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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.

(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. Subpart F includes the rules for the Wireless Telecommunications Services and the procedures for filing electronically via the ULS.

(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 multipoint distribution service and multichannel multipoint distribution service.

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

(j) *Part 101*. This part contains rules concerning common carrier and private services relating to fixed point-to-point and point-to-multipoint microwave systems.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993. Redesignated and amended at 59 FR 18499, Apr. 19, 1994, as amended at 63 FR 68952, Dec. 14, 1998; 65 FR 38325, June 20, 2000]

§ 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.

Universal Licensing System. The Universal Licensing System (ULS) is the consolidated database, application filing system, and processing system for all Wireless Radio Services. ULS supports electronic filing of all applications and related documents by applicants and licensees in the Wireless Radio Services, and provides public access to licensing information.

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; 63 FR 68952, Dec. 14, 1998]

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 a single application for an initial authorization for all markets won and frequency blocks 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, as amended at 63 FR 68952, Dec. 14, 1998]

§ 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, is eligible to hold a license under this part.

[70 FR 61059, Oct. 20, 3005]

§ 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. ''Substantial'' 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.

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]

§ 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 [Reserved]

§ 24.102 Service areas.

Narrowband PCS service areas are nationwide, regional, and Major Trading Areas (MTAs), as defined in this section. MTAs are based on the Rand McNally 1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide, 123rd Edition, at pages 38–39 (MTA Map). Rand McNally organizes the 50 States and the District of Columbia into 47 MTAs. The MTA Map is available for public inspection in the FCC's Library, Room TW-B505, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, D.C.

(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.

[59 FR 14118, Mar. 25, 1994, as amended at 59 FR 46199, Sept. 7, 1994; 65 FR 35852, June 6, 2000]

§ 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. Licensees may, in the alternative, provide substantial service to the licensed area as provided in paragraph (d) of this section.

(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. Licensees may, in the alternative, provide substantial service to the licensed area as provided in paragraph (d) of this section.

(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. Licensees may, in the alternative, provide substantial service to the licensed area as provided in paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) As an alternative to the requirements of paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section, narrowband PCS licensees may demonstrate that, no later than ten years after the initial grant of their license, they provide substantial service to their licensed area. Licensees choosing this option must notify the FCC by filing FCC Form 601, no later than 15 days after the end of the five year period following the initial grant of their license, that they plan to satisfy the alternative requirement to provide substantial service. ''Substantial service'' is defined as service that is sound, favorable, and substantially above a level of mediocre service that would barely warrant renewal.

(e) In demonstrating compliance with the construction requirements set forth in this section, licensees must base their calculations on signal field strengths that ensure reliable service for the technology utilized. Licensees may determine the population of geographic areas included within their service contours using either the 1990 census or the 2000 census, but not both.

(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, or upon meeting the substantial service alternative in paragraph (d), licensees shall notify the Commission by filing FCC Form 601 and including a map and other supporting documentation that demonstrate the required geographic area coverage, population coverage, or substantial service to the licensed area. The notification must be filed with the Commission within 15 days of the 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.

[59 FR 14118, Mar. 25, 1994, as amended at 65 FR 35852, June 6, 2000]

§ 24.104 Partitioning and disaggregation.

Nationwide, regional, and MTA licensees may apply to partition their authorized geographic service area or disaggregate their authorized spectrum at any time following grant of their geographic area authorizations.

(a) *Application required.* Parties seeking approval for partitioning and/or disaggregation shall apply for partial assignment of a license pursuant to § 1.948 of this chapter.

(b) *Partitioning.* In the case of partitioning, applicants and licensees must file FCC Form 603 pursuant to § 1.948 of this chapter and describe the partitioned service area on a schedule to the application. The partitioned service area shall be defined by up to 120 sets of geographic coordinates at points at every 3 degrees azimuth from a point within the partitioned service area along the partitioned service area boundary unless either an FCC-recognized service area is used (*e.g.*, MEA or EA) or county lines are followed. The geographical coordinates must be specified in degrees, minutes, and seconds to the nearest second latitude and longitude, and must be based upon the 1983 North American Datum (NAD83). In the case where FCC-recognized service areas or county lines are used, applicants need only list the specific area(s) through use of FCC designations or county names that constitute the partitioned area.

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

(d) *Combined partitioning and disaggregation*. Licensees may apply for partial assignment of authorizations that propose combinations of partitioning and disaggregation.

(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 § 1.955 of this chapter.

(f) *Coverage requirements for partitioning*. (1) Parties to a partitioning agreement must satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

(i) The partitionee must satisfy the applicable coverage requirements set forth in § 24.103 for the partitioned license area; or

(ii) The original licensee must meet the coverage requirements set forth in § 24.103 for the entire geographic area. In this case, the partitionee must meet only the requirements for renewal of its authorization for the partitioned license area.

