

ATTACHMENT E

HOW TO MONITOR THE FCC AUCTIONS ON-LINE

This document describes the following ways to monitor the auction:

- View announcements and round results on your Web browser during the course of Auction 51
- Download round results data files
- View or download files containing the text of auction announcements
- Track the auction using dial-up networking, which can be used in the event your Internet Service Provider (ISP) has malfunctioned.

Conventions

The instructions in this section use the following typographical conventions:

- bold** Represents objects on the screen that you click with the mouse pointer, including buttons, Internet links, icons, tabs, menu items (e.g., **Cancel** button, **Auctions** link, **Save** option in the File menu).
- italic* Represents field names or areas of a screen (e.g., *Location* field, *Selected Licenses* area of a screen).
- bold italic*** Represents characters that you must type exactly as they appear in the instructions. For example, if you are instructed to type ***http://auctions.fcc.gov***, you should type all of the characters exactly as they are printed.

A. Viewing Announcements

1. To access the FCC Automated Auction System, point your Web browser at ***http://auctions.fcc.gov*** and click **Bidding & Results Systems**, then **Auction 51**.

Alternatively, you can point your Web browser at ***http://auctions2.fcc.gov***.

2. To view auction-related announcements, click the **Announcements** link on the Home tab.

B. Downloading Round Results Files

You may use your Web browser to download round results files, as described in the following sections.

1. Download Procedure

1. Point your Web browser at <http://auctions.fcc.gov>.

Alternatively, you can point your Web browser at <http://auctions2.fcc.gov>.

2. On the Auctions Systems page, click the **Auctions Archives** link
3. On the Auction Data Archives page, click the link for Auction 51.

The Index page that appears shows a parent directory that has three subdirectories, or folders. Clicking one of the folder names expands the associated subdirectory to show its contents.

4. For auction round results, click **Results** and then click the subdirectory for the type of files you want to use. Note the following:
 - Round results files in text (*txt*) format are provided in subdirectories **ab** (All Bids), **cb** (Current Round Bids), **mb** (Minimum Acceptable Bids), **as** (Auction Summary), **ap** (Auction Parameters), **bs** (Bidder Summary), **pw** (Provisionally Winning Bids), and **pr** (Current Price Estimate).
 - Subdirectory **zip** has a *zipped* file containing all of the preceding round results files.
 - Subdirectory **mdb** (Reproducibility Database) has Microsoft® Access database files containing the data needed to verify the provisional winners for the round.
 - Subdirectories **mxref**, and **bxref** provide text (*txt*) files containing the Market Cross Reference and Bidder Cross Reference tables, respectively.

For more details about the round results process, refer to *Auction of Regional Narrowband PCS Licenses Scheduled for September 24, 2003; Round Results Process and Results Replication*; FCC Public Notice DA 03-2522.

5. To open a text (*txt*) file, click its link. To download the opened report, use the **Save As** option on your browser's File menu.

To open or download a database file or zipped file, click its link. The system will ask whether you want to open the file or download it.

2. Naming Conventions For Round Results Files

Note: The naming conventions described in this section also apply to the Mock Auction. The only difference is, the Mock Auction is numbered 75 whereas the real auction is numbered 51.

For each round, ASCII text (.txt) files will be uploaded with the following naming conventions, where xxx represents the round number:

Filename	Description	This file contains:
51_xxxab.txt	All Bids	All bids that are considered in determining the round's provisionally winning bids
51_xxxcb.txt	Current Round Bids	All bids placed in the current round
51_xxxmb.txt	Minimum Acceptable Bids	All licenses applied for and every package that was bid on by each respective bidder
51_xxxas.txt	Auction Summary	Round summary statistics
51_xxxpw.txt	Provisionally Willing Bids	Information about the provisionally winning bid for each license and package, as of that round
51_xxxpr.txt	Current Price Estimate	The current price estimate for each license
51_xxxap.txt	Auction Parameters	Factors the FCC used to calculate required bidder activity and minimum bid amounts in that round and preceding rounds
51_xxxbs.txt	Bidder Summary	Summary information for bidders and contains one row per authorized bidder

We will also upload the following files, which are created only once, prior to the start of the auction:

- 51_xref.txt contains bidder cross reference data
- 51_mref.txt contains market cross reference data

File Formats: For a description of the internal formats of the round results files, refer to *Round Results File Formats* at the end of this document.

C. Accessing Auction Announcements

You may use your Web browser to view or download announcements, as described in the following sections.

1. Access Procedure

1. Point your Web browser at *<http://auctions.fcc.gov>*.

Alternatively, you can point your Web browser at *<http://auctions2.fcc.gov>*.

