

**Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554**

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

To: The Commission

**COMMENTS OF WILSON ELECTRONICS, LLC**

Wilson Electronics, LLC ("Wilson"), by its attorney, submits these comments in response to the Commission's Second Report and Order and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("Second FNPRM") proposing to amend § 20.21 of the Commission's rules ("Rules") to permit enterprise use of Wideband Consumer Signal Boosters ("WCSBs") and to expand the service bands on which Consumer Signal Boosters ("CSBs") may operate.<sup>1</sup> Consistent with its prior advocacy in this proceeding, Wilson fully supports the Commission's proposals.

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Wilson has been a leading advocate for CSBs and was one of the industry architects of the regulatory framework of § 20.21 of the Rules.<sup>2</sup> Wilson filed one of the three petitions for rulemaking that led the Commission to open this docket.<sup>3</sup> Subsequently, it was among the five

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<sup>1</sup> See *Amendment of Parts 1, 2, 22, 24, 27, 90 and 95 of the Commission's Rules to Improve Wireless Coverage Through the Use of Signal Boosters*, FCC 18-35 (Mar. 23, 2018).

<sup>2</sup> Wilson and its subsidiaries, weBoost LLC and zBoost LLC, are leaders in the wireless communications industry, and have designed and manufactured cellular signal boosters, antennas and related components for nearly 25 years.

<sup>3</sup> See *Amendment of Parts 1, 2, 22, 24, 27, 90 and 95 of the Commission's Rules to Improve Wireless Coverage Through the Use of Signal Boosters*, 26 FCC Rcd 5490, 5492 (2011). See also *Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on Petitions Regarding the Use of Signal Boosters and Other Signal Amplification Techniques Used with Wireless Services*, 25 FCC Rcd 68, 69 (2010).

industry stakeholders that proposed a set of rules that would apply to all CSBs that included the two “safe harbors” that formed the basis of the Commission’s Network Protection Standard (“NPS”).<sup>4</sup> Most recently, it was Wilson’s petition for a further rulemaking in this proceeding that eventually led the Commission to issue its Second FNPRM.<sup>5</sup>

Wilson applauds the Commission’s success in building a regulatory framework that has allowed consumers to realize the benefits of using safe and reliable CSBs to improve their wireless coverage. Wilson can attest to that success by reporting that it has shipped more than 1,000,000 Commission-approved CSBs since the NPS went into effect, and it has yet to receive a report that one of its boosters caused interference to a wireless network. That report in turn should give the Commission confidence that it can implement its proposals to further enhance the usefulness of CSBs without causing interference to wireless networks.

## II. THE COMMISSION SHOULD EXPAND THE CMRS SPECTRUM BANDS ON WHICH CONSUMER BOOSTERS MAY OPERATE

Having urged the Commission to enable the use of consumer boosters in new CMRS spectrum bands,<sup>6</sup> Wilson supports the Commission’s proposal to authorize the operation of CSBs in the 600 MHz (617-652 MHz and 663-698 MHz), WCS (2305-2320 MHz and 2345-2360 MHz), and BRS/EBS (2495-2690 MHz) bands. However, the determination to extend the CSB regulatory framework to these spectrum bands should not be based on whether each band is being used to

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<sup>4</sup> See Second FNPRM at 2 n.5 and accompanying text. *See also Amendment of Parts 1, 2, 22, 24, 27, 90 and 95 of the Commission’s Rules to Improve Wireless Coverage Through the Use of Signal Boosters*, 28 FCC Rcd 1663, 1668 (¶ 11) (2013). *See also Amendment of Parts 1, 2, 22, 24, 27, 90 and 95 of the Commission’s Rules to Improve Wireless Coverage Through the Use of Signal Boosters*, 29 FCC Rcd 11563, 11568 (¶ 16) (2014).

<sup>5</sup> See Second FNPRM at 14 (¶ 37). *See also Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on Wilson Electronics Petition for Rulemaking To Eliminate the Personal Use Restriction on Wideband Consumer Signal Boosters*, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 1553, 1554 (WTB 2017).

<sup>6</sup> See Letter from Russell D. Lukas to Marlene H. Dortch, WT Docket No. 10-4, at 1 (June 12, 2017).

provide services to “consumers or other non-licensee users,”<sup>7</sup> or whether a “meaningful number of the licensees” in a band will consent to CSB operation.<sup>8</sup>

With respect to the authorization of CSB operations in a new spectrum band, it is immaterial whether consumers or other non-licensees will have any use for CSBs, or whether licensees will consent to such use. If a substantial number of consumers or enterprise users require the use of CSBs, and a sufficient number of licensees will allow CSBs to operate on their systems, equipment manufacturers like Wilson will develop and successfully market NPS-compliant CSBs that will operate in the new frequency band. On the other hand, if there is either little need for CSBs or little chance that licensees will consent to the use of CSBs, manufacturers will not bring CSBs to market that will operate in the new frequency band. The Commission should authorize manufacturers to test the CSB marketplace based on the presumption that there is a need for CSBs and that licensee consent can be obtained.

Based on the unquestioned success of its CSB program, the Commission should adopt the presumption that the use of CSBs in a new CMRS spectrum band would serve the public interest, provided that: (1) such use would not harm other users in the new band or in adjacent bands, and (2) the CSBs are certificated as compliant with the technical requirements of the new band. Although the adoption of such a presumption will not avoid future rulemakings (which are required to make new CMRS spectrum bands available for flexible wireless use), it should simplify future rulemakings.

### III. THE COMMISSION SHOULD AUTHORIZE ENTERPRISE USE OF WCSBS

Wilson urged the Commission to permit enterprises to benefit from the use of WCSBs by

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<sup>7</sup> Second FNPRM at 8 (¶ 20).

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* at 9 (¶ 21).

eliminating the personal use restriction on WCSBs and by prescribing a “multi-provider registration” regime.<sup>9</sup> Its advocacy on the issues is well known to the Commission and is documented in the Second FNPRM.<sup>10</sup> Having little of substance to add at this juncture, Wilson states for the record that it completely agrees with, and wholeheartedly supports, the Commission’s proposal to facilitate enterprise use of WCSBs by eliminating the personal use restriction and establishing a non-subscriber registration program.

Respectfully submitted,



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<sup>9</sup> Wilson, Petition for Further Rulemaking, WT Docket No. 10-4, at 19-20 (Dec. 21, 2006). *See* Second FNPRM at 14 (¶ 37).

<sup>10</sup> *See, e.g.*, Second FNPRM at 14 (¶ 37).