relevant number of most recently completed calendar years, or, if audited financial statements were not prepared on a calendar-year basis, for the most recently completed fiscal years preceding the filing of the applicant's short-form application (Form 175). If an entity was not in existence for all or part of the relevant period, gross revenues shall be evidenced by the audited financial statements of the entity's predecessor-in-interest or, if there is no identifiable predecessor-in-interest, unaudited financial statements certified by the applicant as accurate. When an applicant does not otherwise use audited financial statements, its gross revenues may be certified by its chief financial officer or its equivalent.

(g) *Total Assets.* *Total assets* shall mean the book value (except where generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) require market valuation) of all property owned by an entity, whether real or personal, tangible or intangible, as evidenced by the most recent audited financial statements or certified by the applicant's chief financial officer or its equivalent if the applicant does not otherwise use audited financial statements.

(h) *Institutional Investor.* An *institutional investor* is an insurance company, a bank holding stock in trust accounts through its trust department, or an investment company as defined in 15 U.S.C. 80a-3(a), including within such definition any entity that would otherwise meet the definition of investment company under 15 U.S.C. 80a-3(a) but is excluded by the exemptions set forth in 15 U.S.C. 80a-3 (b) and (c), without regard to whether such entity is an issuer of securities; provided that, if

such investment company is owned, in whole or in part, by other entities, such investment company, such other entities and the *affiliates* of such other entities, taken as a whole, must be primarily engaged in the business of investing, reinvesting or trading in securities or in distributing or providing investment management services for securities.

(i) *Members of Minority Groups.* *Members of minority groups* includes Blacks, Hispanics, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Asians, and Pacific Islanders.

(j) *Nonattributable Equity.* (1) *Nonattributable equity* shall mean:

(i) For corporations, voting stock or non-voting stock that includes no more than twenty-five percent of the total voting equity, including the right to vote such stock through a voting trust or other arrangement;

(ii) For partnerships, joint ventures and other non-corporate entities, limited partnership interests and similar interests that do not afford the power to exercise control of the entity.

(2) For purposes of assessing compliance with the equity limits in §24.709 (b)(3)(i) and (b)(4)(i), where such interests are not held directly in the applicant, the total equity held by a person or entity shall be determined by successive multiplication of the ownership percentages for each link in the vertical ownership chain.

(k) *Control Group.* A *control group* is an entity, or a group of individuals or entities, that possesses *de jure* control and *de facto* control of an applicant or licensee, and as to which the applicant's or licensee's charters, bylaws, agreements and any other relevant documents (and amendments thereto) provide:

(1) That the entity and/or its members own unconditionally at least 50.1 percent of the total voting interests of a corporation;

(2) That the entity and/or its members receive at least 50.1 percent of the annual distribution or any dividends paid on the voting stock of a corporation;

(3) That, in the event of dissolution or liquidation of a corporation, the entity and/or its members are entitled to receive 100 percent of the value of each share of stock in its possession

and a percentage of the retained earnings of the concern that is equivalent to the amount of equity held in the corporation; and

(4) That, for other types of businesses, the entity and/or its members have the right to receive dividends, profits and regular and liquidating distributions from the business in proportion to the amount of equity held in the business.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (K): Voting control does not always assure *de facto* control, such as for example, when the voting stock of the control group is widely dispersed (see e.g., § 24.720(1)(2)(iii)).

(1) *Affiliate.* (1) *Basis for Affiliation.* An individual or entity is an *affiliate* of an applicant or of a person holding an attributable interest in an applicant (both referred to herein as “the applicant”) if such individual or entity:

(i) Directly or indirectly controls or has the power to control the applicant, or

(ii) Is directly or indirectly controlled by the applicant, or

(iii) Is directly or indirectly controlled by a third party or parties that also controls or has the power to control the applicant, or

(iv) Has an “identity of interest” with the applicant.

(2) *Nature of control in determining affiliation.*

(i) Every business concern is considered to have one or more parties who directly or indirectly control or have the power to control it. Control may be affirmative or negative and it is immaterial whether it is exercised so long as the power to control exists.

Example for paragraph (1)(2)(i). An applicant owning 50 percent of the voting stock of another concern would have negative power to control such concern since such party can block any action of the other stockholders. Also, the bylaws of a corporation may permit a stockholder with less than 50 percent of the voting to block any actions taken by the other stockholders in the other entity. Affiliation exists when the applicant has the power to control a concern while at the same time another person, or persons, are in control of the concern at the will of the party or parties with the power of control.

(ii) Control can arise through stock ownership; occupancy of director, officer or key employee positions; contrac-

tual or other business relations; or combinations of these and other factors. A key employee is an employee who, because of his/her position in the concern, has a critical influence in or substantive control over the operations or management of the concern.

(iii) Control can arise through management positions where a concern’s voting stock is so widely distributed that no effective control can be established.

Example for paragraph (1)(2)(iii). In a corporation where the officers and directors own various size blocks of stock totaling 40 percent of the corporation’s voting stock, but no officer or director has a block sufficient to give him or her control or the power to control and the remaining 60 percent is widely distributed with no individual stockholder having a stock interest greater than 10 percent, management has the power to control. If persons with such management control of the other entity are persons with attributable interests in the applicant, the other entity will be deemed an affiliate of the applicant.

(3) *Identity of interest between and among persons.* Affiliation can arise between or among two or more persons with an identity of interest, such as members of the same family or persons with common investments. In determining if the applicant controls or is controlled by a concern, persons with an identity of interest will be treated as though they were one person.

Example 1. Two shareholders in Corporation Y each have attributable interests in the same PCS application. While neither shareholder has enough shares to individually control Corporation Y, together they have the power to control Corporation Y. The two shareholders with these common investments (or identity of interest) are treated as though they are one person and Corporation Y would be deemed an affiliate of the applicant.

Example 2. One shareholder in Corporation Y, shareholder A, has an attributable interest in a PCS application. Another shareholder in Corporation Y, shareholder B, has a nonattributable interest in the same PCS application. While neither shareholder has enough shares to individually control Corporation Y, together they have the power to control Corporation Y. Through the common investment of shareholders A and B in the PCS application, Corporation Y would still be deemed an affiliate of the applicant.

(i) *Spousal Affiliation.* Both spouses are deemed to own or control or have the power to control interests owned or controlled by either of them, unless they are subject to a legal separation recognized by a court of competent jurisdiction in the United States.