(2) Parties seeking authority to partition must submit with their partial assignment application a certification signed by both parties stating which of the options they select.

(3) Partitionees must submit supporting documents showing compliance with their coverage requirements as set forth in § 24.103.

(4) Failure by any partitionee to meet its coverage requirements will result in automatic cancellation of the partitioned authorization without further Commission action.

(g) *Coverage requirements for disaggregation*. (1) Parties to a disaggregation agreement must satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

(i) Either the disaggregator or disaggregatee must satisfy the coverage requirements set forth in § 24.103 for the entire license area; or

(ii) Parties must agree to share responsibility for meeting the coverage requirements set forth in § 24.103 for the entire license area.

(2) Parties seeking authority to disaggregate must submit with their partial assignment application a certification signed by both parties stating which of the requirements they select.

(3) Disaggregatees must submit supporting documents showing compliance with their coverage requirements as set forth in § 24.103.

(4) Parties that accept responsibility for meeting the coverage requirements and later fail to do so will be subject to automatic license cancellation without further Commission action.

[65 FR 35853, June 6, 2000]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 65 FR 35853, June 6, 2000, § 24.104 was added. This section contains information collection and recordkeeping requirements and will not become effective until approval has been given by the Office of Management and Budget.

§ 24.129 Frequencies.

The following frequencies are available for narrowband PCS:

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

(1) Seven 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;
Channel 5: 940.20–940.25 and 901.20–901.25 MHz;
Channel 19: 930.50–930.55 and 901.30–901.35 MHz; and
Channel 20: 930.75–930.80 and 901.90–901.95 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: 940.75–940.80 and 901.7750–901.7875 MHz;

(3) Two 50 kHz unpaired channels:

Channel 9: RESERVED;
Channel 10: 940.80–940.85 MHz; and
Channel 11: 940.85–940.90 MHz.

(4) One 100 kHz unpaired channel:

Channel 18: 940.65–940.75 MHz.

(5) Two 150 kHz channels paired with 50 kHz channels:

Channel 21: 930.00–930.15 and 901.50–901.55 MHz; and
Channel 22: 930.15–930.30 and 901.60–901.65 MHz.

(6) Three 100 kHz channels paired with 50 kHz channels:

Channel 23: 940.55–940.65 and 901.45–901.50 MHz;
Channel 24: 940.30–940.40 and 901.55–901.60 MHz; and
Channel 25: 940.45–940.55 and 901.85–901.90 MHz.

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

(1) One 50 kHz channel paired with 50 kHz channel:

Channel 12: 940.25–940.30 and 901.25–901.30 MHz.
Channel 13: RESERVED.

(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 an MTA basis as follows:

(1) Three 50 kHz unpaired channels:

Channel 26: 901.35–901.40 MHz;
Channel 27: 901.40–901.45 MHz; and
Channel 28: 940.40–940.45 MHz.

(2) One 50 kHz channel paired with 50 kHz channel:

Channel 29: 930.80–930.85 and 901.95–902.00 MHz.

(3) One 100 kHz channel paired with 50 kHz channel:

Channel 30: 930.30–930.40 and 901.65–901.70 MHz.

(4) One 150 kHz channel paired with 50 kHz channel:

Channel 31: 930.85–931.00 and 901.7–901.75 MHz.

(5) One 100 kHz channel paired with 12.5 kHz channel:

Channel 32: 940.90–941 and 901.8375–901.85 MHz.

NOTE TO § 24.129: 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.

[66 FR 29920, June 4, 2001]

§ 24.130 [Reserved]

§ 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 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 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:

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

PW is effective radiated power in watts
dkm is distance in kilometers
hm is antenna HAAT in meters; see § 24.53 for HAAT 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; 65 FR 35853, June 6, 2000]

§ 24.133 Emission limits.

(a) The power of any emission shall be attenuated below the transmitter power (P), as measured in accordance with § 24.132(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 Log_{10} ((f_d+10)/6.1) decibels or 50 plus 10 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 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 × Log_{10} ((f_d+5)/3.05) decibels or 50+10×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 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; 66 FR 10968, Feb. 21, 2001]

§ 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° 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 in this section. 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, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554.

(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/Aguadilla-Ponce, Puerto Rico; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and the United States Virgin Islands. The Mayagüez/Aguadilla-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 Marías, 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; 63 FR 68952, Dec. 14, 1998; 65 FR 53636, Sept. 5, 2000]

§ 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 ten years of being licensed. Licensees may, in the alternative, provide substantial service to their licensed area within the appropriate five- and ten-year benchmarks. 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 except for the 1910–1915 MHz and 1990–1995 MHz, including 10 MHz C block licenses reconfigured pursuant to Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Installment Payment Financing for Personal Communications Services (PCS) Licensees, WT Docket No. 97–82, Sixth Report and Order, FCC 00–313, and 15 MHz blocks resulting from the disaggregation option as provided in 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 97–82, 12 FCC Rcd 16436 (1997), as modified by Order on Reconsideration of the Second Report and Order, WT Docket 97–82, 13 FCC Rcd 8345 (1998), 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.

