

PART 90 RULES
Relevant to PTC-220's FCC Presentation of October 2, 2012

§ 90.715 Frequencies available.

(a) The following table indicates the channel designations of frequencies available for assignment to eligible applicants under this subpart. Frequencies shall be assigned in pairs, with base station frequencies taken from the 220–221 MHz band with corresponding mobile and control station frequencies being 1 MHz higher and taken from the 221–222 MHz band. Only the lower half of the frequency pair(s) is listed in the table. Use of these frequencies in the Mexican and Canadian border areas is subject to coordination with those countries. See paragraph (c) of this section for special provisions concerning use in the Mexico border area.

Table of 220–222 MHz Channel Designations

[TABLE OMITTED]

(b) The 200 channels are divided into three sub-bands as follows:

Channel No.	Sub-band	Frequencies (MHz)
1–40	A	220.0025–220.1975/221.0025–221.1975
41–160	C	220.2025–220.7975/221.2025–221.7975
161–200	B	220.8025–220.9975/221.8025–221.9975

(c) *U.S./Mexico border area.* (1) Channels 16–30, 45–60, 76–90, 106–120, 136–145, 156–165, 178–194 are available for primary use within the United States within 120 km (74.6 mi) of the Mexican border, subject to the power and antenna height conditions specified in §90.729 and the use restrictions specified in §§90.717–90.721.

(2) Channels 195–200 are available to both the United States and Mexico in the border area on an unprotected basis. Use is limited to a maximum effective radiated power (ERP) of 2 watts and a maximum antenna height of 6.1 meters (20 ft) above ground.

(3) Channels allotted for primary Mexican use (1–15, 31–45, 61–75, 91–105, 121–135, 146–155, and 166–177) may be used in the border area subject to the condition that the power flux density not exceed $-86 \text{ dB(W/m}^2\text{)}$ at or beyond any point on the border. Stations operating under this provision will be considered secondary and will not be granted protection from harmful interference from stations that have primary use of the frequencies

§ 90.723 Selection and assignment of frequencies.

(a) Phase II applications for frequencies in the 220–222 MHz band shall specify whether their intended use is for 10-channel nationwide systems, 10-channel EA systems, 15-channel Regional systems, public safety/mutual aid use, or emergency medical use. Phase II applicants for frequencies for public safety/mutual aid use or emergency medical use shall specify the number of frequencies requested. All frequencies in this band will be assigned by the Commission.

(b) Phase II channels will be assigned pursuant to §§90.717, 90.719, 90.720, 90.721, 90.761 and 90.763.

(c) Phase II applicants for public safety/mutual aid and emergency medical channels will be assigned only the number of channels justified to meet their requirements.

(d) Phase I base or fixed station receivers utilizing 221–222 MHz frequencies assigned from Sub-band A as designated in §90.715(b) will be geographically separated from those Phase I base or fixed station transmitters utilizing 220–221 MHz frequencies removed 200 kHz or less and assigned from Sub-band B as follows:

Geographic Separation of Sub-Band A; Base or Fixed Station Receivers and Sub-Band B; Base or Fixed Station Transmitters Effective

Separation distance (kilometers)	Radiated power (watts) ¹
0.0–0.3	(²)
0.3–0.5	5
0.5–0.6	10
0.6–0.8	20
0.8–2.0	25
2.0–4.0	50
4.0–5.0	100
5.0–6.0	200
Over 6.0	500

¹Transmitter peak envelope power shall be used to determine effective radiated power.

²Stations separated by 0.3 km or less shall not be authorized. This table does not apply to the low-power channels 196–200. See §90.729(c).

(e) Phase II licensees authorized on 220–221 MHz frequencies assigned from Sub-band B will be required to geographically separate their base station or fixed station transmitters from the base station or fixed station receivers of Phase I licensees authorized on 221–222 MHz frequencies 200 kHz removed or less in Sub-band A in accordance with the Table in paragraph (d) of this section. Such Phase II licensees will not be required to geographically separate their base station or fixed station transmitters from receivers associated with additional transmitter sites that are added by such Phase I licensees in accordance with the provisions of §90.745(a).

