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WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON APPLICATION OF INTERACTIVE WIRELESS ACCESS, INC., FOR TEMPORARY USE OF 218-219 MHZ SERVICE FREQUENCIES IN NORWALK, CONNECTICUT

Comment Date: June 30, 2000 Reply Date: July 17, 2000

On April 6, 2000, Interactive Wireless Access, Inc., (Interactive) applied for temporary use of frequency block "A" of the 218-219 MHz Service in the Norwalk, Connecticut, market to operate a private radio system using automated utility meter reading technology. Interactive notes that this frequency block is not available for grant of an initial license at this time, and requests temporary use thereof until such time as the Commission grants a license.

The 218-219 MHz Service is a short-distance communications service that allows one- and/or two-way communications for both common carrier and private operations on a fixed or mobile basis. The frequencies subject to Interactive's application – the 218.0-218.5 MHz frequency block in Market M042, the Bridgeport-Stanford-Norwalk-Danbury Metropolitan Statistical Area – are unlicensed.

Interactive contends that the public would benefit if it were allowed to use the frequencies on an experimental and temporary basis because these frequencies will not be used until such time that the Commission conducts another auction for licenses in the 218-219 MHz Service. We seek comment on Interactive's proposed use of frequency block "A" in the 218-219 MHz Service.

Interested parties may file comments addressing Interactive's application on or before June 29, 2000. Parties interested in submitting reply comments must do so on or before July 14, 2000. All comments should reference the subject application, include the DA number of this *Public Notice*, and should be filed with the Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., TW-325, Washington, D.C. 20054. A copy of each filing should be sent to International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS), 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 857-3800, and to Jamison Prime, Federal Communications Commission, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Public Safety and Private Wireless Division, Policy and Rules Branch, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room 4-A734, Washington, D.C. 20554.

The full text of the application, comments and reply comments will be available for inspection and duplication during regular business hours in the Reference Information Center (RIC) of the Consumer Information Bureau (CIB), Federal Communications Commission, 445 Twelfth Street, S.W., Room CY-A257. Copies may also be obtained from ITS. For further information regarding the public reference file for this application contact Maria Ringold, Chief, Wireless Branch, RIC, (202) 418-0271.

Unless otherwise provided, applications are subject to treatment by the Commission as restricted proceedings for *ex parte* purposes under 47 C.F.R. § 1.1208. Because of the policy implications and potential

impact of this proceeding on persons not parties to the application, we believe it would be in the public interest to treat this matter as a permit-but-disclose proceeding under the *ex parte* rules. *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200(a), 1.1206. Therefore, subsequent to the release of this *Public Notice*, *ex parte* presentations that are made with respect to the issues involved in the subject application will be allowed but must be disclosed in accordance with the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).

For further information, contact Jamison Prime of the Policy and Rules Branch of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau at (202) 418-0680 or via email to jprime@fcc.gov.

By the Chief, Public Safety and Private Wireless Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.