(d) Licensees in the paired 1910–1915 MHz and 1990–1995 MHz bands must make a showing of ''substantial service'' in their license area within ten years of the date of initial license issuance or renewal. ''Substantial service'' is defined as service which is sound, favorable, and substantially above a level of mediocre service which just might minimally warrant renewal. Failure by any licensee to meet this requirement will result in forfeiture of the license and the licensee will be ineligible to regain it.

[58 FR 59183, Nov. 8, 1993, as amended at 64 FR 26890, May 18, 1999; 65 FR 53636, Sept. 5, 2000; 69 FR 67835, Nov. 22, 2004; 69 FR 75171, Dec. 15, 2004]

§ 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;

Pursuant to Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Installment Payment Financing for Personal Communications Services (PCS) Licensees, WT Docket No. 97–82, *Sixth Report and Order*, FCC 00–313, all 30 MHz Block C licenses available for auction in Auction No. 35 or any subsequent auction will be reconfigured into three 10 MHz C block licenses as follows: 1895–1900 MHz paired with 1975–1980 MHz, 1900–1905 MHz paired with 1980–1985 MHz, 1905–1910 MHz paired with 1985–1990 MHz;

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

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

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

(c) The paired frequency blocks 1910–1915 MHz and 1990–1995 MHz are available for assignment in the 175 Economic Areas defined in § 90.7 of this chapter. The 1910–1915 MHz block shall be used for mobile/portable station transmissions while the 1990–1995 MHz block shall be used for base station transmissions.

[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; 65 FR 53637, Sept. 5, 2000; 69 FR 67836, Nov. 22, 2004]

§ 24.232 Power and antenna height limits.

(a) (1) Base stations with an emission bandwidth of 1 MHz or less are limited to 1640 watts equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) with an antenna height up to 300 meters HAAT, except as described in paragraph (b) below.

(2) Base stations with an emission bandwidth greater than 1 MHz are limited to 1640 watts/MHz equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) with an antenna height up to 300 meters HAAT, except as described in paragraph (b) below.

(3) Base station antenna heights may exceed 300 meters HAAT with a corresponding reduction in power; *see* Tables 1 and 2 of this section.

(4) 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, WITH EMISSION BANDWIDTH OF 1 MHZ OR LESS

HAAT in meters	Maximum EIRP watts
≤300	1640
≤500	1070
≤1000	490
≤1500	270
≤2000	160

TABLE 2—REDUCED POWER FOR BASE STATION ANTENNA HEIGHTS OVER 300 METERS, WITH EMISSION BANDWIDTH GREATER THAN 1 MHZ

HAAT in meters	Maximum EIRP watts/MHz
≤300	1640
≤500	1070
≤1000	490
≤1500	270
≤2000	160

(b) (1) Base stations that are located in counties with population densities of 100 persons or fewer per square mile, based upon the most recently available population statistics from the Bureau of the Census, with an emission bandwidth of 1 MHz or less are limited to 3280 watts equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) with an antenna height up to 300 meters HAAT.

(2) Base stations that are located in counties with population densities of 100 persons or fewer per square mile, based upon the most recently available population statistics from the Bureau of the Census, with an emission bandwidth greater than 1 MHz are limited to 3280 watts/MHz equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) with an antenna height up to 300 meters HAAT.

(3) Base station antenna heights may exceed 300 meters HAAT with a corresponding reduction in power; *see* Tables 3 and 4 of this section.

(4) The service area boundary limit and microwave protection criteria specified in §§ 24.236 and 24.237 apply.

(5) Operation under this paragraph (b) at power limits greater than permitted under paragraph (a) of this section must be coordinated in advance with all broadband PCS licensees authorized to operate on adjacent frequency blocks within 120 kilometers (75 miles) of the base station and is limited to base stations located more than 120 kilometers (75 miles) from the Canadian border and more than 75 kilometers (45 miles) from the Mexican border.

TABLE 3—REDUCED POWER FOR BASE STATION ANTENNA HEIGHTS OVER 300 METERS, WITH EMISSION BANDWIDTH OF 1 MHZ OR LESS

HAAT in meters	Maximum EIRP watts
≤300	3280
≤500	2140
≤1000	980
≤1500	540
≤2000	320

TABLE 4—REDUCED POWER FOR BASE STATION ANTENNA HEIGHTS OVER 300 METERS, WITH EMISSION BANDWIDTH GREATER THAN 1 MHZ

HAAT in meters	Maximum EIRP watts/MHz
≤300	3280
≤500	2140
≤1000	980
≤1500	540
≤2000	320

(c) Mobile and portable stations are limited to 2 watts EIRP and the equipment must employ a means for limiting power to the minimum necessary for successful communications.

