



**Sprint Nextel**  
2001 Edmund Halley Drive  
Reston, VA 20191

December 13, 2006

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: 2.5 GHz Transition Initiation Plan for South Bend-Mishawaka, IN BTA (BTA424)  
WT Docket No. 06-136

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 27.1231(f) of the Federal Communications Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 27.1231(f), American Telecasting of Michiana, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Sprint Nextel Corporation (collectively "Sprint Nextel") hereby submits this Initiation Plan to transition the Broadband Radio Service ("BRS") and Educational Broadband Service ("EBS") licensees in Basic Trading Area ("BTA") 424 – South-Bend-Mishawaka.<sup>1</sup> As indicated below, this Initiation Plan filing includes: (i) identification of the BTA being transitioned; (ii) a list by call sign of all of the BRS and EBS licensees in the BTA that is being transitioned; (iii) a "best estimate" of when the transition will be completed; (iv) a statement confirming that licensees in adjoining or adjacent BTA(s) need not be transitioned to avoid interference to licensees in the subject BTA being transitioned; and (v) a certification that Sprint Nextel has the funds available to pay the reasonable expected costs of the transition.

***Section 27.1231(f)(1)(i), List of BTAs.***

The BTA being transitioned is listed in Exhibit A.

***Section 27.1231(f)(1)(ii), List of Transitioning Licensees.***

A list by call sign of all BRS and EBS licensees in the BTA that is being transitioned is provided in Exhibit A.

***Section 27.1231(f)(1)(iii), Best Estimate for Completion.***

After evaluating the various factors at issue in transitioning these licensees, including the number of licensees being transitioned, Sprint Nextel's best estimate for completion of this transition is on or before July 31, 2007.

***Section 27.1231(f)(1)(iv), Statement on Adjacent BTAs.***

Sprint Nextel has determined that it is unnecessary to transition any BRS/EBS licensees in adjacent or adjoining BTAs in order to avoid interference to the licensees in the markets that are the subject of this Initiation Plan. Our analysis shows that there will be no harmful interference to the transitioned licensees from existing operations outside the BTA. However, if field measurements indicate interference from operations outside the BTA, Sprint Nextel will incorporate the interfering licensee(s) into this transition or initiate transition for the BTA of the interfering licensee(s).

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<sup>1</sup> Sprint Nextel is eligible to serve as the proponent to transition this area under section 27.1231(c)(1) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 27.1231(c). Sprint Nextel has also satisfied all necessary conditions for filing an Initiation Plan, including sending a Pre-Transition Data Request and a Transition Notice to every BRS and EBS licensee in the subject BTA. See 47 C.F.R. §§ 27.1231(d)-(e).

**Section 27.1231(f)(1)(v), Statement on Co-Proponent.**

Not applicable. Sprint Nextel is not transitioning this market jointly with a co-proponent.

**Section 27.1231(f)(1)(vi), Certification of Funds.**

Sprint Nextel certifies, based on the data collected through the Pre-Transition Data Requests, that it has sufficient funds available to pay the reasonable expected costs of the transition. As of September 30, 2006, as reported in Sprint Nextel's SEC Form 10-Q, Sprint Nextel had total assets of \$96.158 billion, unaudited.<sup>2</sup>

In the event you have any questions regarding the Initiation Plan, please contact the undersigned at (703) 433-4222.

Sincerely,



Robert H. McNamara  
Director, Spectrum Management  
Government Affairs  
Sprint Nextel Corporation  
Phone: (703) 433-4222  
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Email: [robert.mcnamara@sprint.com](mailto:robert.mcnamara@sprint.com)

Attachment

cc: Joel Taubenblatt, Chief, Broadband Division, WTB  
John Schauble, Deputy Chief, Broadband Division, WTB  
Nancy Zaczek, Special Counsel, Broadband Division, WTB  
Consuela Kearney, Industry Analyst, Broadband Division, WTB

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<sup>2</sup> See Sprint Nextel Corporation Form 10-Q, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 9, 2006.

## EXHIBIT A

Sprint Nextel is transitioning the South Bend-Mishawaka, IN BTA. The following list sets forth, by call sign, all BRS and EBS licensees that are being transitioned pursuant to this Initiation Plan.

Call Sign	Licensee Name	BTA Name
B424	American Telecasting of Michiana, Inc.	South Bend-Mishawaka, IN
WHR489	Northern Indiana Educational Services Center	South Bend-Mishawaka, IN
WHR490	The Trustees of Indiana University	South Bend-Mishawaka, IN
WHR491	Ivy Tech State College	South Bend-Mishawaka, IN
WLX423	Views on Learning, Inc.	South Bend-Mishawaka, IN
WLX457	North American Catholic Educational Programming Foundation, Inc.	South Bend-Mishawaka, IN
WMI853	American Telecasting of Michiana, Inc.	South Bend-Mishawaka, IN
WNTM640	American Telecasting of Michiana, Inc.	South Bend-Mishawaka, IN