

Incentive Auction Update: March 2017

3/30/17

Broadcaster Transition Process has Started

- **Waiving the prohibited communications rules for broadcasters has significantly accelerated preparation for the post-Incentive Auction Transition**
 - Transitioning stations will have more than 5 months to prepare their construction permit application
 - Many broadcasters enthusiastic to receive new state of the art equipment from repacking
- **Vendor work is starting to increase**
- **Continued Incentive Auction Task Force outreach to broadcasters is providing clarity and assurance to broadcasters**
 - Independent and non-profit broadcasters most in need of transition assistance
- **T-Mobile engaging stakeholders on how to solve transition problems**

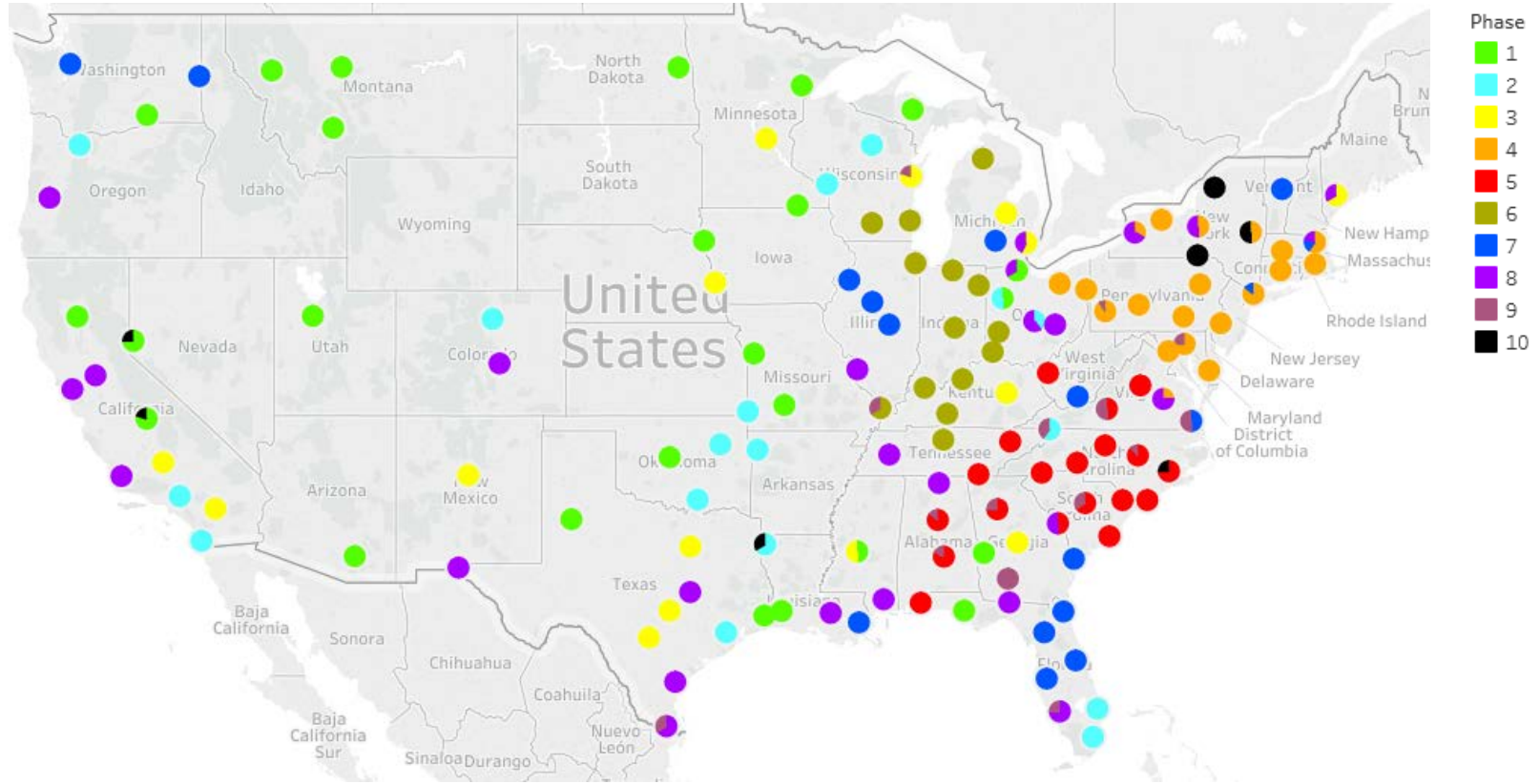
FCC Effectively Optimized The Repack

- Based on information supplied by licensees and publicly available material, T-Mobile has assembled transition data on more than 1000 broadcaster licenses. Using the FCC's SAT-based Feasibility Checking software it's possible to make educated guesses about the status of remaining unknown broadcasters



