

I would like to encourage the FCC to reallocate some spectrum for exclusive use of internet service providers or other deployers of outdoor fixed wireless broadband data networks.

Currently numerous companies, mine included, are working to deploy high-speed internet service in areas it does not yet exist by using off the shelf wi-fi equipment because licenses and licensed equipment is much too expensive in many rural markets. A problem that we run into is that the 2.4 GHz and other ISM bands are jammed with all sorts of off the shelf consumer products, like cordless phones, security cameras, etc. Many of our customers would like to have their own home Wi-Fi Lan, and we have to ensure that their signals do not interfere with the one they are using on their roof to connect to our network. It is quite a bit of a pain to deal with at times.

I feel that the vast majority of wireless ISPs are more than willing to cooperate with each other to ensure that their network deployments do not cause signal interference with each other. In fact, I have been negotiating with some other companies in our area to potentially form a co-op in which we would interconnect our wireless networks in such a manner as to bypass the local phone company and get bandwidth at a reduced cost directly from the backbone carrier, as it is simply not economical to continue purchasing T1 circuits at premium prices for our backhaul.

What we need is a small chunk of spectrum that any ISP or other outdoor network deployer can freely use without worry of interference by completely irrelevant devices. I would suggest charging a very minimal (say \$100/year) registration fee for ISPs to identify themselves and the general area or community that they intend to use the spectrum in. This way when one goes to deploy a fixed wireless data network, we would not worry about interference from everybody and their brother and could get a very simple list of other organizations using the spectrum in our area, so that we can contact them and work out arrangements to ensure that our signals do not cause problems with each others networks. I would strongly discourage the FCC from allowing consumer products to use these frequencies, as they already have several different ISM bands to use (900 Mhz, 2.4 GHz, etc.)

Sincerely,

Jeff Phillips
Rural Ramp