(ii) *Kinship Affiliation.* Immediate family members will be presumed to own or control or have the power to control interests owned or controlled by other immediate family members. In this context “immediate family member” means father, mother, husband, wife, son, daughter, brother, sister, father- or mother-in-law, son- or daughter-in-law, brother- or sister-in-law, step-father, or -mother, step-brother, or -sister, step-son, or -daughter, half brother or sister. This presumption may be rebutted by showing that

(A) The family members are estranged,

(B) The family ties are remote, or

(C) The family members are not closely involved with each other in business matters.

Example for paragraph (1)(3)(ii). A owns a controlling interest in Corporation X. A’s sister-in-law, B, has an attributable interest in a PCS application. Because A and B have a presumptive kinship affiliation, A’s interest in Corporation X is attributable to B, and thus to the applicant, unless B rebuts the presumption with the necessary showing.

(4) *Affiliation through stock ownership.*

(i) An applicant is presumed to control or have the power to control a concern if he or she owns or controls or has the power to control 50 percent or more of its voting stock.

(ii) An applicant is presumed to control or have the power to control a concern even though he or she owns, controls or has the power to control less than 50 percent of the concern’s voting stock, if the block of stock he or she owns, controls or has the power to control is large as compared with any other outstanding block of stock.

(iii) If two or more persons each owns, controls or has the power to control less than 50 percent of the voting stock of a concern, such minority holdings are equal or approximately equal in size, and the aggregate of these minority holdings is large as compared with any other stock holding, the pre-

sumption arises that each one of these persons individually controls or has the power to control the concern; however, such presumption may be rebutted by a showing that such control or power to control, in fact, does not exist.

(5) *Affiliation arising under stock options, convertible debentures, and agreements to merge.* Stock options, convertible debentures, and agreements to merge (including agreements in principle) are generally considered to have a present effect on the power to control the concern. Therefore, in making a size determination, such options, debentures, and agreements will generally be treated as though the rights held thereunder had been exercised. However, neither an affiliate nor an applicant can use such options and debentures to appear to terminate its control over another concern before it actually does so.

Example 1 for paragraph (1)(5). If company B holds an option to purchase a controlling interest in company A, who holds an attributable interest in a PCS application, the situation is treated as though company B had exercised its rights and had become owner of a controlling interest in company A. The gross revenues of company B must be taken into account in determining the size of the applicant.

Example 2 for paragraph (1)(5). If a large company, BigCo, holds 70% (70 of 100 outstanding shares) of the voting stock of company A, who holds an attributable interest in a PCS application, and gives a third party, SmallCo, an option to purchase 50 of the 70 shares owned by BigCo, BigCo will be deemed to be an affiliate of company A, and thus the applicant, until SmallCo actually exercises its options to purchase such shares. In order to prevent BigCo from circumventing the intent of the rule which requires such options to be considered on a fully diluted basis, the option is not considered to have present effect in this case.

Example 3 for paragraph (1)(5). If company A has entered into an agreement to merge with company B in the future, the situation is treated as though the merger has taken place.

(6) *Affiliation under voting trusts.* (i) Stock interests held in trust shall be deemed controlled by any person who holds or shares the power to vote such stock, to any person who has the sole power to sell such stock, and to any person who has the right to revoke the

trust at will or to replace the trustee at will.

(ii) If a trustee has a familial, personal or extra-trust business relationship to the grantor or the beneficiary, the stock interests held in trust will be deemed controlled by the grantor or beneficiary, as appropriate.

(iii) If the primary purpose of a voting trust, or similar agreement, is to separate voting power from beneficial ownership of voting stock for the purpose of shifting control of or the power to control a concern in order that such concern or another concern may meet the Commission's size standards, such voting trust shall not be considered valid for this purpose regardless of whether it is or is not recognized within the appropriate jurisdiction.

(7) *Affiliation through common management.* Affiliation generally arises where officers, directors, or key employees serve as the majority or otherwise as the controlling element of the board of directors and/or the management of another entity.

(8) *Affiliation through common facilities.* Affiliation generally arises where one concern shares office space and/or employees and/or other facilities with another concern, particularly where such concerns are in the same or related industry or field of operations, or where such concerns were formerly affiliated, and through these sharing arrangements one concern has control, or potential control, of the other concern.

(9) *Affiliation through contractual relationships.* Affiliation generally arises where one concern is dependent upon another concern for contracts and business to such a degree that one concern has control, or potential control, of the other concern.

(10) *Affiliation under joint venture arrangements.* (i) A joint venture for size determination purposes is an association of concerns and/or individuals, with interests in any degree or proportion, formed by contract, express or implied, to engage in and carry out a single, specific business venture for joint profit for which purpose they combine their efforts, property, money, skill and knowledge, but not on a continuing or permanent basis for conducting business generally. The determination whether an entity is a joint

venture is based upon the facts of the business operation, regardless of how the business operation may be designated by the parties involved. An agreement to share profits/losses proportionate to each party's contribution to the business operation is a significant factor in determining whether the business operation is a joint venture.

(ii) The parties to a joint venture are considered to be affiliated with each other

(11) For purposes of §24.709(a)(2) and paragraphs (b)(2) and (d) of this section, Indian tribes or Alaska Regional or Village Corporations organized pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), or entities owned and controlled by such tribes or corporations, are not considered affiliates of an applicant (or licensee) that is owned and controlled by such tribes, corporations or entities, and that otherwise complies with the requirements of §24.709 (b)(3) and (b)(5) or §24.709 (b)(4) and (b)(6), except that gross revenues derived from gaming activities conducted by affiliated entities pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*) will be counted in determining such applicant's (or licensee's) compliance with the financial requirements of §24.709(a) and paragraphs (b) and (d) of this section, unless such applicant establishes that it will not receive a substantial unfair competitive advantage because significant legal constraints restrict the applicant's ability to access such gross revenues.

(m) *Publicly Traded Corporation with Widely Dispersed Voting Power.* A publicly traded corporation with widely dispersed voting power is a business entity organized under the laws of the United States:

(1) Whose shares, debt, or other ownership interests are traded on an organized securities exchange within the United States;

(2) In which no person

(i) Owns more than 15 percent of the equity; or

(ii) Possesses, directly or indirectly, through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise, the power to control the election of more than 15 percent of the members of the board of directors or other governing

body of such publicly traded corporation; and

(3) Over which no person other than the management and members of the board of directors or other governing body of such publicly traded corporation, in their capacities as such, has *de facto* control.

(4) The term *person* shall be defined as in section 13(d) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (15 U.S.C. 78(m)), and shall also include investors that are commonly controlled under the indicia of control set forth in the definition of *affiliate* in paragraphs (1)(2) through (1) of this section.

