



Making the Partnership Work:
Technical Solutions for the 700 MHz D Block
December 9, 2008



Excellent progress on technical issues in the tentative conclusions and solid framework for success

- Technology-neutral approach using auction mechanism for market-driven selection of a common air interface
- Coverage, availability and hardening above commercial levels but viable
- Throughput design objectives support public safety broadband services
- Priority access rules accommodate public safety emergencies with limited capacity for commercial users
- Interoperability with satellite and other public safety networks, but not a cost burden on shared network
- Early builds with technical compatibility and acquisitions at avoided costs to the shared network

USCC supports some refinements on technical issues to the tentative conclusions

- State emergency priority access in terms of 70% or 60% of total engineered capacity in an affected location, not MHz
- Clarify that throughput standards are addressed for specific applications in the NSA
- National platform for public safety applications
- Reasonable efforts to support satellite gateways and multi-mode user devices, but D Block licensees do not bear the costs of an integrated satellite solution and not required to offer or subsidize satellite services or user devices
 - Coordination with satellite service providers, manufacturers and users
 - Reasonable efforts apply to as many user devices as users demand
- Reasonable efforts to support gateways for other public safety networks, but D Block licensees do not bear the costs of such interoperation
- Nationwide licensee chooses LTE or WiMax, unless PSBL concurs with an alternative technology

USCC supports some refinements on other issues

- Reduce minimum opening bids in areas with high costs for narrowband relocation
- Rules state rate principles rather than specific amounts for “basic rate” and gateway charge
- Time frame for NSA negotiations of 3-4 months
- Allow recovery of costs for priority access
- National committee of area licensees
- Negotiate reasonable roaming arrangements (terrestrial-terrestrial and terrestrial-satellite)
- No bankruptcy remote entities for network assets or operations, and no performance bonds or letters of credit
- Critical infrastructure users can have priority access in emergencies but not discounted public safety rates