(d) Power measurements for transmissions by stations authorized under this section may be made either in accordance with a Commission-approved average power technique or in compliance with paragraph (e) of this section. In both instances, equipment employed must be authorized in accordance with the provisions of § 24.51. In measuring transmissions in this band using an average power technique, the peak-to-average ratio (PAR) of the transmission may not exceed 13 dB.

(e) 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.

NOTE TO § 24.232: Height above average terrain (HAAT) is to be calculated using the method set forth in § 24.53 of this part.

[73 FR 24183, May 2, 2008]

§ 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 3 of a magnitude greater than that specified in the criteria set forth in paragraphs (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 3—COORDINATION DISTANCES IN KILOMETERS

	PCS Base Station Antenna HAAT in Meters												
EIRP(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	436
500	328	331	335	343	352	359	365	370	375	391	421	440	
1000	354	357	361	369	378	385	391	397	402	418			
1200	361	364	368	376	385	392	398	404	409	425			
1640	372	375	379	388	397	404	410	416	421	437			
2400	384	387	391	399	408	415	423	427	431				
3280	396	399	403	412	419	427	435	439	446				

(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; 69 FR 75171, Dec. 15, 2004]

§ 24.238 Emission limitations for Broadband PCS equipment.

The rules in this section govern the spectral characteristics of emissions in the Broadband Personal Communications Service.

(a) *Out of band emissions*. The power of any emission outside of the authorized operating frequency ranges must be attenuated below the transmitting power (P) by a factor of at least 43 + 10 log(P) dB.

(b) *Measurement procedure*. Compliance with these rules 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. A narrower resolution bandwidth is permitted in all cases to improve measurement accuracy provided the measured power is integrated over the full required measurement bandwidth (*i.e.* 1 MHz or 1 percent of emission bandwidth, as specified). 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) *Alternative out of band emission limit*. Licensees in this service may establish an alternative out of band emission limit to be used at specified band edge(s) in specified geographical areas, in lieu of that set forth in this section, pursuant to a private contractual arrangement of all affected licensees and applicants. In this event, each party to such contract shall maintain a copy of the contract in their station files and disclose it to prospective assignees or transferees and, upon request, to the FCC.

(d) *Interference caused by out of band emissions*. If any emission from a transmitter operating in this service results in interference to users of another radio service, the FCC may require a greater attenuation of that emission than specified in this section.

[67 FR 77192, Dec. 17, 2002]

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. If a licensee in the Broadband PCS Service enters into a spectrum leasing arrangement (as set forth in part 1, subpart X of this chapter) and the spectrum lessee triggers a cost-sharing obligation, the licensee is the PCS entity responsible for satisfying the cost-sharing obligations under §§ 24.239 through 24.253.

[62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997, as amended at 69 FR 77559, Dec. 27, 2004]

§ 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 relocator 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:

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

(a) *RN* 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 relocator, N=1. For the next PCS entity that would have interfered with the link, N=2, and so on. In the case of a voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent, N=1 for the first PCS entity that would have interfered with the link. For the next PCS entity that would have interfered with the link, N=2, and so on.

(d) *Tm* equals the number of months that have elapsed between the month the PCS relocator or voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent obtains reimbursement rights for the link and

the month that the clearinghouse notifies a later-entrant of its reimbursement obligation for the link. A PCS relocator obtains reimbursement rights for the link on the date that it signs a relocation agreement with a microwave incumbent. A voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent obtains reimbursement rights for the link on the date that the incumbent notifies the Commission that it intends to discontinue, or has discontinued, the use of the link, pursuant to § 101.305 of the Commission's rules.

[62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997, as amended at 65 FR 46113, July 27, 2000]

§ 24.245 Reimbursement under the Cost-Sharing Plan.

(a) *Registration of reimbursement rights*. (1) To obtain reimbursement, a PCS relocator 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 of the link to the clearinghouse within ten business days of the date that the incumbent notifies the Commission that it intends to discontinue, or has discontinued, the use of the link, pursuant to § 101.305 of the Commission's rules.

(b) *Documentation of expenses*. Once relocation occurs, the PCS relocator 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 relocator 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 relocator pays a microwave incumbent a monetary sum to relocate its own facilities, the PCS relocator 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 relocator may submit receipts or other documentation to the clearinghouse for all relocation expenses incurred since April 5, 1995.

(c) *Full Reimbursement*. A PCS relocator 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; 65 FR 46113, July 27, 2000]

§ 24.247 Triggering a reimbursement obligation.