(n) *Qualifying Investor; Qualifying Minority and/or Woman Investor.*

(1) A qualifying investor is a person who is (or holds an interest in) a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) control group and whose gross revenues and total assets, when aggregated with those of all other attributable investors and affiliates, do not exceed the gross revenues and total assets limits specified in §24.709(a), or, in the case of an applicant (or licensee) that is a small business, do not exceed the gross revenues limit specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) A *qualifying minority and/or woman investor* is a person who is a *qualifying investor* under paragraph (n)(1), who is (or holds an interest in) a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group* and who is a *member of a minority group* or a woman and a United States citizen.

(3) For purposes of assessing compliance with the minimum equity requirements of §24.709(b) (5) and (6), where such equity interests are not held directly in the applicant, interests held by qualifying investors or qualifying minority and/or woman investors shall be determined by successive multiplication of the ownership percentages for each link in the vertical ownership chain.

(4) For purposes of §24.709 (b)(5)(i)(C) and (b)(6)(i)(C), a qualifying investor is a person who is (or holds an interest in) a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) control group and whose gross revenues and total assets do not exceed the gross revenues and total assets limits specified in §24.709(a).

(o) *Preexisting entity; Existing investor.* A *preexisting entity* is an entity that was operating and earning revenues for at least two years prior to December 31, 1994. An *existing investor* is a person or entity that was an owner of record of a *preexisting entity's* equity as of November 10, 1994, and any person or entity acquiring *de minimus* equity holdings in a *preexisting entity* after that date.

NOTE: In applying the term *existing investor* to *de minimus* interests in preexisting entities obtained or increased after November 10, 1994, the Commission will scrutinize any significant restructuring of the preexisting entity that occurs after that date and will presume that any change of equity that is five percent or less of the preexisting entity's total equity is *de minimis*. The burden is on the applicant (or licensee) to demonstrate that changes that exceed five percent are not significant.

[59 FR 63236, Dec. 7, 1994; 60 FR 5335, Jan 27, 1995; 60 FR 8571, 8572, Feb. 15, 1995, as amended at 60 FR 37800, July 21, 1995; 61 FR 33869, July 1, 1996; 61 FR 51234, Oct. 1, 1996]

Subpart I—Interim Application, Licensing, and Processing Rules for Broadband PCS

SOURCE: 59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§§ 24.801–24.802 [Reserved]

§24.803 Authorization required.

No person shall use or operate any device for the transmission of energy or communications by radio in the services authorized by this part except as provided in this part.

§24.804 Eligibility.

(a) General. Authorizations will be granted upon proper application if:

(1) The applicant is qualified under all applicable laws and Commission regulations, policies and decisions;

(2) There are frequencies available to provide satisfactory service; and

(3) The public interest, convenience or necessity would be served by a grant.

(b) Alien ownership. A broadband PCS authorization to provide Commercial Mobile Radio Service may not be granted to or held by:

(1) Any alien or the representative of any alien.

(2) Any corporation organized under the laws of any foreign government.

(3) Any corporation of which more than one-fifth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens or their representatives or by a foreign government or representative thereof or any corporation organized under the laws of another country.

(4) Any corporation directly or indirectly controlled by any other corporation of which more than one-fourth of the capital stock is owned of record or voted by aliens, their representatives, or by a foreign government or representative thereof, or by any corporation organized under the laws of a foreign country, if the Commission finds that the public interest will be served by the refusal or revocation of such a license.

(c) A broadband PCS authorization to provide Private Mobile Radio Service may not be granted to or held by a foreign government or a representative thereof.

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 61 FR 55581, Oct. 28, 1996]

§ 24.805 Formal and informal applications.

(a) Except for an authorization under any of the conditions stated in Section 308(a) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. §308(a)), the Commission may grant the following authorizations only upon written application received by it: station licenses; modifications of licenses; renewals of licenses; transfers and assignments of station licenses, or any right thereunder.

(b) Except as may be otherwise permitted by this part, a separate written application shall be filed for each instrument of authorization requested. Applications may be:

(1) "Formal applications" where the Commission has prescribed in this part a standard form; or

(2) "Informal applications" (normally in letter form) where the Commission has not prescribed a standard form.

(c) An informal application will be accepted for filing only if:

(1) A standard form is not prescribed or clearly applicable to the authorization requested;

(2) It is a document submitted, in duplicate, with a caption which indicates clearly the nature of the request, radio service involved, location of the station, and the application file number (if known); and

(3) It contains all the technical details and informational showings required by the rules and states clearly and completely the facts involved and authorization desired.

§ 24.806 Filing of broadband PCS applications; fees; numbers of copies.

(a) As prescribed by §§24.705, 24.707 and 24.809, standard formal application forms applicable to broadband PCS may be obtained from either:

(1) Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554; or

(2) By calling the Commission's Forms Distribution Center, (202) 632-3676.

(b) Applications to participate in competitive bidding for broadband PCS service must be filed on FCC Form 175 in accordance with the rules in §24.705 and part 1, subpart Q of this chapter. In the event of mutual exclusivity between applicants filing FCC Form 175, only auction winners will be eligible to file subsequent long-form applications on FCC Form 600 to provide broadband PCS service. Mutually exclusive applications filed on FCC Form 175 are subject to competitive bidding under those rules. Broadband PCS applicants filing FCC Form 600 need not complete Schedule B.

(c) All applications for broadband PCS licenses (other than applications to participate in competitive bidding filed on FCC Form 175) shall be submitted for filing to: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554, Attention: Broadband PCS Processing Section.

Applications requiring fees as set forth at part 1, subpart G of this chapter must be filed in accordance with §0.401(b) of this chapter.

(d) All correspondence or amendments concerning a submitted application shall clearly identify the name of the applicant, applicant identification number or Commission file number (if

known) or station call sign of the application involved, and may be sent directly to the Common Carrier Bureau, Broadband PCS Processing Section.

(e) Except as otherwise specified, all applications, amendments, correspondence, pleadings and forms (including FCC Form 175) shall be submitted on one original paper copy and with three microfiche copies, including exhibits and attachments thereto, and shall be signed as prescribed by §1.743 of this chapter. Filings of five pages or less are exempt from the requirement to submit on microfiche, as are emergency filings such as letters requesting special temporary authority. Those filing any amendments, correspondence, pleadings and forms must simultaneously submit the original hard copy which must be stamped “original”. Abbreviations may be used if they are easily understood. In addition to the original hard copy, those filing pleadings, including pleadings under §1.2108 of this chapter, shall also submit two paper copies as provided in §1.51 of this chapter.

