

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Amendment of Parts 1, 2, 22, 24, 27, 90)	
and 95 of the Commission's Rules to)	WT Docket No. 10-4
Improve Wireless Coverage Through the)	
Use of Signal Boosters)	

COMMENTS OF SPRINT

Sprint Corporation (“Sprint”) hereby respectfully comments on the Wilson Electronics, LLC, (“Wilson”) Petition for Further Rulemaking¹ in the above captioned proceeding.² In the Wilson Petition, Wilson requests the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission”) eliminate the personal use restriction for wideband consumer boosters. Sprint supports the Wilson Petition and believes eliminating this restriction would assist the Commission in its efforts to facilitate the deployment of well-designed signal boosters.

Sprint finds this small, clarifying change would not increase the risk of harmful interference to its network. Since the Commission’s adoption of rules governing the deployment of third-party signal boosters, the various required safeguards, registrations, and Network Protection Standards contained in those rules are proving adequate to protect Sprint’s network performance while also potentially benefitting consumers’

¹ Wilson Electronics, LLC, Petition for Further Rulemaking, WT Docket 10-4 (filed December 21, 2016) (“Wilson Petition”).

² See Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on Wilson Electronics Petition for Rulemaking to Eliminate The Personal Use Restriction on Wideband Consumer Signal Boosters, *Public Notice*, WT Docket 10-4, RM – 11784 (March 3, 2017).

access to additional coverage and an improved wireless broadband experience. As Sprint indicated in its initial Comments in this proceeding in 2010, properly designed and installed signal boosters can aid wireless subscribers by expanding the usability of wireless networks in areas of poor signal coverage.³ This small change in the rules would further expand the opportunities for businesses, public safety entities, public institutions, and other enterprises to deploy signal boosters that support their needs while also accommodating and protecting carriers' networks from devices that do not have the safeguards and Network Protection Standards found in consumer signal boosters.

Presently, the current signal booster rules preclude entities that do meet the definition of "personal use" from using consumer signal boosters to improve their access to carriers' networks. Often, these consumer devices are sufficient for the very small number of users a business or other entity may have at a specific location, but these boosters could not be deployed in a manner that meets the Commission's "personal use" requirement and thus these entities are restricted from making use of a potentially helpful device. Sprint believes that the Network Protection Standards that consumer signal boosters must include, even when deployed by small groups and small organizations, are sufficient to appropriately protect and coexist with carriers' networks.⁴ Indeed, the performance requirements in the Commission's consumer signal booster rules are sufficient protection for the proposed relaxation of the "personal use" restriction to allow other entities to make use of these devices.

³ *Comments of Sprint Nextel* ("2010 Comments"), WT Docket No. 10-4, February 5, 2010, at 1.

⁴ Sprint does not, however, support the use of multiple consumer signal boosters to cover a large industrial, retail, or other facility, as the performance of the boosters is not optimized for such deployments and such a deployment could adversely impact the performance of Sprint's network.

In conclusion, Sprint is supportive of the Wilson Petition's suggested rule change that would improve access to well-designed consumer signal boosters while not increasing the risk of harm to carrier's networks.

Respectfully submitted,

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