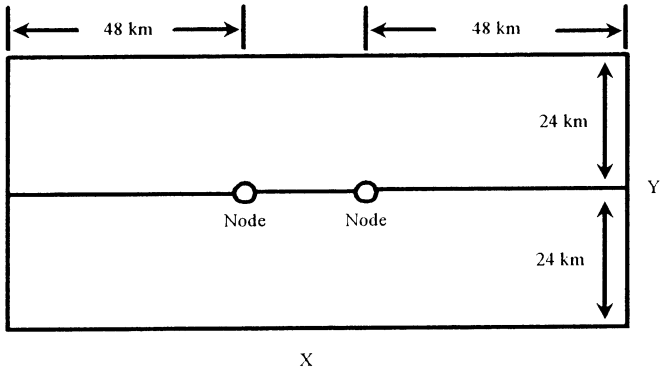
(a) *Licensed PCS*. The clearinghouse will apply the following test to determine if a PCS entity preparing to initiate operations must pay a PCS relocator or a voluntarily relocating microwave incumbent in accordance with the formula detailed in § 24.243:

(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 relocator 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.

(c) Any new entrants granted licenses for the 1910–1915 MHz band must reimburse UTAM a pro rata share of its total expenses incurred by UTAM as of the date that the new entrants gain access to the band. The percent required by new entrants to pay shall be calculated based upon the amount of spectrum granted to the new entrant as compared to the total amount of spectrum UTAM is responsible for clearing of incumbents (20 megahertz), and must be paid before a new entrant begins operations in the band. For example, if a new entrant obtains a license for 5 megahertz of spectrum in this band, it is required to reimburse UTAM one-quarter of UTAM's total costs to date on a pro rata shared basis. New entrants will be responsible for the actual costs associated with future relocation activities in their licensed spectrum, but will be entitled to seek reimbursement from UTAM for the proportion of those band clearing costs that benefit users of the 1915–1930 MHz band.

[61 FR 29692, June 12, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 12757, Mar. 18, 1997; 69 FR 67836, Nov. 22, 2004]

§ 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 relocator 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 OF PART 24—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:

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

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

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

$$P_{rpbi}=10\text{Log}\ (n_{pbi}\times p_{tpbi})-L_{pbi}-UC_i-(BP_i-BH_i)+G_{mwi}-C_i$$

$$P_{rpri}=10\text{Log}\ (n_{pri}\times p_{tpri})-L_{pri}-(UC_i-BH_i)+G_{mwi}-C_i$$

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_{tbi}=e.i.r.p. transmitted from ith base station in milliwatts, which equals average power per channel × number of channels × 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_{tmi}=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_{tpsi}=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_{rpbi}=Power at MW receiver from indoor portables (b for building)
p_{tpbi}=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_{rpri}=Power at MW receiver from rooftop portables (r for rooftop)
p_{tpri}=e.i.r.p. transmitted from rooftop portables associated with ith base station
n_{pri}=Number of rooftop portables associated with ith base station
L_{pri}=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×(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.

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

$$p_{rm} = \sum_i \left(p_{rmi} + p_{rpsi} + p_{rpbi} + p_{rpri}\right) \text{ milliwatts}$$

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

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 20Log(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 for narrowband PCS service licenses are subject to competitive bidding. The general competitive bidding procedures set forth in part 1, subpart Q of this chapter will apply unless otherwise provided in this subpart.

[67 FR 45367, July 9, 2002]

§ 24.302–24.309 [Reserved]

§ 24.320 [Reserved]

§ 24.321 Designated entities.

(a) *Eligibility for small business provisions.* (1) A small business is an entity that, together with its controlling interests and affiliates, has average gross revenues not exceeding $ 40 million for the preceding three years.

(2) A very small business is an entity that, together with its controlling interests and affiliates, has average gross revenues not exceeding $ 15 million for the preceding three years.

(b) *Bidding credits.* After August 7, 2000, a winning bidder that qualifies as a small business, as defined in this section, or a consortium of small businesses may use the bidding credit specified in § 1.2110(f)(2)(iii) of this chapter. A winning bidder that qualifies as a very small business, as defined in this section, or a consortium of very small businesses may use the bidding credit specified in § 1.2110(f)(2)(ii) of this chapter.

(c) *Installment payments.* Small businesses that are winning bidders on any regional license prior to August 7, 2000 will be eligible to pay the full amount of their winning bids in installments over the term of the license pursuant to the terms set forth in § 1.2110(g) of this chapter.

[67 FR 45367, July 9, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 42998, July 21, 2003]

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 § 24.12;

(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; 65 FR 35855, June 6, 2000]

§§ 24.405–24.414 [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]

§§ 24.416–24.429 [Reserved]

§ 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; and

(4) 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, as amended at 65 FR 35855, June 6, 2000]

§ 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.