(1) Microfiche copies. Each microfiche copy must be a copy of the signed original. Each microfiche copy shall be a 148mm x 105mm negative (clear transparent characters appearing on an opaque background) at 24x to 27x reduction for microfiche or microfiche jackets. One of the microfiche sets must be a silver halide camera master or a copy made on silver halide film such as Kodak Direct Duplicatory Film. The microfiche must be placed in paper microfiche envelopes and submitted in a B6 (125 mm x 176 mm) or 5 x 7.5 inch envelope. All applicants must leave Row “A” (the first row for page images) of the first fiche blank for in-house identification purposes. Each microfiche copy of pleadings shall include:

- (i) The month and year of the document;
- (ii) The name of the document;
- (iii) The name of the filing party;
- (iv) The file number, applicant identification number, and call sign, if assigned;
- (v) The identification number and date of the Public Notice announcing the auction in response to which the application was filed (if applicable).

(2) All applications and all amendments must have the following information printed on the mailing envelope, the microfiche envelope, and on the title area at the top of the microfiche:

- (i) The name of the applicant;
- (ii) The type of application (*e.g.*, 30 MHz MTA, 30 MHz BTA, 10 MHz BTA);
- (iii) The month and year of the document;
- (iv) The name of the document;
- (v) The file number, applicant identification number, and call sign, if assigned; and
- (vi) The identification number and date of the Public Notice announcing the auction in response to which the application was filed (if applicable).

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§§ 24.807–24.808 [Reserved]

§24.809 Standard application forms and permissive changes or minor modifications for the broadband Personal Communications Services.

(a) Applications to participate in competitive bidding for broadband PCS licenses must be filed on FCC Forms 175 and 175-S.

(b) Subsequent application by auction winners or non-mutually exclusive applicants for broadband PCS licenses under part 24. FCC Form 600 (“Application for New or Modified Common Carrier Radio Station Under Part 22”) shall be submitted by each auction winner for each broadband PCS license applied for on FCC Form 175. In the event that mutual exclusivity does not exist with respect to a license identified on an applicant’s FCC Form 175, the Commission will so inform the applicant and the applicant will also file FCC Form 600. Blanket licenses are granted for each market frequency block. Applications for individual sites are not needed and will not be accepted. *See* §24.11. Broadband PCS applicants filing FCC Form 600 need not complete Schedule B.

(c) Extensions of time and reinstatement. When a licensee cannot complete construction in accordance with the provisions of §24.203, a timely application for extension of time (FCC Form 489) must be filed.

(d) License for mobile subscriber station—These stations are considered to be associated with and covered by the authorization issued to the carrier serving the land mobile station. No additional authorization is required.

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§ 24.810 [Reserved]

§ 24.811 Miscellaneous forms.

(a) *Licensee qualifications.* FCC Form 430 (“Common Carrier and Satellite Radio Licensee Qualifications Report”) shall be filed by broadband Personal Communications Service licensees only as required by Form 490 (Application for Assignment or Transfer of Control Under Part 22).

(b) *Renewal of station license.* Except for renewal of special temporary authorizations, FCC Form 405 (“Application for Renewal of Station License”) must be filed in duplicate by the licensee between thirty (30) and sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date of the license sought to be renewed.

§ 24.812 [Reserved]

§ 24.813 General application requirements.

(a) Each application (including applications filed on Forms 175 and 600) for a broadband PCS license or for consent to assign or transfer control of a broadband PCS license shall disclose fully the real party or parties in interest and must include in an exhibit the following information:

(1) A list of any business, holding or applying for CMRS or PMRS licenses, five percent or more of whose stock, warrants, options or debt securities are owned by the applicant or an officer, director, attributable stockholder or key management personnel of the applicant. This list must include a description of each such business’ principal business and a description of each such business’ relationship to the applicant.

(2) A list of any party which holds a five percent or more interest (or a ten percent or more interest for institutional investors as defined in § 24.720(h)) in the applicant, or any entity holding or applying for CMRS or PMRS li-

censes in which a five percent or more interest (or a ten percent or more interest for institutional investors as defined in § 24.720(h)) is held by another party which holds a five percent or more interest (or a ten percent or more interest for institutional investors as defined in § 24.720(h)) in the applicant (e.g. If Company A owns 5% of Company B (the applicant) and 5% of Company C, a company holding or applying for CMRS or PMRS licenses, then Companies A and C must be listed on Company B’s applications.)

(3) A list of the names, addresses, citizenship and principal business of any person holding five percent or more of each class of stock, warrants, options or debt securities together with the amount and percentage held, and the name, address, citizenship and principal place of business of any person on whose account, if other than the holder, such interest is held. If any of these persons are related by blood or marriage, include such relationship in the statement.

(4) In the case of partnerships, the name and address of each partner, each partner’s citizenship and the share or interest participation in the partnership. This information must be provided for all partners, regardless of their respective ownership interest in the partnership.

(b) Each application for a broadband PCS license must:

(1) Submit the information required by the Commission’s Rules, requests and application forms;

(2) Be maintained by the applicant substantially accurate and complete in all significant respects in accordance with the provisions of § 1.65 of this chapter.

(3) Show compliance with and make all special showings that may be applicable;

(c) Where documents, exhibits, or other lengthy showings already on file with the Commission contain information which is required by an application form, the application may specifically refer to such information, if:

(1) The information previously filed is over one A4 (21 cm x 29.7 cm) or 8.5 x 11 inch (21.6 cm x 27.9 cm) page in length, and all information referenced therein is current and accurate in all

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significant respects under §1.65 of this chapter; and

(2) The reference states specifically where the previously filed information can actually be found, including mention of:

(i) The station call sign or application file number whenever the reference is to station files or previously filed applications; and

(ii) The title of the proceeding, the docket number, and any legal citations, whenever the reference is to a docketed proceeding.

However, question on an application form which call for specific technical data, or which can be answered by a "yes" or "no" or other short answer shall be answered as appropriate and shall not be cross-referenced to a previous filing.

(d) In addition to the general application requirements of subpart F and §§1.2105 of this chapter, 24.813 and 24.815, applicants shall submit any additional documents, exhibits, or signed written statements of fact:

(1) As may be required by these rules; and

(2) As the Commission, at any time after the filing of an application and during the term of any authorization, may require from any applicant, permittee or licensee to enable it to determine whether a radio authorization should be granted, denied or revoked.

(e) Except when the Commission has declared explicitly to the contrary, an informational requirement does not in itself imply the processing treatment of decisional weight to be accorded the response.

