

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

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
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	)	WT Docket No. 10-4
	)	
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on the Current State of Consumer Signal Boosters	)	DA 16-221
	)	

**COMMENTS OF VERIZON<sup>1</sup>**

The consumer signal booster rules adopted by the Commission in 2013 have worked as intended to promote the use of consumer signal boosters by consumers to enhance coverage while protecting wireless networks from interference. There is no need to modify those rules at this time.

Under the rules adopted by the Commission, safe and effective consumer signal boosters are being manufactured, certified, and used by consumers on wireless networks. As noted in the Public Notice, the Commission has certified a total of 76 consumer signal boosters from a number of different manufacturers for use by wireless consumers.<sup>2</sup> And all of the nationwide wireless providers have consented to the use of FCC certified signal boosters by their

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<sup>1</sup> In addition to Verizon Wireless, the Verizon companies participating in this filing are the regulated, wholly-owned subsidiaries of Verizon Communications Inc.

<sup>2</sup> Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comment on the Current State of Consumer Signal Boosters, Public Notice, WT Docket No. 10-4, DA 16-221 (rel. Feb. 29, 2016).

subscribers.<sup>3</sup> Verizon has over 10,000 registered consumer signal booster users, and that number has more than doubled in the last year. Any customers that want to purchase a consumer signal booster to enhance coverage in rural or other areas may now choose from multiple booster models designed to work on their service provider’s network.

And consumers are operating these consumer signal boosters without harming wireless carrier networks. Prior to adoption of the current rules, Verizon and others cited numerous examples of interference to wireless and public safety networks caused by poorly manufactured or malfunctioning signal boosters.<sup>4</sup> But the consumer signal booster design requirements adopted by the Commission, which were initially developed by a group of wireless carriers and booster manufacturers, have all but eliminated the interference problems caused by signal boosters manufactured prior to the rules taking effect. Indeed, Verizon has experienced no significant booster-related interference issues since 2014. Likewise, Sprint recently reported that it “has found that Consumer Signal Boosters certified by OET as meeting the required Network Protection Standards are currently causing no significant negative impact on our Network operations.”<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> AT&T, Sprint, and Verizon have approved the use of all 76 FCC-certified consumer signal boosters. T-Mobile has approved the use of all consumer signal boosters except those operating on Band 12, which are still being reviewed. *See* Letter from I.C. Nogales, AT&T, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WT Docket No. 10-4 (Mar. 8, 2016); Sprint Consumer Signal Booster Information, WT Docket No. 10-4 (filed Mar. 8, 2016); Letter from Steve Sharkey, T-Mobile, to Marlene H. Dortch, FCC, WT Docket No. 10-4 (Mar. 9, 2016); Letter from Andre J. Lachance, Verizon, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WT Docket No. 10-4 (Mar. 9, 2016). Only the four nationwide providers are required to indicate the approval status of FCC-certified consumer signal boosters.

<sup>4</sup> *See* Comments of CTIA, WT Docket No. 10-4 (Jul. 25, 2011) at 3-4 (citing numerous examples of interference caused by signal boosters to public safety entities and wireless carrier networks); Comments of Verizon Wireless, WT Docket No. 10-4 (Feb. 4, 2010) at 6-8 (noting hundreds of incidents of interference caused by signal boosters); Letter from Orange County, CA Sheriff’s Department to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WT Docket No. 10-4 (Feb. 4, 2010) at 1-2 (stating that the county spends about 300 hours per year investigating complaints of interference to its public safety network caused by signal boosters).

<sup>5</sup> Sprint Consumer Signal Booster Information at 2.

There is no reason to modify the Commission's consumer signal booster rules at this time. Those rules are working as intended to make signal boosters available to customers that need them while protecting wireless networks from interference.

Respectfully submitted,

VERIZON

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andre J. Lachance". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

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