Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Updating Part 1 Competitive Bidding Rules	)	WT Docket No. 14-170
	)	
Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum Through Incentive Auctions	)	GN Docket No. 12-268
	)	
Petition of DIRECTV Group, Inc. and EchoStar LLC for Expedited Rulemaking to Amend Section 1.2105(a)(2)(xi) and 1.2106(a) of the Commission's Rules and/or for Interim Conditional Waiver	)	RM-11395
	)	
Implementation of the Commercial Spectrum Enhancement Act and Modernization of the Commission's Competitive Bidding Rules and Procedures	)	WT Docket No. 05-211

ORDER

Adopted: January 13, 2015 **Released:** January 13, 2015

Comment Date: February 6, 2015
Reply Date: February 26, 2015

By the Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau:

1. This order further extends the deadlines for comment and reply comment in response to the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (*NPRM*) in the above-captioned proceeding in the interest of developing a comprehensive record. On our own motion, we extend the comment deadline to February 6, 2015, and the comment reply deadline to February 26, 2015.

2. On October 1, 2014, the Commission adopted the *NPRM* in which it proposes to reform certain of its general Part 1 rules governing competitive bidding for spectrum licenses to reflect changes in the marketplace.[1] The Commission expressed its intention to act on the issues raised in the *NPRM* in time to allow all parties to account for any changes while planning for the broadcast incentive auction.[2] Deadlines for comments and reply comments were initially announced in the Federal Register on November 14, 2014.[3]

[1] Updating Part 1 Competitive Bidding Rules, *Notice of Proposed Rule Making*, 29 FCC Rcd 12426 (2014).

[2] *Id.*, 29 FCC Rcd at 12427 ¶ 1.

[3] The initial deadlines for comments and replies were December 29, 2014, and January 20, 2015, respectively. *See* 79 Fed. Reg. 68172 (Nov. 14, 2014).

3. On November 13, 2014, bidding commenced in Auction 97, which offers AWS-3 licenses covering the greatest amount of spectrum suitable for mobile broadband services since the 2008 auction of 700 MHz licenses (Auction 73).[4] Because the bidding in Auction 97 remained ongoing during the second week of December, the Bureau, on its own motion, extended the deadlines for filing comments and replies in this matter by approximately a month to increase the likelihood that interested parties would be able to take into account more complete information about the results of the bidding in Auction 97.[5]

4. Auction 97 has not yet concluded. Extending the deadlines for comments and reply comments in this proceeding for an additional two weeks as set forth herein should continue to serve our objective of increasing the likelihood that interested parties will be able to take into account more complete information about the results of the bidding. Although extensions of time are not routinely granted,[6] we do so here to promote more thoroughly considered comments and replies in this proceeding, which is our first comprehensive look at these rules in years. We conclude that extending the deadlines as set forth above should provide sufficient additional time for interested parties, without jeopardizing the Commission's ability to act on the *NPRM* sufficiently in advance of the upcoming broadcast incentive auction. We note, however, that given the Commission's anticipated schedule for the broadcast incentive auction, further extensions for comments in this proceeding may not be feasible.

5. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that, pursuant to sections 4(i), 4(j), and 5(c) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j), 155(c), and pursuant to the authority delegated in Sections 0.131 and 0.331 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.131, 0.331, WE EXTEND the comment and reply comment deadlines in response to the Notice of Proposed Rule Making in the above proceeding as discussed herein.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Roger C. Sherman
Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

[4] Auction 97 makes available 1,614 licenses covering 65 megahertz of spectrum in the 1695-1710 MHz, 1755-1780 MHz, and 2155-2180 MHz bands ("AWS-3" bands). Auction 73 offered 1,099 licenses covering 62 megahertz in the 698-806 MHz band ("700 MHz Band").

[5] On December 8, 2014, the deadlines for comments and replies were extended to January 23, 2015, and February 12, 2015, respectively. *See* Updating Part 1 Competitive Bidding Rules, *Order*, DA 14-1784 (rel. Dec. 8, 2014).

[6] 47 C.F.R. § 1.46(a).