

Of the various plans that have been proposed, and recognizing that no plan will be free of negative consequences for somebody, the PWC "Consensus Plan" does seem to be the best over all approach. However, there are some significant inequities that can and should be addressed - especially in the area of funding. My understanding is the \$500 million contribution by Nextel will be for Public Safety interests. That amount seems to be severely inadequate even for the just the Public Safety interests. But what about the cost ramifications of utility interests? I don't see any monies allocated for them. Regardless of the fact that Nextel was playing within the rules, the bottom line is that their overwhelming use of the frequency spectrum is what created this mess. Hence, I firmly believe they should bear the burden of alleviation. The financial burden to be imposed upon the utilities under the plan seems to be unfair, unjustified, unwarranted, and unnecessary.

Additionally, I hope that the 'RF dirt' not be simply swept under a different rug elsewhere in the frequency spectrum. It would be best to review the technical standards, rules, etc... that allowed this mess to happen in the first place, and changed so that it's not another problem to be addressed at a future point in time. Let's disarm the problem now while we have the chance.

Regards,
Ralph E. Thomas
Austin Energy, Wireless Engineering Project Coordinator