



City of Virginia Beach

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January 25, 2011

David Furth, Deputy Chief
Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Subject: ORION Expansion Frequencies – Additional Request for Interim Waiver Relief and Special Temporary Authorization

Mr. Furth:

On September 7, 2010 a letter was received granting in part our request, dated July 29, 2010, as amended on August 30, 2010, filed on behalf of the Overlay Regional Interoperability Network (ORION), for interim waiver relief and special temporary authorization (STA) to use 10 pre-consolidation 700 MHz State License channels at 14 sites across the Hampton Roads area of southeastern Virginia, from August 1, 2010, through February 28, 2011.

Over the past 5 months we have worked through an agreement with the State to use these same frequencies, commenced the reprogramming of subscribers, and as of last week, initiated the appropriate documents to enter into a contract for equipment and services from Motorola to retune the infrastructure. In this ~\$1.2 million contract, the timeline to begin the retuning of the infrastructure starts Jun 2, 2011 and should be completed by August 31, 2011. Needless to say, this date extends beyond the current February 28, 2011 authorization, and therefore we are requesting an additional 6 months to complete this work.

As stated in the initial request, we are requesting use of the original pre-consolidation frequencies at all ORION/UASI sites (as listed below) until August 31, 2011. Please see attached FCC Application for Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Radio Service Authorization (FCC 601 form) for all sites.

The following is a listing of the 700 MHz State channels for the ORION project:

State Channels	System	Original Base Tx Frequencies (Pre-Consolidation)	New Base Tx Frequencies (Post Consolidation)
645-646	ORION	774.03125 MHz	773.03125 MHz
689-690	UASI	774.30625 MHz	773.30625 MHz
725-726	ORION	774.53125 MHz	773.53125 MHz
733-734	UASI	774.58125 MHz	773.58125 MHz

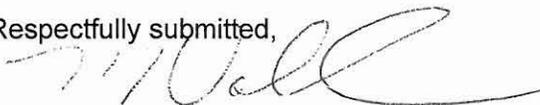
769-770	ORION	774.80625 MHz	773.80625 MHz
805-806	UASI	775.03125 MHz	774.03125 MHz
813-814	ORION	775.08125 MHz	774.08125 MHz
849-850	UASI	775.30625 MHz	774.30625 MHz
853-854	ORION	775.33125 MHz	774.33125 MHz
885-886	UASI	775.53125 MHz	774.53125 MHz

The following is a listing of the RF sites by system:

System	RF Site Names	City/County Location
ORION Phase I	Plaza Trail	Virginia Beach
	Pleasant Ridge	Virginia Beach
	City Hall	Norfolk
	Bunch Walnuts	Chesapeake
	City Hall	Hampton
	Station 8	Newport News
	Whaleyville	Suffolk
ORION Phase II	29th Street	Virginia Beach
	Bowers Hill	Chesapeake
	Lee Hall	Newport News
	Downtown	Suffolk
UASI	Owens-Brockway	James City County
	Animal Shelter	Gloucester County
	SBA Steel LLC	Surry County

We are asking the FCC to approve this request for STA extension until August 31, 2011. Approval of this request will provide adequate time to reband the majority of our subscribers as well as the infrastructure at all 14 of the ORION radio sites with the appropriate post consolidated frequencies. This will result in a more efficient and better coordinated rebanding effort, reduced costs for the FCC and Verizon and free up the pre-consolidation spectrum well ahead of what is otherwise expected. Please be assured that the extension requested is not only driven by the dates that you grant but also restricted by the terms of the UASI 2008 grant that is actually funding this work. Your time and consideration is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



Mick Vollmer, Technology Architect, ORION Steering Committee Chair
 Department of Communications and Information Technology
 City of Virginia Beach

cc: Todd H. Lane, City of Virginia Beach, Telecommunications
 ORION Steering Committee Members