(f) All applicants (except applicants filing FCC Form 175) are required to indicate at the time their application is filed whether or not a Commission grant of the application may have a significant environmental impact as defined by §1.1307 of this chapter. If answered affirmatively, the requisite environmental assessment as prescribed in §1.1311 of this chapter must be filed with the application and Commission environmental review must be completed prior to construction. See §1.1312 of this chapter. All broadband PCS licensees are subject to continuing obligation to determine whether subsequent construction may have a signifi-

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cant environmental impact prior to undertaking such construction and to otherwise comply with §§1.1301 through 1.1319 of this chapter. See §1.1312 of this chapter.

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 53371, Oct. 24, 1994; 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994; 60 FR 13917, Mar. 15, 1995; 61 FR 33870, July 1, 1996]

§24.814 [Reserved]

§24.815 Technical content of applications; maintenance of list of station locations.

(a) All applications required by this part shall contain all technical information required by the application forms or associated Public Notice(s). Applications other than initial applications for a broadband PCS license must also comply with all technical requirements of the rules governing the broadband PC (see subparts C and E of this part as appropriate). The following paragraphs describe a number of general technical requirements.

(b) Each application (except applications for initial licenses filed on Form 175) for a license for broadband PCS must comply with the provisions of §§24.229-24.238 of the Commission's Rules.

(c)-(i) [Reserved]

(j) The location of the transmitting antenna shall be considered to be the station location. Broadband PCS licensees must maintain a current list of all station locations, which must describe the transmitting antenna site by its geographical coordinates and also by conventional reference to street number, landmark, or the equivalent. All such coordinates shall be specified in terms of degrees, minutes, and seconds to the nearest second of latitude and longitude.

§§24.816-24.818 [Reserved]

24.819 Waiver of rules.

(a) Requests for waiver.

(1) A waiver of these rules may be granted upon application or by the Commission on its own motion. Requests for waivers shall contain a statement of reason sufficient to justify a waiver. Waivers will not be granted except upon an affirmative showing:

(i) That the underlying purpose of the rule will not be served, or would be frustrated, by its application in a particular case, and that grant of the waiver is otherwise in the public interest; or

(ii) That the unique facts and circumstances of a particular case render application of the rule inequitable, unduly burdensome or otherwise contrary to the public interest. Applicants must also show the lack of a reasonable alternative.

(2) If the information necessary to support a waiver request is already on file, the applicant may cross-reference to the specific filing where it may be found.

(b) Denial of waiver, alternate showing required. If a waiver is not granted, the application will be dismissed as defective unless the applicant has also provided an alternative proposal which complies with the Commission's rules (including any required showings).

§ 24.820 Defective applications.

(a) Unless the Commission shall otherwise permit, an application will be unacceptable for filing and will be returned to the applicant with a brief statement as to the omissions or discrepancies if:

(1) The application is defective with respect to completeness of answers to questions, informational showings, execution or other matters of a formal character; or

(2) The application does not comply with the Commission's rules, regulations, specific requirements for additional information or other requirements. *See also* § 1.2105 of this chapter.

(b) Some examples of common deficiencies which result in defective applications under paragraph (a) of this section are:

(1) The application is not filled out completely and signed;

(2)-(4) [Reserved]

(5) The application (other an application filed on FCC Form 175) does not include an environmental assessment as required for an action that may have a significant impact upon the environment, as defined in § 1.1307 of this chapter.

(6) [Reserved]

(7) The application is filed prior to the Public Notice issued under § 24.705, announcing the application filing date for the relevant auction or after the cutoff date prescribed in that Public Notice.

(c) [Reserved]

(d) If an applicant is requested by the Commission to file any documents or any supplementary or explanatory information not specifically required in the prescribed application form, a failure to comply with such request within a specified time period will be deemed to render the application defective and will subject it to dismissal.

§ 24.821 Inconsistent or conflicting applications.

While an application is pending and undecided, no subsequent inconsistent or conflicting application may be filed by the same applicant, its successor or assignee, or on behalf or for the benefit of the same applicant, its successor or assignee.

§ 24.822 Amendment of application to participate in auction for licenses in the broadband Personal Communications Services filed on FCC Form 175.

(a) The Commission will provide bidders a limited opportunity to cure defects in FCC Form 175 specified herein except for failure to sign the application and to make certifications, defects which may not be cured. *See also* § 1.2105 of this chapter.

(b) In broadband PCS, applicants will be permitted to amend their Form 175 applications to make minor amendments to correct minor errors or defects such as typographical errors. Applicants will also be permitted to amend FCC Form 175 to make changes to the information required by § 24.813(a) (such as ownership changes or changes in the identification of parties to bidding consortia), provided such changes do not result in a change in control of the applicant and do not involve another applicant (or parties in interest to an applicant) who has applied for licenses in any of the same geographic license areas as the applicant. Amendments which change control of the applicant will be considered major amendments. An FCC Form 175 which is amended by a major amendment will

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be considered to be newly filed and cannot be resubmitted after applicable filing deadlines. *See also* §1.2105 of this chapter.

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 53371, Oct. 24, 1994]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 63 FR 50800, Sept. 23, 1998, §24.822 was removed, effective Nov. 23, 1998.

§24.823 Amendment of applications for licenses in the broadband Personal Communications Services (other than applications filed on FCC Form 175).

(a) *Amendments as of right.* A pending application may be amended as a matter of right if the application has not been designated for hearing.

(1) Amendments shall comply with §24.829, as applicable; and

(2) Amendments which resolve interference conflicts or amendments under §24.829 may be filed at any time.

(b) The Commission or the presiding officer may grant requests to amend an application designated for hearing only if a written petition demonstrating good cause is submitted and properly served upon the parties of record.

(c) *Major amendments, minor amendments.* The Commission will classify all amendments as minor except in the cases listed below. An amendment shall be deemed to be a major amendment subject to §24.827 if it proposes a substantial change in ownership or control.

(d) If a petition to deny (or other formal objection) has been filed, any amendment, request for waiver or other written communication shall be served on the petitioner, unless waiver of this requirement is granted pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section. *See also* §1.2108 of this Chapter.

(e) The Commission may waive the service requirements of paragraph (d) of this section and prescribe such alternative procedures as may be appropriate under the circumstances to protect petitioners' interests and to avoid undue delay in a proceeding, if an applicant submits a request for waiver which demonstrates that the service requirement is unreasonably burdensome.

(f) Any amendment to an application shall be signed and shall be submitted

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in the same manner, and with the same number of copies, as was the original application. Amendments may be made in letter form if they comply in all other respects with the requirements of this chapter.