§§ 24.432–24.444 [Reserved]

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 for broadband PCS service licenses are subject to competitive bidding. The general competitive bidding procedures set forth in part 1, subpart Q of this chapter will apply unless otherwise provided in this subpart.

[67 FR 45367, July 9, 2002]

§§ 24.702–24.708 [Reserved]

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

(a) *General rule for licenses offered for closed bidding.* (1) No application is acceptable for filing and no license shall be granted to a winning bidder in closed bidding 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 had 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) Any licensee awarded a license won in closed bidding pursuant to the eligibility requirements of this section (or pursuant to § 24.839(a)(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.

(3) Tiers. (i) For purposes of determining spectrum to which the eligibility requirements of this section are applicable, the BTA service areas (see § 24.202(b)) are divided into two tiers according to their population as follows:

(A) *Tier 1:* BTA service areas with population equal to or greater than 2.5 million;

(B) *Tier 2:* BTA service areas with population less than 2.5 million.

(ii) For Auction No. 35, the population of individual BTA service areas will be based on the 1990 census. For auctions beginning after the start of Auction No. 35, the population of individual BTA service areas will be based on the most recent available decennial census.

(4) Application of eligibility requirements. (i) The following categories of licenses will be subject to closed bidding pursuant to the eligibility requirements of this section in auctions that begin after the effective date of this paragraph.

(A) For Tier 1 BTAs, one of the 10 MHz C block licenses (1895–1900 MHz paired with 1975–1980 MHz);

(B) For Tier 2 BTAs, two of the 10 MHz C block licenses (1895–1900 MHz paired with 1975–1980 MHz; 1900–1905 MHz paired with 1980–1985 MHz) and all 15 MHz C block licenses.

(ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a)(4)(i) of this section, any C block license for operation on spectrum that has been offered, but not won by a bidder, in closed bidding in any auction beginning on or after March 23, 1999, will not be subject in a subsequent auction to closed bidding pursuant to the eligibility requirements of this section.

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

(i) In addition to entities qualifying for closed bidding under paragraph (a)(1) of 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 reauction for frequency block C, which began on July 3, 1996, will be eligible to bid for C block licenses offered in closed bidding in any reauction of frequency block C spectrum that begins within two years of March 23, 1999.

(ii) In cases of merger, acquisition, or other business combination of entities, where each of the entities is eligible to bid for C block licenses offered in closed bidding in any reauction of C block spectrum on the basis of the eligibility exception set forth in paragraph (a)(5)(i) of this section, the resulting entity will also be eligible for the exception specified in paragraph (a)(5)(i) of this section.

(iii) In cases of merger, acquisition, or other business combination of entities, where one or more of the entities are ineligible for the exception set forth in paragraph (a)(5)(i) of this section, the resulting entity will not be eligible pursuant to paragraph (a)(5)(i) of this section unless an eligible entity possesses *de jure* and *de facto* control over the resulting entity.

(iv) The following restrictions will apply for any reauction 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 reauction 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 reauction 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.

(b) *Exceptions to general rule*—(1) *Scope*. The following provisions apply to licenses acquired in Auctions No. 5, 10, 11 or 22, or pursuant to § 24.839(a)(2) or (a)(3) prior to October 30, 2000.

(i) *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.

(ii) *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.

(iii) *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:

(A) 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;

(B) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(1)(v) of this section, such person or entity is not a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group;* and

(C) The applicant (or licensee) has a *control group* that complies with the minimum equity requirements of paragraph (b)(1)(v) 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.

(iv) *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:

(A) 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;

(B) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(1)(vi) of this section, such person or entity is not a member of the applicant's (or licensee's) *control group;* and

(C) The applicant (or licensee) has a *control group* that complies with the minimum equity requirements of paragraph (b)(1)(vi) 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.

(v) *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)(1)(iii) of this section, and applicant (or licensee) must comply with the following requirements:

(A) Except for an applicant (or licensee) whose sole control group member is a *preexisting entity*, as provided in paragraph (b)(1)(v)(B) 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:

(*1*) 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);

(*2*) 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;

(*3*) 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(g)(1):

(*i*) *Institutional Investors;*

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

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

(*iv*) Qualifying investors, as specified in § 24.720(g)(3).

(*4*) Following termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(1)(v)(A) of this section, *qualifying investors* must continue to own at least 10 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)(1)(v)(A)(*1*) of this section. The restrictions specified in paragraphs (b)(1)(v)(A)(*3*)(*i*) through (b)(1)(v)(A)(*3*)(*iv*) of this section no longer apply to the remaining equity after termination of such three-year period.

(B) 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)(1)(v)(A) of this section shall apply, except that only 10 percent of the applicant's (or licensee's) total equity must be held in *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)(1)(v)(A) of this section.

