

Unfortunately, the FCC failed to require Verizon to bring its new spectrum online as quickly as possible. Though Verizon consistently argued that its network would collapse within three years if it did not get this new spectrum, the company agreed to serve only 70 percent of the customers within **seven** years. This buildout “requirement” is laughable. Seven years is too long for rural and suburban customers to wait for quality mobile broadband service.

The length of these requirements exposes Verizon’s misleading claims about its supposedly dire nationwide spectrum crisis. If the company were truly spectrum-starved, it would be putting this spectrum to use much more quickly. The true value Verizon finds in most of these licenses is the ability to prevent competitors' use of this spectrum.