(g) An application will be considered to be a newly-filed application if it is amended by a major amendment (as defined in this section), except in the following circumstances:

(1)–(2) [Reserved]

(3) The amendment reflects only a change in ownership or control found by the Commission to be in the public interest;

(4) [Reserved]

(5) The amendment corrects typographical transcription or similar clerical errors which are clearly demonstrated to be mistakes by reference to other parts of the application, and whose discovery does not create new or increased frequency conflicts.

§24.824 [Reserved]

§24.825 Application for temporary authorizations.

(a) In circumstances requiring immediate or temporary use of facilities, request may be made for special temporary authority to install and/or operate new or modified equipment. Any such request may be submitted as an informal application in the manner set forth in §24.805 and must contain full particulars as to the proposed operation including all facts sufficient to justify the temporary authority sought and the public interest therein. No such request will be considered unless the request is received by the Commission at least 10 days prior to the date of proposed construction or operation or, where an extension is sought, at least 10 days prior to the expiration date of the existing temporary authorization. The Commission may accept a late-filed request upon due showing of sufficient reasons for the delay in submitting such request.

(b) Special temporary authorizations may be granted without regard to the 30-day public notice requirements of §24.827(b) when:

(1) The authorization is for a period not to exceed 30 days and no application for regular operation is contemplated to be filed;

(2) The authorization is for a period not to exceed 60 days pending the filing of an application for such regular operation;

(3) The authorization is to permit interim operation to facilitate completion of authorized construction or to provide substantially the same service as previously authorized; or

(4) The authorization is made upon a finding that there are extraordinary circumstances requiring operation in the public interest and that delay in the institution of such service would seriously prejudice the public interest.

(c) Temporary authorizations of operation not to exceed 180 days may be granted under the standards of Section 309(f) of the Communications Act where extraordinary circumstances so require. Extensions of the temporary authorization for a period of 180 days each may also be granted, but the applicant bears a heavy burden to show that extraordinary circumstances warrant such an extension.

(d) In cases of emergency found by the Commission, involving danger to life or property or due to damage of equipment, or during a national emergency proclaimed by the president or declared by the Congress or during the continuance of any war in which the United States is engaged and when such action is necessary for the national defense or safety or otherwise in furtherance of the war effort, or in cases of emergency where the Commission finds that it would not be feasible to secure renewal applications from existing licensees or otherwise to follow normal licensing procedure, the Commission will grant radio station authorizations and station licenses, or modifications or renewals thereof, during the emergency found by the Commission or during the continuance of any such national emergency or war, as special temporary licenses, only for the period of emergency or war requiring such action, without the filing of formal applications.

§24.826 Receipt of application; Applications in the broadband Personal Communications Services filed on FCC Form 175 and other applications in the broadband Personal Communications Services.

(a) All applications for the initial provision of broadband PCS must be submitted on FCC Forms 175 and 175-S. Mutually exclusive initial applications in the broadband Personal Communications Services are subject to competitive bidding. FCC Form 600 ("Application for New or Modified Common Carrier Radio Station Under Part 22") must be submitted by each winning bidder for each broadband PCS license for which application was made on FCC Form 175. In the event that mutual exclusivity does not exist between applicants for a broadband PCS license that have filed FCC Form 175, the sole applicant will be required to file FCC Form 401. The aforementioned Forms 175, 175-S, and 401 are subject to the provisions of 47 CFR part 1, subpart Q ("Competitive Bidding Proceedings") and subpart H of this part. Blanket licenses are granted for each market frequency block. Applications for individual sites are not needed and will not be accepted. *See* §24.11.

(b) Applications received for filing are given a file number. The assignment of a file number to an application is merely for administrative convenience and does not indicate the acceptance of the application for filing and processing. Such assignment of a file number will not preclude the subsequent return or dismissal of the application if it is found to be not in accordance with the Commission's Rules.

(c) Acceptance of an application for filing merely means that it has been the subject of a preliminary review as to completeness. Such acceptance will not preclude the subsequent return or dismissal of the application if it is found to be defective or not in accordance with the Commission's rules. (*See* §24.813 for additional information concerning the filing of applications.)

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§24.827 Public notice period.

(a) At regular intervals, the Commission will issue a public notice listing:

(1) The acceptance for filing of all applications and major amendments thereto;

(2) Significant Commission actions concerning applications listed as acceptable for filing;

(3) Information which the Commission in its discretion believes of public significance. Such notices are intended solely for the purpose of informing the public and do not create any rights in an applicant or any other person.

(4) Special environmental considerations as required by part 1 of this chapter.

(b) The Commission will not grant any application until expiration of a period of thirty (30) days following the issuance date of a public notice listing the application, or any major amendments thereto, as acceptable for filing; provided, however, that the Commission will not grant an application filed on Form 600 filed either by a winning bidder or by an applicant whom Form 175 application is not mutually exclusive with other applicants, until the expiration of a period of forty (40) days following the issuance of a public notice listing the application, or any major amendments thereto, as acceptable filing. *See also §1.2108 of this chapter.*

(c) As an exception to paragraphs (a)(1), (a)(2) and (b) of this section, the public notice provisions are not applicable to applications:

(1) For authorization of a minor technical change in the facilities of an authorized station where such a change would not be classified as a major amendment (as defined by §24.823) were such a change to be submitted as an amendment to a pending application;

(2) For issuance of a license subsequent to a radio station authorization or, pending application for a grant of such license, any special or temporary authorization to permit interim operation to facilitate completion of authorized construction or to provide substantially the same service as would be authorized by such license;

(3) For extension of time to complete construction of authorized facilities (*see* §24.203;

(4) For temporary authorization pursuant to §24.825(b);

(5) [Reserved]

(6) For an authorization under any of the proviso clauses of Section 308(a) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 308(a));

(7) For consent to an involuntary assignment or transfer of control of a radio authorization; or

(8) For consent to a voluntary assignment or transfer of control of a radio authorization, where the assignment or transfer does not involve a substantial change in ownership or control.

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 59957, Nov. 21, 1994]

§24.828 Dismissal and return of applications.

(a) Except as provided under §24.829, any application may be dismissed without prejudice as a matter of right if the applicant requests its dismissal prior to designation for hearing or, in the case of applications filed on Forms 175 and 175-S, prior to auction. An applicant's request for the return of his application after it has been accepted for filing will be considered to be a request for dismissal without prejudice. Applicants requesting dismissal of their applications may be subject to penalties contained in §1.2104 of this chapter. Requests for dismissal shall comply with the provisions of §24.829 as appropriate.

