



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

May 4, 2015

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Amendment of the Commission's Rules with Regard to Commercial Operations in the 1695-1710 MHz, 1755-1780 MHz, and 2155-2180 MHz bands (GN Docket No. 13-185)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) submits the enclosed letters for inclusion in the record of the above-referenced proceeding. In accordance with section 1062(b)(1)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on January 16, 2015 sent identical letters to leaders of the Senate and House Committees on Armed Services; the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. The enclosed letters jointly certify that the specified spectrum bands provide comparable technical characteristics to restore essential military capability that will be lost as a result of the Department of Defense (DoD) surrendering use of the 1755-1780 MHz band.

On March 31, 2014, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted final rules to make the 1755-1780 MHz band available for commercial use.¹ Because DoD is a primary user of the 1755-1780 MHz band, NTIA, in consultation with DoD and the FCC, evaluated several alternative frequency bands to which DoD could move certain systems. The enclosed letters identify these alternative frequencies and certify that they provide comparable technical characteristics. The alternative frequencies include the 2025-2110 MHz band.

The FCC's final rules amend the Table of Frequency Allocations in a manner that accommodates DoD's access to the 2025-2110 MHz band. However, the FCC determined that this rule change would not take effect until the FCC announces the effective date in the *Federal Register*, which was dependent upon: (1) the auction for 1755-1780 MHz being successfully concluded; and (2) the enclosed joint certifications being submitted to Congress.² Accordingly, now that both of these conditions have been satisfied, NTIA respectfully requests that the FCC proceed to publish a document in the *Federal Register* announcing the effective date of the

¹ See Amendment of the Commission's Rules with Regard to Commercial Operations in the 1695-1710 MHz, 1755-1780 MHz, and 2155-2180 MHz Bands, *Report and Order*, GN Docket No. 13-185, 29 FCC Rcd 4610, 4689, ¶ 211 and Appendix A at §2.106 (US92).

² See *id.* at 4690, ¶ 215; see also 79 Fed. Reg. 32366 (June 4, 2014).

amendment to 47 C.F.R. §2.106, adding Fixed and Mobile allocations for the 2025-2110 MHz band to the Federal Table of Frequency Allocations.

Please direct any questions you may have regarding this letter to the undersigned, at (202) 482-1816 or ksmith@ntia.doc.gov. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy D. Smith
Chief Counsel

Enclosures