(vi) *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)(1)(iv) of this section, an applicant (or licensee) must comply with the following requirements:

(A) Except for an applicant (or licenses) whose sole control group member is a *preexisting entity,* as provided in paragraph (b)(1)(vi)(B) 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:

(*1*) 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);

(*2*) 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;

(*3*) 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)(1)(vi)(A)(*1*) of this section, or by any of the following entities which may not comply with § 24.720(g)(1):

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

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

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

(*iv*) Qualifying investors, as specified in § 24.720(g)(3).

(*4*) Following termination of the three-year period specified in paragraph (b)(1)(vi)(A) 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)(1)(vi)(A)(*1*) of this section. The restrictions specified in paragraph (b)(1)(vi)(A)(*3*)(*i*) through (b)(1)(vi)(A)(*3*)(*iv*) of this section no longer apply to the remaining equity after termination of such three-year period.

(B) 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)(1)(vi)(A) 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)(1)(vi)(A) of this section.

(vii) *Calculation of certain interests.* Except as provided in paragraphs (b)(1)(v) and (b)(1)(vi) 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 *nonattributable equity* requirements in paragraphs (b)(1)(iii)(A) and (b)(1)(iv)(A) of this section.

(viii) *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 § 1.2110(c)(5)(iii) 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)(1)(iii)(A) and (b)(1)(iv)(A) of this section.

Example 1 for paragraph (b)(1)(viii). 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)(1)(viii). 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.

(2) *The following provisions apply to licenses acquired pursuant to § 24.839(a)(2) or (a)(3) on or after October 30, 2000.* In addition to the eligibility requirements set forth at 24.709(a) and (b), applicants and/or licensees seeking to acquire C and/or F block licenses pursuant to 24.839(a)(2) or (a)(3) will be subject to

the controlling interest standard in 1.2110(c)(2) of this chapter for purposes of determining unjust enrichment payment obligations. See § 1.2111 of this chapter.

(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, each applicant to participate in closed bidding 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 all applicants:* The applicant's gross revenues and total assets, computed in accordance with paragraphs (a) of this section and § 1.2110(b)(1) through (b)(2) of this chapter.

(ii) For all applicants that participated in Auction Nos. 5, 10, 11, and/or 22:

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

(C) The identity 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)(B) of this section;

(D) A certification that the applicant's sole *control group* member is a *preexisting entity*, if the applicant makes the election in either paragraph (b)(1)(v)(B) or (b)(1)(vi)(B)of this section; and

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

(*1*) 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(f);

(*2*) The identity of each *affiliate* of the applicant.

(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 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 bylaws, 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 and any other documents necessary to establish eligibility under this section or under the definition of small business. 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) *Definitions*. The terms control group, existing investor, institutional investor, nonattributable equity, preexisting entity, publicly traded corporation with widely dispersed voting power, qualifying investor, and small business used in this section are defined in § 24.720.

[67 FR 45368, July 9, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 42998, July 21, 2003]

§ 24.710 [Reserved]

§ 24.711 Installment payments for licenses for frequency Block C.

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

(a) For an eligible licensee with gross revenues exceeding $75 million (calculated in accordance with § 1.2110(n) of this chapter and § 24.709(b)) in each of the two preceding years (calculated in accordance with § 1.2110(n) of this chapter), 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.

(b) For an eligible licensee with gross revenues not exceeding $75 million (calculated in accordance with § 1.2110(b) of this chapter and § 24.709(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.

(c) 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 six years and payments of interest and principal amortized over the remaining four years of the license term.

[67 FR 45371, July 9, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 42999, July 21, 2003]

§ 24.712 Bidding credits for licenses won for frequency Block C.

(a) Except with respect to licenses won in closed bidding in auctions that begin after March 23, 1999, a winning bidder that qualifies as a small business, as defined in § 24.720(b)(1), or a consortium of small businesses may use a bidding credit of fifteen percent, as specified in § 1.2110(f)(2)(iii) of this chapter, to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(b) Except with respect to licenses won in closed bidding in auctions that begin after March 23, 1999, a winning bidder that qualifies as a very small business, as defined in § 24.720(b)(2), or a consortium of very small businesses may use a bidding credit of twenty-five percent as specified in § 1.2110(f)(2)(ii) of this chapter, to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(c) *Unjust enrichment*. The unjust enrichment provisions of § 1.2111(d) and (e)(2) of this chapter shall not apply with respect to licenses acquired in either the auction for frequency block C that began on December 18, 1995, or the reauction of block C spectrum that began on July 3, 1996.

[67 FR 45371, July 9, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 42999, July 21, 2003]

§ 24.713 [Reserved]

§ 24.714 Partitioned licenses and disaggregated spectrum.

(a) *Eligibility*. (1) Parties seeking approval for partitioning and disaggregation shall request an authorization for partial assignment of a license pursuant to § 24.839.

