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September 25, 2009

Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W. Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band; Consolidating the 800 and 900 MHz Industrial/Land Transportation and Business Pool Channels Amendment of Part 2 of the Commission's Rules to Allocate Spectrum Below 3 GHz for Mobile and Fixed Services to Support the Introduction of New Advanced Wireless Services, including Third Generation Wireless Systems; Amendment of Section 2.106 of the Commission's Rules to Allocate Spectrum at 2 GHz for use by the Mobile Satellite Service, WT Docket No. 02-55, ET Docket No. 00-258, ET Docket No. 95-18; and*

Review of the Spectrum Sharing Plan among Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit Mobile Satellite Service Systems in the 1.6/2.4 GHz Bands, IB Docket No. 02-364 and ET Docket No. 00-258.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Sprint Nextel Corporation, Michael Degitz, Lucinda Hutter-Cavell, Harold McCombs and I, spoke yesterday with Jamison Prime, Patrick Forster, Geraldine Matise, Ira Keltz, Julius Knapp, Bruce Romano, Nicholas Oros and Allen Stillwell of the Office of Engineering Technology. The principal focus of the meeting was on the licensing, hardware and system configurations of equipment on broadcast auxiliary service (BAS) channels A8-10, particularly as they relate to Broadband Radio Service Channel 1, as summarized in the attached document. We also discussed the progress of the broadcast auxiliary service (BAS) transition and the status of the negotiations with three New Mexico non-commercial educational licensees who have not yet executed frequency relocation agreements. A copy of the latest 2 GHz Relocation Progress map is attached. We also discussed the status of the DBSD North America, Inc., *et al.* bankruptcy proceeding.

If any questions arise concerning this filing, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Trey Hanbury, Esq.
Director, Sprint Nextel Corporation

BRS Channel 1 and BAS Channel 10

■ **Licenses** – 72 BAS licenses to operate on Channel 10.

- 64 TV Pickups (8 of which are licensed for multiple TX sites).
- 7 TV Intercity Relays (5 of which are licensed for 2 TX sites)
- 1 TV Translator Relay (licensed for 2 TX sites).
- Less than 72 separate licensees, but many are large group owners (e.g. ABC, CBS, NBC) in the largest markets, including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, San Diego, Detroit, St. Louis, Phoenix, Denver, Cleveland, Indianapolis, New Orleans and Boston.

■ **Transmitters and Receivers**

- Manufacturer A – a fix depends on the age of the equipment.
 - Newest equipment would need a software push (probably from a CD and not from Internet).
 - Older equipment (about 3 years old) would need to go back to the factory for a firmware upgrade.
 - Oldest equipment would need to either be replaced or have major and costly modifications. Solution is unclear.
- Manufacturer B – software changes via the Internet. Central receivers will need hardware updates for the built-in spectrum monitors.
- Manufacturer C – software changes via the Internet.
- Other smaller manufacturers would require software changes via the Internet or via computer.

■ **Antennas**

- All antennas would need new filters for channel 10 users.
- Estimate replacement of filters at 240 receive sites.

■ **Antenna-Feed** – replace all of them, regardless of manufacturer, only for channel 10 licensees.

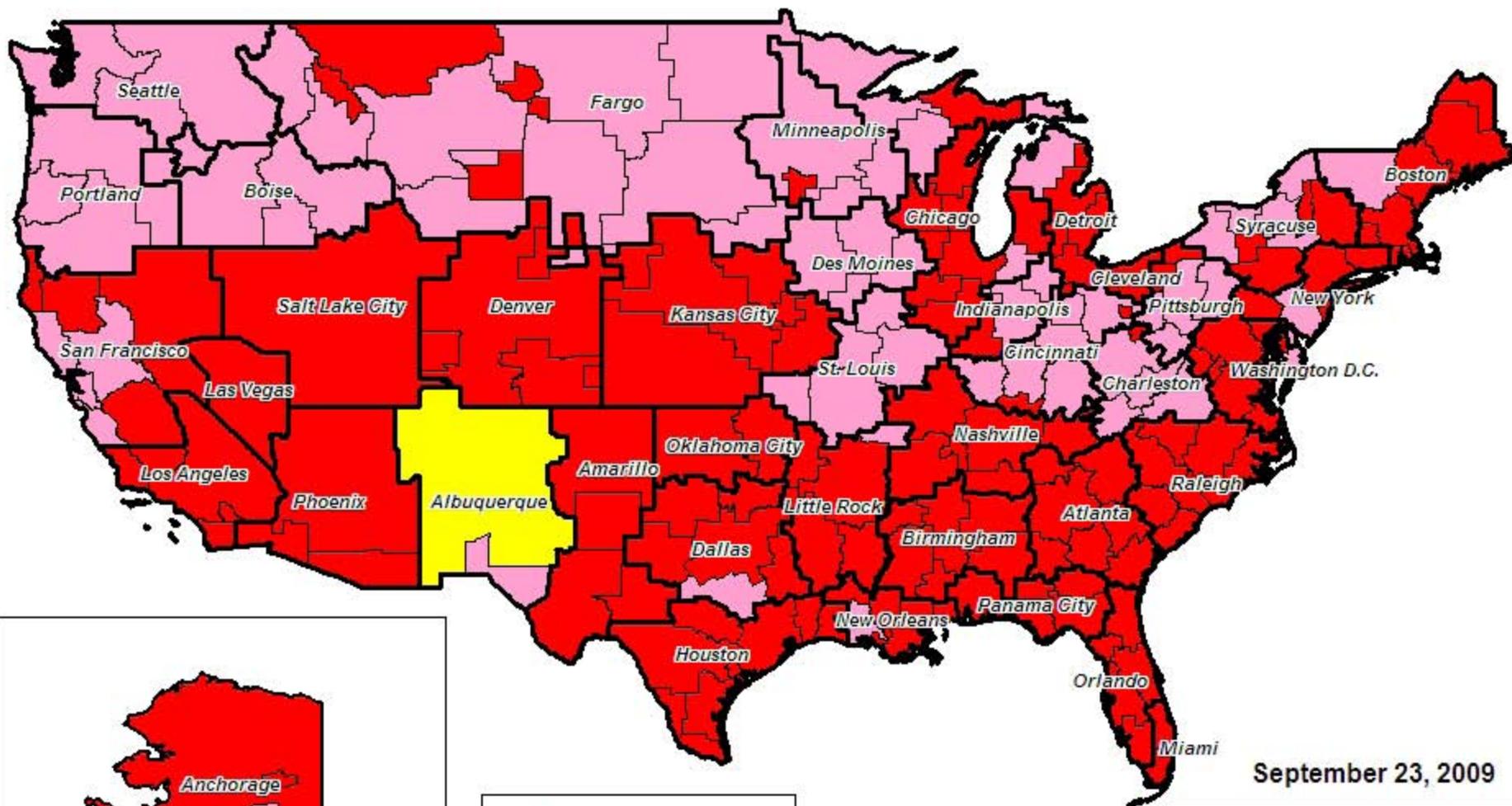
■ **Controllers**

- Manufacturer D – software changes to all control system computers (both at the station and at the remote receive sites), plus some hardware changes and re-engineering of the spectrum monitor.
- Manufacturer E – software changes to all control system computers (both at the station and at the remote receive sites).
- Manufacturer F – difficult software changes.

■ **Comments**

- All the new software will have to be written.
- The manufacturers have not been approached about pricing, or about replacement/upgrade schedules.
- Installation vendors have not been approached about installation schedules.

2 GHz Relocation Progress by DMA



September 23, 2009

