



**Sprint Nextel**  
2001 Emund Halley Drive  
Reston, Virginia 20191

July 15, 2010

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

**Re: COMPLETION OF BROADCAST AUXILIARY SERVICE TRANSITION**  
Transition of Broadcast Auxiliary Service Licensees in the Anchorage, AK DMA  
*Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band*  
WT Docket No. 02-55 and ET Docket Nos. 00-258 and 95-18

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Broadcast Auxiliary Service (BAS) licensees in Anchorage, Alaska, transitioned to a new, more efficient spectrum band plan today that clears the way for millions of consumers nationwide to gain faster and cheaper access to innovative new broadband services. With today's transition of Anchorage Designated Market Area (DMA), all fifty states, territories and possessions of the United States now have access to thirty-five megahertz of valuable wireless broadband spectrum. Once fully distributed, this new spectrum has the potential to enhance create jobs, enhance economic competitiveness, and increase productivity.

The conclusion of the BAS transition represents an important step toward President Obama's goal of freeing 500 MHz of additional wireless broadband spectrum to maintain America's competitiveness and global technology leadership. The transition of the last of the BAS incumbents to a new, more efficient spectrum plan is the culmination of a years-long effort that required roughly 1000 operational television broadcasters to replace approximately 100,000 pieces of television transmission equipment without disrupting free, over-the-air television service to the public. All told, the BAS transition involved more than 1,000 highly skilled engineers, technicians, tower climbers, machinists, welders, metal workers, and laborers to help replace aging microwave and electronic newsgathering equipment with new, high-performing equipment capable of operating more efficiently in other spectrum.

Sprint Nextel, which spent roughly three-quarters of a billion dollars to clear the BAS band, is extraordinarily proud of its record of success on this relocation project. Today's successful conclusion of the transition comes despite a host of obstacles ranging from natural disasters to limited production lines and complex tax considerations. The transition could not have been achieved without the good faith efforts and commitment of the nation's broadcasters and a network of manufacturers, suppliers, integrators, installers, tower climbers, and other vendors. And the Association for Maximum Service Television, Inc. (MSTV), the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), and the Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE), in particular, deserve praise and the nation's thanks for their assistance in ensuring the orderly and timely transition of BAS incumbents from the band.

In February 2010, the Commission directed Sprint Nextel to file timely reports in the above-referenced dockets when each of the remaining untransitioned DMAs completed its

relocation.<sup>1</sup> The Anchorage DMA<sup>2</sup> was the last of the subject DMAs and this report fulfills and concludes Sprint Nextel's reporting requirements for the BAS transition. Attachment A identifies the licensees that have transitioned to the new band plan. Concurrent with filing this Notification, Sprint Nextel also has provided copies of this Notification via email to the licensees in the Anchorage DMA listed in Attachment A.

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

Sincerely,

*/s/ R.H. McNamara*

Robert H. McNamara  
Director, Spectrum Management

Attachment

cc: (Via Email)

Mr. Julius Knapp, FCC  
Ms. Geraldine Matisse, FCC  
Mr. Nicholas Oros, FCC  
Mr. Jamison Prime, FCC  
Mr. Stephen Buenzow, FCC  
Ms. Ruth Taylor, FCC  
Mr. John Lambert, FCC  
Mr. David Donovan, MSTV  
Mr. Christopher Imlay, SBE  
Mr. Larry Walke, NAB  
Mr. Terry Fox, for MSTV

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<sup>1</sup> See *Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band*, Order, 25 FCC Rcd. 1295, DA 10- 235 (rel. Feb. 5, 2010).

<sup>2</sup> The Anchorage, AK DMA is defined pursuant to the Nielson designated market area.

## Attachment A

The following list sets forth, by call sign, the licensees in the Anchorage, AK DMA that have transitioned from the 1990-2110 MHz band to the 2025-2110 MHz band pursuant to the Commission's *800 MHz R&O*.

| Call Sign/ Station Class | TV Station Call Letters | Licensee Name                                   | DMA Name  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---|-----------|
| KC26375/BAS              | KTVA                    | AFFILIATED MEDIA, INC. FCC TRUST                | Anchorage |
| WPOQ878/BAS*             | KTVA                    | ALASKA BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.               | Anchorage |
| KW5912/BAS               | KAKM                    | ALASKA PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS INC            | Anchorage |
| WHB368/BAS               | KAKM                    | ALASKA PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS INC            | Anchorage |
| WHB370/BAS               | KAKM                    | ALASKA PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS INC            | Anchorage |
| WHF292/BAS               | KAKM                    | ALASKA PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS INC            | Anchorage |
| KC26081/BAS              | KTUU-TV                 | NORTHERN LIGHTS MEDIA, INC.                     | Anchorage |
| WPOQ877/BAS*             | KTVA                    | ALASKA BROADCASTING COMPANY, INC.               | Anchorage |
| WHB360/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WHB361/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WHB362/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WHB363/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WHB367/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WHB369/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WHF290/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WHF295/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WHQ354/BAS               |                         | ANCHORAGE BROADCAST TELEVISION CONSORTIUM, INC. | Anchorage |
| WPJA300/BAS              |                         | PIEDMONT TELEVISION OF ACHORAGE LICENSE LLC     | Anchorage |
| WPJA301/BAS              |                         | NORTHERN LIGHTS MEDIA, INC.                     | Anchorage |
| WPJA558/BAS              |                         | VISION ALASKA I LLC                             | Anchorage |
| WPJA560/BAS              |                         | FIREWEED COMMUNICATIONS LLC                     | Anchorage |
| WPJA572/BAS              |                         | VISION ALASKA I LLC                             | Anchorage |

\* *These licenses have been cancelled.*