(2) Broadband PCS licensees in spectrum blocks A, B, D, and E and broadband PCS C and F block licenses not subject to the eligibility requirements of § 24.709 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 that acquired C or F block licenses in closed bidding subject to the eligibility requirements of § 24.709 may partition their licensed geographic service area or disaggregate their licensed spectrum at any time 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, applicants and licensees must file FCC Form 603 pursuant to § 1.948 of this chapter and list the partitioned service area on a schedule to the application. 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 1983 North American Datum (NAD83).

(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) *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(g) 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 balance 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 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(c)(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(g)(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. The Commission 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 obligations, as calculated according to § 24.714(c)(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(g)(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.

(d) *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.

(e) *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 be subject to license forfeiture without further Commission action.

[62 FR 661, Jan. 6, 1997, as amended at 63 FR 68953, Dec. 14, 1998; 65 FR 53638, Sept. 5, 2000; 67 FR 45371, July 9, 2002; 68 FR 42999, July 21, 2003]

§ 24.716 Installment payments for licenses for frequency Block F.

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(g) of this chapter and under the following terms:

(a) For an eligible licensee with gross revenues exceeding $75 million (calculated in accordance with § 1.2110(b) of this chapter and, when applicable, § 24.709(b)) in each of the two preceding years (calculated in accordance with § 1.2110(n) of this chapter), 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;

(b) For an eligible licensee with gross revenues not exceeding $75 million (calculated in accordance with § 1.2110(b) of this chapter and, when applicable, § 24.709(b)) in each of the two preceding years (calculated in accordance with § 1.2110(n) of this chapter), 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

(c) 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.

[67 FR 45371, July 9, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 42999, July 21, 2003]

§ 24.717 Bidding credits for licenses for frequency Block F.

(a) Except with respect to licenses won in closed bidding in auctions that begin after March 23, 1999, a winning bidder that qualifies as a small business, as defined in § 24.720(b)(1), or a consortium of small businesses may use a bidding credit of fifteen percent, as specified in § 1.2110(f)(2)(iii) of this chapter, to lower the cost of its winning bid.

(b) Except with respect to licenses won in closed bidding in auctions that begin after March 23, 1999, a winning bidder that qualifies as a very small business, as defined in § 24.720(b)(2), or a consortium of very small businesses may use a bidding credit of twenty-five percent as specified in § 1.2110(f)(2)(ii) of this chapter, to lower the cost of its winning bid.

[68 FR 42999, July 21, 2003]

§ 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 and very small business*. (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.

(c) *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.

(d) *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)(1)(iii)(A) and (b)(1)(iv)(A), 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.

(e) *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 (e): 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., § 1.2110(c)(5)(ii)(C) of this chapter).

(f) *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 § 1.2110(c)(5) of the Commission's rules.

(g) *Qualifying 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) For purposes of assessing compliance with the minimum equity requirements of § 24.709(b)(1)(v) and (b)(1)(vi), where such equity interests are not held directly in the applicant, interests held by qualifying investors shall be determined by successive multiplication of the ownership percentages for each link in the vertical ownership chain.

(3) For purposes of § 24.709(b)(1)(v)(A)(3) and (b)(1)(vi)(A)(3), 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).

(h) *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 minimis* equity holdings in a *preexisting entity* after that date.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (h): In applying the term *existing investor* to *de minimis* 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.

[67 FR 45372, July 9, 2002, as amended at 68 FR 42999, July 21, 2003; 68 FR 57829, Oct. 7, 2003]

Subpart I—Interim Application, Licensing, and Processing Rules for Broadband PCS

SOURCE: 59 FR 37610, July 22, 1994, unless otherwise noted.

§§ 24.801–24.803 [Reserved]

§ 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]

§§ 24.805–24.814 [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.

§§ 24.816–24.829 [Reserved]

§ 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 [Reserved]

§ 24.833 Post-auction divestitures.

Any parties sharing a common noncontrolling 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) Restrictions on Assignments and Transfers of Licenses for Frequency Blocks C and F won in closed bidding. No assignment or transfer of control of a license for frequency Block C or frequency Block F won in closed bidding pursuant to the eligibility requirements of § 24.709 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 of this part 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 of this part; or

(3) The application is for partial assignment of a partitioned service area to a rural telephone company pursuant to § 24.714 of this part and the proposed assignee meets the eligibility criteria set forth in § 24.709 of this part; or

(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; or

(6) The application for assignment or transfer of control is filed on or after the date the licensee has notified the Commission pursuant to § 24.203(c) that its five-year construction requirement has been satisfied.

(b) 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 of this part.

[63 FR 68953, Dec. 14, 1998; as amended at 65 FR 53638, Sept. 5, 2000]

§§ 24.840–24.844 [Reserved]

PART 25—SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

Subpart A—General

Sec.

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