(f) Phase II licensees with base or fixed stations transmitting on 220–221 MHz frequencies assigned from Sub-band B and Phase II licensees with base or fixed stations receiving on Sub-band A 221–222 MHz frequencies, if such transmitting and receiving frequencies are 200 kHz or less removed from one another, will be required to coordinate the location of their base stations or fixed stations to avoid interference and to cooperate to resolve any instances of interference in accordance with the provisions of §90.173(b).

(g) Phase I licensees with base or fixed stations transmitting on 220–221 MHz frequencies assigned from Sub-band B and Phase I licensees with base or fixed stations receiving on Sub-band A 221–222 MHz frequencies (if such transmitting and receiving frequencies are 200 kHz or less removed from one another) that add, remove, or modify station sites in accordance with the provisions of §90.745(a) will be required to coordinate such actions with one another to avoid interference and to cooperate to resolve any instances of interference in accordance with the provisions of §90.173(b).

(h) Phase I licensees with base or fixed stations transmitting on 220–221 MHz frequencies assigned from Sub-band B that add, remove, or modify station sites in accordance with the provisions of §90.745(a) will be required to coordinate such actions with Phase II licensees with base or fixed stations receiving on Sub-band A 221–222 MHz frequencies 200 kHz or less removed.

(i) A mobile station is authorized to transmit on any frequency assigned to its associated base station. Mobile units not associated with base stations (see §90.720(a)) must operate on “mobile” channels.

(j) A licensee's fixed station is authorized to transmit on any of the licensee's assigned base station frequencies or mobile station frequencies.

(k) Except for nationwide assignments, the separation of co-channel Phase I base stations, or fixed stations transmitting on base station frequencies, shall be 120 kilometers. Except for Phase I licensees seeking license modification in accordance with the provisions of §§90.751 and 90.753, shorter separations between such stations will be considered by the Commission on a case-by-case basis upon submission of a technical analysis indicating that at least 10 dB protection will be provided to an existing Phase I station's predicted 38 dBu signal level contour. The existing Phase I station's predicted 38 dBu signal level contour shall be calculated using the F(50,50) field strength chart for Channels 7–13 in §73.699 (Fig. 10) of this chapter, with a 9 dB correction factor for antenna height differential. The 10 dB protection to the existing Phase I station's predicted 38 dBu signal level contour shall be calculated using the F(50,10) field strength chart for Channels 7–13 in §73.699 (Fig. 10a) of this chapter, with a 9 dB correction factor for antenna height differential.

§ 90.729 Limitations on power and antenna height.

(a) The permissible effective radiated power (ERP) with respect to antenna heights for land mobile, paging, or fixed stations transmitting on frequencies in the 220–221 MHz band shall be determined from the following Table. These are maximum values and applicants are required to justify power levels requested.

ERP vs. Antenna Height Table²

Antenna height above average terrain (HAAT), meters	Effective radiated power, watts¹
Up to 150	500
150 to 225	250
225 to 300	125
300 to 450	60
450 to 600	30
600 to 750	20
750 to 900	15
900 to 1050	10
Above 1050	5

¹Transmitter PEP shall be used to determine ERP.

²These power levels apply to stations used for land mobile, paging, and fixed operations.

(b) The maximum permissible ERP for mobile units is 50 watts. Portable units are considered as mobile units. Licensees operating fixed stations or paging base stations transmitting on frequencies in the 221–222 MHz band may not operate such fixed stations or paging base stations at power levels greater than 50 watts ERP, and may not transmit from antennas that are higher than 7 meters above average terrain, except that transmissions from antennas that are higher than 7 meters above average terrain will be permitted if the effective radiated power of such transmissions is reduced below 50 watts ERP by $20 \log_{10}(h/7)$ dB, where h is the height above average terrain (HAAT), in meters.

