

Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of )  
 )  
ICOM AMERICA, INC. ) WT Docket No. 11-178  
Request for Clarification of Section 90.187(b) )  
of the Commission's Rules )

To: The Commission

**REPLY COMMENTS OF ICOM AMERICA, INC.**

Icom America, Inc. (“Icom”), through counsel and pursuant to Section 1.415(c) of the Commission’s Rules, 47 C.F.R. 1.415(c), hereby respectfully submits its Reply Comments in the above-captioned proceeding. Icom’s reply comments are being submitted in response to two sets of Comments, one by Motorola Solutions, Inc. (“MSI”), and one by the Telecommunications Industry Association (“TIA”).

TIA’s Comments were supportive of Icom’s Request with regard to Business/Industrial Pool channels.<sup>1</sup> However, TIA cautioned against applying the same analysis for shared public safety pool channels.<sup>2</sup> Icom agrees with TIA’s position. There is a vast difference in the coordination procedures and operational needs on shared Business/Industrial Pool channels, as compared to share Public Safety Pool channels.

In New York City, for example, there are literally hundreds of users authorized for the same UHF or VHF Business/Industrial Pool channel in the same geographic area. While FCC mandated narrowbanding may somewhat alleviate a small proportion of this spectrum congestion, the reality is that there will be little noticeable change. Thus, the real spectrum

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<sup>1</sup> TIA Comments at 3.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

efficiency (the goal of the entire narrowbanding proceeding) and reduction in the need to continually find a “hole” to fit in a communication on a shared channel will come through trunking. Trunking offers the best use of scarce spectrum, enabling loading factors of up to four times greater than conventional channel usage, through the utilization of unoccupied airtime. The new, digital trunking technologies presently being introduced in the UHF and VHF bands not only provide this greater spectral utilization, but also offer new services that are more efficient than voice communications.

These digital trunked technologies require some data bursts in order to provide these benefits. The “interference” from such bursts is negligible,<sup>3</sup> and make for a clear and compelling case to provide needed benefits for this bands.

In contrast, UHF and VHF Public Safety Pool channels are not as congested by different systems, as compared to Business/Industrial Pool channels. While the sheer number of users operating on the channel may be similar, the number of individual licensees will typically be fewer. Thus, while trunking technologies also benefit Public Safety Pool users, the necessity of decentralized trunked systems on such frequencies is far less frequent. Therefore, the necessity of the data burst is significantly reduced.

Icom agrees with MSI that the Commission should limit its consideration of this issue to the specific facts at hand. There are so many potential iterations of tones, and for differing reasons, that the Commission should not consider a “one size fits all” policy. Rather, manufacturers should be encouraged to discuss with the Commission their specific product proposals, and the Commission should expeditiously consider each methodology.

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<sup>3</sup> Indeed, through the use of carrier squelch employed by many co-channel users in these bands, even this data burst can be routinely suppressed.

Icom has provided information to the Commission concerning the compliance of its equipment with the Commission's Rules. There have been no comments submitted arguing that Icom's technology is inconsistent with the Commission's Rules with regard to UHF and VHF Business/Industrial Pool channels. WHEREFORE, the premises considered, it is respectfully requested that the Commission act in accordance with the reply comments submitted herein.

Respectfully submitted,

ICOM AMERICA, INC.

By: Alan S. Tilles, Esquire

It's Attorney

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