(b) A request to dismiss an application without prejudice will be considered after designation for hearing only if:

(1) A written petition is submitted to the Commission and is properly served upon all parties of record, and

(2) The petition complies with the provisions of §24.829 (whenever applicable) and demonstrates good cause.

(c) The Commission will dismiss an application for failure to prosecute or for failure to respond substantially within a specified time period to official correspondence or requests for additional information. Dismissal shall be without prejudice if made prior to designation for hearing or prior to auction, but dismissal may be made with prejudice for unsatisfactory compliance with §24.829 or after designation for hearing or after the applicant is notified that it is the winning bidder under the auction process.

§24.829 Ownership changes and agreements to amend or to dismiss applications or pleadings.

(a) Applicability. Subject to the provisions of §1.2105 of this chapter (Bidding Application and Certification Procedures; Prohibition of Collusion), this section applies to applicants and all other parties interested in pending applications who wish to resolve contested matters among themselves with a formal or an informal agreement or understanding. This section applies only when the agreement or understanding will result in:

(1) A major change in the ownership of an applicant to which §§24.823(c) and 24.823(g) apply or which would cause the applicant to lose its status as a designated entity under §24.709, or

(2) The individual or mutual withdrawal, amendment or dismissal of any pending application amendment, petition or other pleading.

(b) The provisions of §22.927 of the Commission's Rules will apply in the event of the filing of petitions to deny or other pleadings or informal objections filed against broadband PCS applications. The provisions of §22.928 of the Commission's Rules will apply in the event of dismissal of broadband PCS applications. The provisions of §22.929 of the Commission's Rules will apply in the event of threats to file petitions to deny or other pleadings or informal objections against broadband PCS applications.

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 53371, Oct. 24, 1994]

§24.830 Opposition to applications.

(a) Petitions to deny (including petitions for other forms of relief) and responsive pleadings for Commission consideration must comply with §1.2108 of this chapter and must:

(1) Identify the application or applications (including applicant's name, station location, Commission file numbers and radio service involved) with which it is concerned;

(2) Be filed in accordance with the pleading limitations, filing periods, and other applicable provisions of §§1.41 through 1.52 of this chapter except where otherwise provided in §1.2108 of this chapter;

(3) Contain specific allegations of fact which, except for facts of which official notice may be taken, shall be supported by affidavit of a person or persons with personal knowledge thereof, and which shall be sufficient to demonstrate that the petitioner (or respondent) is a party in interest and that a grant of, or other Commission action regarding, the application would be *prima facie* inconsistent with the public interest;

(4) Be filed within thirty (30) days after the date of public notice announcing the acceptance for filing of any such application or major amendment thereto (unless the Commission otherwise extends the filing deadline); and

(5) Contain a certificate of service showing that it has been mailed to the applicant no later than the date of filing thereof with the Commission.

(b) A petition to deny a major amendment to a previously-filed application may only raise matters directly related to the amendment which could not have been raised in connection with the underlying previously-filed application. This subsection does not apply, however, to petitioners who gain standing because of the major amendment.

§24.831 Mutually exclusive applications.

(a) The Commission will consider applications for broadband PCS licenses to be mutually exclusive if they relate to the same geographical boundaries (MTA or BTA) and are timely filed for the same frequency block.

(b) Mutually exclusive applications filed on Form 175 for the initial provision of broadband PCS are subject to competitive bidding in accordance with the procedures in subpart H of this part and in part 1, subpart Q of this chapter.

(c) An application will be entitled to comparative consideration with one or more conflicting applications only if the Commission determines that such comparative consideration will serve the public interest.

(d)-(j) [Reserved]

§24.832 Consideration of applications.

(a) Applications for an instrument of authorization will be granted if, upon examination of the application and

upon consideration of such other matters as it may officially notice, the Commission finds that the grant will serve the public interest, convenience and necessity. *See also* §1.2108 of this chapter.

(b) The grant shall be without a formal hearing if, upon consideration of the application, any pleadings or objections filed, or other matters which may be officially noticed, the Commission finds that:

(1) The application is acceptable for filing and is in accordance with the Commission's rules, regulations and other requirements;

(2) The application is not subject to a post-auction hearing or to comparative consideration pursuant to §24.831 with another application(s);

(3) A grant of the application would not cause harmful electrical interference to an authorized station;

(4) There are no substantial and material questions of fact presented; and

(5) The applicant is qualified under current FCC regulations and policies.

(c) If the Commission should grant without a formal hearing an application for an instrument of authorization which is subject to a petition to deny filed in accordance with §24.830, the Commission will deny the petition by the issuance of a Memorandum Opinion and Order which will concisely state the reasons for the denial and dispose of all substantial issues raised by the petition.

(d) Whenever the Commission, without a formal hearing, grants any application in part, or subject to any terms or conditions other than those normally applied to applications of the same type, it shall inform the applicant of the reasons therefor, and the grant shall be considered final unless the Commission revises its action (either by granting the application as originally requested, or by designating the application for a formal evidentiary hearing) in response to a petition for reconsideration which:

(1) Is filed by the applicant within thirty (30) days from the date of the letter or order giving the reasons for the partial or conditioned grant;

(2) Rejects the grant as made and explains the reasons why the application

should be granted as originally requested; and

(3) Returns the instrument of authorization.

(e) The Commission will designate an application for a formal hearing, specifying with particularity the matters and things in issue, if upon consideration of the application, any pleadings or objections filed or other matters which may be officially noticed, the Commission determines that:

(1) A substantial and material question of fact is presented (*see also* §1.2108 of this Chapter);

(2) The Commission is unable for any reason to make the findings specified in paragraph (a) of this section and the application is acceptable for filing, complete and in accordance with the Commission's rules, regulations and other requirements; or

(3) The application is entitled to comparative consideration (under §24.831) with another application (or applications).

(f) The Commission may grant, deny or take other action with respect to an application designated for a formal hearing pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section or part 1 of this chapter.

(g) [Reserved]

(h) Reconsideration or review of any final action taken by the Commission will be in accordance with subpart A of part 1 of this chapter.

§24.833 Post-auction divestitures.

Any parties sharing a common non-controlling ownership interest who aggregate more PCS spectrum among them than a single entity is entitled to hold (*See* §§20.6(e), 24.710, 24.204, 24.229(c) of this chapter) will be permitted to divest sufficient properties within 90 days of the license grant to come into compliance with the spectrum aggregation limits as follows:

(a) The broadband PCS applicant shall submit a signed statement with its long-form application stating that sufficient properties will be divested within 90 days of the license grant. If the licensee is otherwise qualified, the Commission will grant the applications subject to a condition that the licensee come into compliance with the PCS spectrum aggregation limits within 90 days of grant.

