

SUPPORT FOR 800 MHz CONSENSUS PLAN

- Interference problem is wide-spread, and getting worse
- Solution must prevent interference from occurring, not merely provide a tool-kit for fixing it after the fact.
- Re-Banding necessary to (1) eliminate out-of-band emission (OOBE) problem creating by interleaving of public safety and Nextel channels, and (2) to drastically reduce potential for intermodulation by maximizing separation between public safety and systems using cellular architecture (Nextel and other cellular carriers).
- Consensus Plan accomplishes re-banding by leaving in place as many users as possible, but some channel changes inevitable.
- Re-banding can be accomplished in the vast majority of cases by re-tuning existing radio equipment. Very few radios will need replacement.
- While not without “pain,” it is far better to expend some effort now to fix the problem, rather than engage in constant monitoring and system modifications to find and correct ongoing interference to public safety radio systems.
- Nextel estimate of \$850 million cost appears reasonable, but public safety groups would not object to eliminating cap and inserting a requirement that Nextel pay total cost, with reasonable reimbursement guidelines.
- Important benefit of Consensus Plan is the creation of additional public safety channels within the crowded 800 MHz band. Additional channels will relieve congestion and allow for expansion of interoperable, multi-agency 800 MHz radio systems to include additional users.

Problems with Balanced Approach

- Largely Reactive, responding to interference once it occurs and creates a dangerous situation.
- Some portions of Balanced Plan would cause Nextel to add sites, thus increasing the potential for interference.
- Proposal for piecemeal channel swaps is not viable for NPSPAC channels, which constitute the largest group of 800 MHz public safety channels.
- Substantial on-going, long-term cost to find and repair interference, which drains scarce staff and resources.

- No plan to pay for the cost.
- Does not address interference from cellular carriers other than Nextel.
- Motorola equipment upgrades only address some forms of interference (i.e., not OOBE)
- Motorola equipment upgrades more expensive per unit than re-tuning under Consensus Plan
- Motorola equipment upgrade a good supplement, but not a replacement for Consensus Plan.
- No additional spectrum for public safety.