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Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
)
Replacement of Part 90 by Part 88 to)
Revise the Private Land Mobile Radio)
Services and Modify the Policies)
Governing Them)
)
and)
)
)
Examination of Exclusivity and)
Frequency Assignment Policies of)
the Private Land Mobile Radio Services)

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PR Docket No. 92-235

To: The Commission

Supplemental Information in Support of Request for Stay

On August 11, 1995, the Federal Communications Commission granted a request by Hewlett-Packard Company for a freeze on the filing of applications for full power systems on the 12.5 kHz offset channels in the 450-470 MHz band.¹ Also on August 11, the Land Mobile Communications Council ("LMCC") filed a request that, in certain respects, enlarged upon the scope of the freeze requested by Hewlett-Packard. Specifically, LMCC asked the Commission to defer, for a period of six (6) months, the licensing of new 12.5 kHz channels in the 150-174 MHz and 421-512 MHz bands.

¹ Public Notice, DA 95-1771, released August 11, 1995.

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LMCC is hereby providing this supplemental filing to provide more specific information regarding its request. In view of the favorable action taken by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau on the Hewlett-Packard request and other recent developments, LMCC is providing this information to clarify and update its request of August 11th.

LMCC's request encompassed the following individual frequency bands: 150-174 MHz, 421-430 MHz, 450-470 MHz, and 470-512 MHz. LMCC deemed the request necessary because, from the perspective of frequency coordination, the Report and Order presents an entirely new environment. In this new environment, there is considerable uncertainty regarding the appropriate standards for coordinating applications. The Report and Order has the potential to create a complex environment for spectrum managers, with a wide variety of operational wireless systems. In most cities, the refarmed radio spectrum will result in a co-channel and adjacent channel mix of analog and digital systems, older wideband and newer narrowband, high-power and low-power, conventional and trunked systems.

In the Report and Order, the Commission determined that the existing radio services should be consolidated. The larger radio frequency pools that will result from this consolidation will, by necessity, be accessible by more than one frequency coordinator (a current example of multiple-coordinator access to one frequency pool is the 800 MHz General Category Pool, which is accessible by APCO, ITA and PCIA). Standards for co-channel separation and adjacent channel separation must be created. Without an agreed upon set of standards, frequency recommendations in the consolidated pools will be chaotic, leading to coordinator differences in the level of technical service and differences in managing post-

licensing conflicts.

At 800 MHz, a set of standards exist for co-channel separation under Rule 90.621. The Rule includes a standard distance criteria, including a "short-spacing table," and a description of geographic exception areas with matrix tables. These tables at 800 MHz provide for effective spectrum management, because they can be jointly administered by multiple coordinators and the FCC. Also, the tables are readily understood by applicants, who can clear their applications before submitting for a license.

The LMCC believes that similar standards, whether formal or informal, are required for co-channel and adjacent-channel clearance. The Commission's Report and Order mandates separation at 7.5 kHz at VHF and 6.25 kHz at UHF. With older 25 kHz equipment still eligible for licensing, the LMCC must develop multiple adjacent-channel tables (at UHF, for example, there will be three orders of adjacency). Grant of the requested stay will permit the frequency coordinators to develop appropriate geographic separation standards for coordinating the applications. Specific comments regarding the individual frequency bands are provided below:

150-174 MHz

Until revised by the refarming Report and Order, Section 90.175(a) required that there be a geographic separation of 10 miles between adjacent channel assignments that were 15 kHz removed. In the Taxicab Radio Service, the required separation was seven miles. The new rules eliminate this requirement. The expectation is that frequency coordinators will develop comparable standards or guidelines to replace the separation previously mandated. It

will take some time, however, for the coordinators to study this issue and come to agreement on the appropriate standard.²

The situation is compounded by the fact that the digital modulation is characterized by an entirely different emission mask than analog. As a consequence, a greater portion of the emission for new 12.5 kHz digital systems will fall within the band pass filter of existing 25 kHz systems than is the case for analog systems. This presents a greater interference potential and introduces the need for greater deliberation in the coordination process.

421-430 MHz

At present, there are no stations operating on the 12.5 kHz offset channels in this band. In view of the entirely new environment presented by the channelization scheme set forth in the Report and Order, grant of LMCC's request will facilitate the development, in an orderly fashion, of an efficient utilization plan.

450-470 MHz

From LMCC's perspective, the Commission's action granting the request filed by Hewlett-Packard achieves the desired result for this band and affords the necessary time for development of the appropriate coordination standards. Therefore, LMCC does not believe any additional action is required with respect to this band.

² The frequency tables for the individual radio services that are contained in the new rules indicate, as illustrated by limitation (d)(18) accompanying Section 90.95, that the new channels spaced at 7.5 kHz intervals in the 150-174 MHz band are not available until August 16, 1996. However, Section 90.173(l) suggests that the new channels are available after August 16, 1995. If the relevant date of availability is August 16, 1996, then the Commission need not take any action with respect to the 150-174 MHz band. LMCC, asks the Commission to clarify its intent regarding the relevant date.

470-512 MHz

With the exception of some unique operations in an isolated number of states, there are no stations operating on the 12.5 kHz offset channels included in the refarming Report and Order. In view of this virtually new environment, grant of LMCC's request will facilitate the development, in an orderly fashion, of an efficient utilization plan.

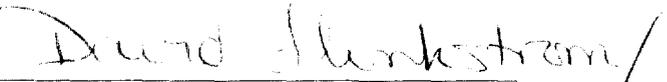
WHEREFORE, for the reasons herein stated, LMCC respectfully requests that the Commission stay the effectiveness of certain provisions of its Report and Order for a period of six (6) months from the effective date of this decision.

Respectfully submitted,

LAND MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL

By: _____

David Flinkstrom
President




Dated: August 17, 1995

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