2. On the Auctions Systems page, click the **Auctions Archives** link.
3. On the Auction Data Archives page, click the link for Auction 51.

The Index page that appears shows a parent directory that has three subdirectories, or folders. Clicking one of the folder names expands the associated subdirectory to show its contents.

4. Click **Announcements**.
5. Click the file you want to download.
6. The file will open in your browser and you can save it to a local disk drive, if desired.

2. Naming Conventions For Announcement Files

The announcement files will use the naming convention *aa_xxx.nnn*, where *aa* is the auction number, *xxx* is the round number and *nnn* is the announcement number. For example, *51_002.007* would represent an announcement for Auction 51 that was posted during round two and was the seventh announcement for the auction.

D. Tracking the Auction via the FCC Wide Area Network

To participate as a bidder in an FCC auction or view the auction's announcements and round results, the FCC recommends accessing the FCC Automated Auction System via the Internet. As a contingency, you may access the FCC Automated Auction System via the FCC Wide Area Network.

1. Minimum Hardware and Software Requirements

The following hardware and software, at a minimum, are required to use the FCC Bidding System:

- CPU: Pentium 133 or above
- RAM: 32 MB (64 MB recommended)
- Monitor: VGA or above
- Mouse or other pointing device
- Operating System: Microsoft® Windows™ 95™, 98™, 2000™, ME™, NT™, XP™
- Web Browser, either of the following:
 - ◆ Microsoft® Internet Explorer 4.0 or higher (recommended). Your browser must have either Microsoft VM or Java Plug-In Version 1.3.1_08 installed.
 - ◆ Netscape® Communicator™ 4.0 or higher, with Java Plug-In Version 1.3.1_08.

Java Plug-In Version 1.3.1_08 is available for downloading at
<http://java.sun.com/products/archive/index.html>

In addition, users accessing the FCC Auctions Bidding System via the FCC's Wide Area Network will need:

- Modem: 28.8 Kbps Hayes© compatible modem or faster (56 Kbps recommended)
- Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) Dialer: Use the Dial-Up Networking feature included with the operating system

2. Connecting to the FCC Wide Area Network

To connect to the FCC Wide Area Network, you must use Dial-Up Networking. Dial-Up Networking establishes a point-to-point connection from your PC to the FCC Network. *This point-to-point connection is not routed through the Internet.*

To access the FCC Automated Auction System, configure your dial-up network to dial either **202-408-7835** or **717-338-0735**. These phone numbers are located in Washington, DC, and Gettysburg, PA, respectively. Thus, calls to these numbers may be long-distance calls, depending on where the calls originate. When you have finished, exit your Web browser, then disconnect from the FCC Network.

E. Round Results File Formats

This section describes the formats for the round results files that will be uploaded to the FCC Internet site after each round of the auction. The results files contain the raw output of the auction data. These files are in *txt* format.

1. All Bids

This file includes all bids that are considered in determining the round's provisionally winning bids. These include every bid by every bidder throughout the auction and a set of FCC bids on each license for \$1,000 less than the applicable minimum opening bid. Bids placed but removed within a round are not included.

This file contains one row for each license in a package. Therefore, a file contains multiple rows and some duplicated data for packages with multiple licenses.

File Name: 51 rnd#ab.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
round	int	Round in which this bid was placed
fcc_account_num	char(10)	Bidder-held FCC account number
company	char(50)	Company name of the bidder
package_id	numeric(10)	Unique package identifier
license_desc	char(30)	Description of the license
service_code	char(2)	Type of service (spectrum) offered
market	char(6)	Geographic region of the license
channel	char(2)	License channel
sub_market	int	Identifies a portion of a market being offered
bid_amt	money	Amount of bid
bid_type	char(1)	Type of bid: B (new bid), L (renewed non-winning bid), W (renewed winning bid), or A (last and best bid)

2. Current Round Bids

This file includes only those bids placed in the current round. The Current Round Bids file contains one row for each license of each package.

File Name: 51 rnd#cb.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
round	int	Round in which this bid was placed
fcc_account	char(10)	Bidder-held FCC account number
company	char(50)	Company name of the bidder
package_id	numeric(10)	Unique package identifier
license_desc	char(30)	Description of the license
service_code	char(2)	Type of service (spectrum) offered
market	char(6)	Geographic region of the license
channel	char(2)	License channel
sub_market	int	Identifies a portion of a market being offered
gross_bid_amt	money	Gross amount of the bid placed
net_bid_amount	money	Net amount of the bid placed
last_best	char(1)	Identifies a last and best bid
prov_winner	char(1)	Identifies a provisional winner
renewed_bid	char(1)	Identifies a renewed bid
selection_num	float	Selection Number

3. Minimum Acceptable Bids

This file includes a row for all licenses applied for and every package that was bid on by each respective bidder. Packages that have been constructed but not bid on in any round are not included in this report.

