



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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**SPECTRUM POLICY TASK FORCE ANNOUNCES PANELISTS FOR THE
AUGUST 1st PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON
UNLICENSED SPECTRUM AND EXPERIMENTAL LICENSES AND THE
AUGUST 2nd PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON
INTERFERENCE PROTECTION**

ET Docket No. 02-135

As previously announced by a Public Notice released on July 10, 2002, the Spectrum Policy Task Force will hold the first two in a series of four public workshops addressing spectrum policy issues on August 1st and August 2nd. The August 1st workshop will address issues related to Unlicensed Spectrum and Experimental Licenses. The August 2nd workshop will address issues related to Interference Protection. Each workshop will be held from 9 am to 3 pm in the Commission Meeting Room, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, DC.

The Spectrum Policy Task Force is charged with conducting a systemic evaluation of existing spectrum policies and with making recommendations as to possible improvements. These workshops will provide input into this review. Throughout the course of the panels, there will be the opportunity for questions from the public audience.

The following agenda provides the names and affiliations of the invited panelists. Additional participants may be confirmed prior to the event. The final list will be published on the Spectrum Policy Task Force web site at www.fcc.gov/SPTF.

August 1st: Unlicensed Spectrum and Experimental Licenses:

Unlicensed Spectrum:

The Commission has provided for the operation of low power unlicensed devices under Part 15 of the rules. Devices operating under Part 15 must meet technical standards that are designed to control harmful interference to radio communications services. Users must correct any harmful interference that may occur and must accept any interference that is received. The Part 15 rules accommodate millions of products

used by consumers and businesses including, cordless telephones, garage door openers, anti-pilferage systems, wireless local area networks, RF identification systems, and a broad range of other applications. Most recently, industry has developed standards, such as Wi-Fi and Bluetooth, that are enabling deployment of broadband digital applications for community use and at wireless access points. The Commission has also attempted to facilitate public access to spectrum-based services that are authorized by rules (*e.g.*, Citizens Band Radio Service, Family Radio Service, Multi-Use Radio Service.)

These panels will discuss the benefits and limitations of the Commission's policies for unlicensed devices. For example, should the Commission consider allowing unlicensed devices to operate at higher power levels in specific frequency bands and, if so, which bands? Does the Commission currently provide sufficient spectrum for unlicensed devices? To what extent do unlicensed devices satisfy the need for wireless broadband access to the Internet? Will the uncoordinated nature of unlicensed devices eventually, with widespread deployment, lead to interference that makes the devices unreliable? Are there steps the Commission should consider, such as the implementation of a spectrum etiquette, that would reduce interference among Part 15 devices and lead to more efficient use of the spectrum? Should the Commission expand the types of spectrum uses that can be authorized by rule?

Panel 1: Role of Unlicensed Systems in Future Spectrum Management Policies

Moderators: Co-moderator, to be determined, and Michael Marcus, FCC

Michael Calabrese, New America Foundation
Lawrence Lessig, Stanford Law School
DeWayne Hendricks, Dandin Group
David Reed, Reed.com
Peter Hadinger, TRW Space & Electronics Group
William Chamberlain, Cobra Electronics
Robert Phaneuf, Harmonix Division of Terabeam

Panel 2: Possible Evolutionary Improvements to Unlicensed Rules

Moderators: Co-moderator, to be determined, and Michael Marcus, FCC

Kevin Negus, Proxim
Peirre DeVries, Microsoft Corporation
Patrick Leary, Alvarion
Dudley Freeman, UniiGo Communications
Art Reilly, Cisco Systems
Vanu Bose, Vanu, Inc.
Ramesh Rao, San Diego Division, California Institute for Telecommunications
and Information Technology and Department of Electrical and Computer
Engineering, UCSD

Carl Stevenson, IEEE 802.18 Radio Regulatory Technical Advisory Group and
WECA

Experimental Licenses:

The experimental license program provides a means by which new technologies and concepts can be developed and evaluated. It also provides for limited market studies and technical demonstrations, as well as other research and study activities. This panel will discuss the successes and limitations of the experimental license program. Are any changes required to facilitate better use of this capability? Also, the Commission strives to be proactive in facilitating new technologies and services. Is the experimental licensing program providing sufficient information for this purpose? Can it be improved? If so, how?

Panel:

Moderators: Lauren Van Wazer, FCC, and Michael Marcus, FCC

David Hilliard, Wiley Rein & Fielding
Larry Solomon, Shook, Hardy & Bacon
Michael Lynch, Nortel Networks
David Borth, Motorola
Leo Hoarty, Dotcast
Karl Nebbia, NTIA
Bruce Franca, FCC

August 2nd: Interference Protection:

As the Commission considers how to provide opportunities for new technologies and radio services, a central issue is how to protect against harmful interference. The Commission rules define harmful interference as “[i]nterference which endangers the functioning of a radionavigation service or of other safety services or seriously degrades, obstructs, or repeatedly interrupts a radiocommunication service”¹ In a number of recent rulemaking proceedings, there have been wide differences in views about the meaning of harmful interference. For example, some have argued that degradation of link margins should be considered harmful interference, even where there would be no noticeable impact to the user.

Interference standards that are overly conservative may prevent or impede the introduction of new services and technologies. On the other hand, interference standards that are too lax may have a detrimental impact on existing and planned services. Also, as the Commission provides increased flexibility for use of the spectrum, potential interference may be more difficult to predict. These panels will discuss ways in which the Commission can better evaluate and apply standards to control interference among users of the spectrum that allow for the proper balance between these objectives.

¹ 47 C.F.R. § 2.1.

Panel 1: Interference Challenges:

Moderators: Dale Hatfield, consultant, and Keith Larson, FCC

Lynn Claudy, National Association of Broadcasters

Martin Rofheart, Xtreme Spectrum

Glen Nash, APCO

Robert Briskman, Sirius Satellite Radio

Andrew Clegg, Cingular

Rebecca Cowen-Hirsch, U.S. Department of Defense, Office of Spectrum
Analysis and Management

Paul Steffes, Georgia Tech, Commission On Radio Frequencies (CORF)

Panel 2: Advanced Technologies:

Moderators: Brian Woerner, Virginia Tech, and Ronald Repasi, FCC

Raymond Pickholtz, George Washington University

Douglas Lockie, Endwave Corp.

Jack Wengryniuk, Hughes Network Systems

Marc Goldberg, ArrayComm

Panel 3: A Better Process:

Moderators: Charles Jackson, consultant, and Thomas Stanley, FCC

Dennis Miller, Rural Cellular Association and Midwest Wireless

Phillip Barsky, XM Radio

Nancy Jesuale, City of Portland

Stephen Baruch, Leventhal, Senter & Lerman

Dale Hatfield, consultant

Mark Crosby, Access Spectrum

John Storch, Western Wireless

Audio/Video coverage of the workshops will be broadcast live on the Internet from the FCC website at www.fcc.gov/realaudio. Audio and video tapes of the workshops can be purchased from CACI Productions (formerly Infocus Media), 341 Victory Drive, Herndon, VA 20170, by calling CACI at (703) 834-1470 or by faxing CACI at (703) 834-0111.

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