1. **Fewer repacks** – Likely less than 800 full power TV stations will need to be repacked. It appears the FCC's repacking optimization was better than T-Mobile and other participants in the proceeding anticipated.
2. **Fewer towers affected** – Likely less than 700 structures will be touched during the transition
3. **Fewer exiting broadcasters** – Likely less than 200 broadcasters exiting the UHF band and many of them are moving to VHF or channel sharing.
4. **Regional Repacking Approach** – A clear balance between untangling daisy chains with gaining efficiencies again from regional clustering of repacking phases

Transition Phases by Region



Notes - DMAs without phase assignments have no transitions or no data is available. Hawaii is in phase 1; Alaska will not be repacked as all stations below Ch. 37, Puerto Rico will be in phase 3 & 10

Facilitating the Transition: FM Station Collocation

- Collocated TV and FM broadcasters have various techniques to deal with the technical challenges of working on their antennas
 - Temporary antennas
 - Reduced power
 - Screen suits
- ERI has indicated they can assemble, tune, QC, and ship an FM Aux Antenna for FM broadcasters in a single day
- T-Mobile working to determine the number of FM stations collocated with transitioning TV broadcasters



Facilitating the Transition: Allow Winners to Relinquish Early

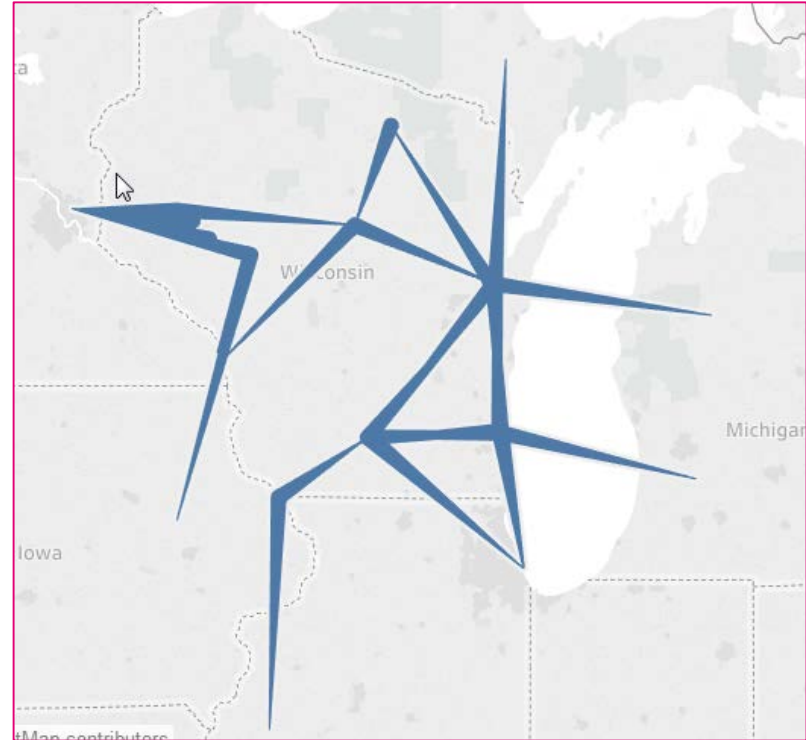
- Numerous broadcasters who won in the reverse auction and will relinquish licenses are seeking to cease transmission before payment
- **Allowing exiting broadcasters to voluntarily relinquish early would speed the transition:**
 - Allows broadcasters to turn off transmitters reducing operating costs
 - Reduces the overall RF emissions on tower sites, making tower work easier and safer
 - Facilitates quicker removal of decommissioned equipment and installation of new equipment
- **The FCC should permit exiting broadcasters to relinquish early so long as they comply with public notification requirements**

Facilitating the Transition: Process 2nd Window CPs quickly

- **Many broadcasters interested in expanding their coverage in the second window:**
 - Example – numerous broadcasters currently transmitting on side mount seeking to replace old top mount analog antenna with new antenna and expand beyond 1%
 - Example – broadcasters using directional antenna seek to move to omni-directional antenna.
- **The second construction permit window should be limited in duration and definitive action taken on CPs quickly**
 - Provides additional benefit of speeding resolution for displaced LPTV and translators
- **Stations seeking expanded facilities should not receive a transition deadline waiver except in extreme situations**
 - Most transition delays in this instance would be voluntarily imposed
 - Multiple tools available to broadcasters to prevent going dark including temp facilities, reduced power, and channel sharing

Facilitating the Transition: Link Station Set Data

- **The Closing and Channel Reassignment PN should contain sufficient information about linked station sets to allow all parties to see how daisy chains are disassembled.**
 - Additionally, interference amounts for each station should be provided
- **The CCR should include an Excel or CSV file(s) appendix of auction winners**



Transition Question: Commencement of Service

- **How does a 600 MHz licensee notify the following licensees when an ISIX analysis requires it:**
 1. Low power TV – LMS data or CBDS data?
 2. TV Translator – LMS data or CBDS data?
 3. TV STL link – CBDS data?
 4. TV Relay station – CDBS data?
 5. TV Translator Relay station – CDBS data?
 6. White space database – how to enter in locations, timing?

- **If a licensee has multiple impacted licenses, can they be notified with a single correspondence?**

Thank you