(c) Base station and fixed station transmissions on base station transmit Channels 196–200 are limited to 2 watts ERP and a maximum antenna HAAT of 6.1 meters (20 ft). Licensees authorized on these channels may operate at power levels above 2 watts ERP or with a maximum antenna HAAT greater than 6.1 meters (20 ft) if:

(1) They obtain the concurrence of all Phase I and Phase II licensees with base stations or fixed stations receiving on base station receive Channels 1–40 and located within 6 km of their base station or fixed station; and

(2) Their base station or fixed station is not located in the United States/Mexico or United States/Canada border areas.

§ 90.763 EA, Regional and nationwide system operations.

(a) A nationwide licensee authorized pursuant to §90.717(a) may construct and operate any number of land mobile or paging base stations, or fixed stations, anywhere in the Nation, and transmit on any of its authorized channels, provided that the licensee complies with the requirements of §90.733(i).

(b) An EA or Regional licensee authorized pursuant to §90.761 may construct and operate any number of land mobile or paging base stations, or fixed stations, anywhere within its authorized EA or REAG, and transmit on any of its authorized channels, provided that:

(1) The licensee affords protection to all authorized co-channel Phase I non-nationwide base stations as follows:

(i) The EA or Regional licensee must locate its land mobile or paging base stations, or fixed stations transmitting on base station transmit frequencies, at least 120 km from the land mobile or paging base stations, or fixed stations transmitting on base station transmit frequencies, of co-channel Phase I licensees, except that separations of less than 120 km shall be considered on a case-by-case basis upon submission by the EA or Regional licensee of:

(A) A technical analysis demonstrating at least 10 dB protection to the predicted 38 dBu service contour of the co-channel Phase I licensee, *i.e.*, demonstrating that the predicted 28 dBu interfering contour of the EA or Regional licensee's base station or fixed station does not overlap the predicted 38 dBu service contour of the co-channel Phase I licensee's base station or fixed station; or

(B) A written letter from the co-channel Phase I licensee consenting to a separation of less than 120 km, or to less than 10 dB protection to the predicted 38 dBu service contour of the licensee's base station or fixed station.

(ii) The Phase I licensee's predicted 38 dBu service contour referred to in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section is calculated using the F(50,50) field strength chart for Channels 7–13 in §73.699 (Fig. 10) of this chapter, with a 9 dB correction factor for antenna height differential, and is based on the licensee's authorized effective radiated power and antenna height-above-average-terrain. The EA or Regional licensee's predicted 28 dBu interfering contour referred to in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section is calculated using the F(50,10) field strength chart for Channels 7–13 in §73.699 (Fig. 10a) of this chapter, with a 9 dB correction factor for antenna height differential.

(2) The licensee complies with the requirements of §90.733(i).

(3) The licensee limits the field strength of its base stations, or fixed stations operating on base station transmit frequencies, in accordance with the provisions of §90.771.

(4) Upon request by a licensee or the Commission, an EA or regional licensee shall furnish the technical parameters, location and coordinates of the completion of the addition, removal, relocation or modification of any of its facilities within the EA or region. The EA or regional licensee must provide such information within ten (10) days of receiving written notification.

(c) In the event that the authorization for a co-channel Phase I base station, or fixed station transmitting on base station transmit frequencies, within an EA or Regional licensee's border is terminated or revoked, the EA or Regional licensee's channel obligations to such stations will cease upon deletion of the facility from the Commission's official licensing records, and the EA or Regional licensee then will be able to construct and operate without regard to the previous authorization.

90.771 Field strength limits.

(a) The transmissions from base stations, or fixed stations transmitting on base station transmit frequencies, of EA and Regional licensees may not exceed a predicted 38 dBu field strength at their EA or REAG border. The predicted 38 dBu field strength is calculated using the F(50,50) field strength chart for Channels 7–13 in §73.699 (Fig. 10) of this chapter, with a 9 dB correction factor for antenna height differential.

(b) Licensees will be permitted to exceed the predicted 38 dBu field strength required in paragraph (a) of this section if all affected, co-channel EA and Regional licensees agree to the higher field strength.

(c) EA and Regional licensees must coordinate to minimize interference at or near their EA and REAG borders, and must cooperate to resolve any instances of interference in accordance with the provisions of §90.173(b).