(b) Within 90 days of license grant, the licensee must certify that the applicant and all parties to the application have come into compliance with the PCS spectrum aggregation limits. If the licensee fails to submit the certification within 90 days, the Commission will immediately cancel all broadband PCS licenses won by the applicant, impose the default penalty and, based on the facts presented, take any other action it may deem appropriate. Divestiture may be to an interim trustee if a buyer has not been secured in the required time frame, as long as the applicant has no interest in or control of the trustee, and the trustee may dispose of the property as it sees fit. In no event may the trustee retain the property for longer than six months from grant of license.

[59 FR 53371, Oct. 24, 1994]

§§ 24.834–24.838 [Reserved]

§ 24.839 Transfer of control or assignment of license.

(a) *Approval required.* Authorization shall be transferred or assigned to another party, voluntarily (for example, by contract) or involuntarily (for example, by death, bankruptcy or legal disability), directly or indirectly or by transfer of control of any corporation holding such authorization, only upon application and approval by the Commission. A transfer of control or assignment of station authorization in the broadband Personal Communications Service is also subject to §§ 24.711(e), 24.712(d), 24.713(b), 24.717(c) (unjust enrichment) and 1.2111(a) (reporting requirement).

(1) *Forbearance from pro forma assignments and transfers of control.* PCS licensees that are telecommunications carriers as defined in 47 U.S.C. 153 are subject to streamlined procedures for *pro forma*, i.e., non-substantial, transfers and assignments.

(2) A *pro forma* assignee or transferee is not required to seek prior FCC approval for the transaction, but must notify the FCC no later than 30 days after the event causing the assignment or transfer, either by filing an FCC Form 490 or in letter form. If a letter is submitted, it must contain a certification that the transfer or assignment

is non-substantial and, together with all previous non-substantial transactions, does not involve a change in the licensee's ultimate control. A single letter may be filed for a transfer or assignment of control of more than one authorization if each authorization affected is identified by call sign in the letter. Licensees must concurrently update ownership information on their FCC Form 430, if necessary.

(b) *Forms required.* (1) Assignment. (i) FCC Form 490 shall be filed to assign a license or permit.

(ii) In the case of involuntary assignment, FCC Form 490 shall be filed within thirty (30) days following the event giving rise to the assignment.

(2) Transfer of control.

(i) FCC Form 490 shall be submitted in order to transfer control of a corporation holding a license or permit.

(ii) In the case of involuntary transfer of control, FCC Form 490 shall be filed within thirty (30) days following the event giving rise to the transfer.

(3) Form 430. Whenever an application must be filed under paragraphs (a)(1) or (2) of this section, the assignee or transferee shall file FCC Form 430 ("Common Carrier Radio License Qualification Report") unless an accurate report is on file with the Commission.

(4) Notification of completion. The Commission shall be notified by letter of the date of completion of the assignment or transfer of control.

(5) If the transfer of control of a license is approved, the new licensee is held to the original construction requirement of § 24.203.

(c) In acting upon applications for transfer of control or assignment, the Commission will not consider whether the public interest, convenience and necessity might be served by the transfer or assignment of the authorization to a person other than the proposed transferee or assignee.

(d) *Restrictions on Assignments and Transfers of Licenses for Frequency Blocks C and F.* No assignment or transfer of control of a license for frequency Block C or frequency Block F will be granted unless—

(1) The application for assignment or transfer of control is filed after five years from the date of the initial license grant; or

(2) The proposed assignee or transferee meets the eligibility criteria set forth in §24.709 at the time the application for assignment or transfer of control is filed, or the proposed assignee or transferee holds other license(s) for frequency blocks C and F and, at the time of receipt of such license(s), met the eligibility criteria set forth in §24.709;

(3) The application is for partial assignment of a partitioned service area to a rural telephone company pursuant to §24.714 and the proposed assignee meets the eligibility criteria set forth in §24.709;

(4) The application is for an involuntary assignment or transfer of control to a bankruptcy trustee appointed under involuntary bankruptcy, an independent receiver appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction in a foreclosure action, or, in the event of death or disability, to a person or entity legally qualified to succeed the deceased or disabled person under the laws of the place having jurisdiction over the estate involved; provided that, the applicant requests a waiver pursuant to this paragraph; or

(5) The assignment or transfer of control is *pro forma*.

(e) If the assignment or transfer of control of a license is approved, the assignee or transferee is subject to the original construction requirement of §24.203.

[59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 63238, Dec. 7, 1994; 61 FR 33870, July 1, 1996; 63 FR 10344, Mar. 3, 1998]

§§ 24.840–24.842 [Reserved]

§24.843 Extension of time to complete construction.

(a) If construction is not completed within the time period set forth in §24.203, the authorization will automatically expire. Before the period for construction expires an application for an extension of time to complete construction (FCC Form 489) may be filed. See paragraph (b) of this section. Within 30 days after the authorization expires an application for reinstatement may be filed on FCC Form 489.

(b) *Extension of Time to Complete Construction.* An application for extension of time to complete construction may be made on FCC Form 489. Extension of

time requests must be filed prior to the expiration of the construction period. Extensions will be granted only if the licensee shows that the failure to complete construction is due to causes beyond its control.

(c) An application for modification of an authorization (under construction) does not extend the initial construction period. If additional time to construct is required, an FCC Form 489 must be submitted.

(d) [Reserved]

§24.844 Termination of authorization.

(a) *Termination of authorization.* (1) All authorizations shall terminate on the date specified on the authorization or on the date specified by these rules, unless a timely application for renewal has been filed.

(2) If no application for renewal has been made before the authorization's expiration date, a late application for renewal will be considered only if it is filed within thirty (30) days of the expiration date and shows that the failure to file a timely application was due to causes beyond the applicant's control. During this 30-day period, a reinstatement application must be filed on FCC Form 489. Service to subscribers need not be suspended while a late-filed renewal application is pending, but such service shall be without prejudice to Commission action on the renewal application and any related sanctions. See also §24.16 (Criteria for Comparative Renewal Proceedings).

(b) *Termination of special temporary authorization.* A special temporary authorization shall automatically terminate upon failure to comply with the conditions in the authorization.

(c) [Reserved]

PART 25—SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

Subpart A—General

- Sec.
- 25.101 Basis and scope.
- 25.102 Station authorization required.
- 25.103 Definitions.
- 25.104 Preemption of local zoning of earth stations.
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- 25.109 Cross-reference.