File Name: 51 rnd#mb.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
round_num	int	The round for which the minimum acceptable bid value applies
fcc_account_num	char(10)	Bidder-held FCC account number
company	char(50)	Company name of the bidder
package_id	numeric(10)	Unique package identifier
min_acceptable_bid_amt	money	Minimum acceptable bid amount
gap_method	int	Rule method used to determine minimum acceptable bid

4. Provisionally Winning Bids

This file contains information about the provisionally winning bid for each license and package, as of that round. There is one row for each license in a package. The file has the same format as an All Bids file.

File Name: 51_rnd#pw.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
round_num	int	Round in which this bid was placed
fcc_account_num	char(10)	Bidder-held FCC account number
company	char(50)	Company name of the bidder
package_id	numeric(10)	Unique package identifier
license_desc	char(30)	Description of the license
service_code	char(2)	Type of service (spectrum) offered
market	char(6)	Geographic region of the license
channel	char(2)	License channel
sub_market	int	Identifies a portion of a market being offered
bid_amt	money	Amount of bid
bid_type	char(1)	Type of bid: B (new bid), L (renewed non-winning bid), W (renewed winning bid), or A (last and best bid)

5. Current Price Estimate

This file contains one row for each license in the auction and displays the current price estimate for each license. Bidders can use this file to determine minimum acceptable bid amounts for packages they create between rounds.

File Name: 51_rnd#pr.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
current_round	int	Current round number of the auction
lic_id	int	Unique license identifier
license_desc	char(30)	Description of the license
service_code	char(2)	The service (spectrum) being offered
market	char(6)	Geographic region of the license
channel	char(2)	License channel
sub_market	int	Identifies the portion of the market offered
estimated_price	money	Estimate of the license price

6. Auction Summary

This file includes round summary statistics. Each row of the file contains the statistics for a round of the auction.

File Name: 51_rnd#as.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
round	int	Round number of auction summary

File Name: 51_rnd#as.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
num_elig_bidders	int	Number of bidders still eligible in auction
fcc_owned_licenses	int	Number of FCC owned licenses
new_bids	int	Number of new bids in the round
gross_rev	money	Gross Revenue for the round
net_rev	money	Net Revenue for the round
net_rev_pct	float(8)	Percentage of Net Revenue increase in the round

7. Auction Parameters

This file summarizes factors the FCC used to calculate required bidder activity and minimum bid amounts in that round and preceding rounds.

File Name: 51_rnd#ap.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
round_num	int	Round number of auction summary
required_activity	float(8)	Fraction of current eligibility a bidder must be active on without risk of eligibility reduction or eligibility activity waiver usage.
min_bid_pctg_x	float(8)	Fraction of previous high bid to be applied in rule (ii) of minimum acceptable bid calculations
min_bid_pctg_w	float(8)	Fraction of Gross Revenue to be applied in rule (iii) of minimum acceptable bid calculations for global bids
min_bid_pctg_z	float(8)	Fraction of current price estimate to be applied in rule (iii) of minimum acceptable bid calculations
min_bid_incr_pctg_v	float(8)	Fraction of minimum acceptable bid to be used as bid increment
weight_factor	float(8)	Exponential smoothing weight factor used when determining current price estimates

8. Bidder Summary

This file includes summary information for bidders and contains one row per authorized bidder.

File Name: 51_rnd#bs.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
current_round	int	Current round number of the auction
fcc_account_number	char(10)	Bidder-held FCC account number

File Name: 51 rnd#bs.txt		
Column Header	Data Type	Data Description
company	char(50)	Company name of the bidder
current_dollar_exposure	money	Dollar exposure of bids placed in the round
overall_dollar_exposure	money	Dollar exposure considering all bids placed
initial_max_elig	money	Bidder's initial eligibility
current_max_elig	money	Bidder's current eligibility
eligibility_activity	int	Bidder's eligibility activity for the round
required_activity	int	Bidder's required activity level for the round
prov_winning_activity	int	Bidder's activity from provisionally winning bids in the prior round
remaining_waivers	int	Current number of waivers that the bidder has available
waiver_ind	char(1)	Indicator of waiver being used in the round, if any. Values are: P (proactive), A (automatic), R (Reduced), or B (reduced eligibility and used a waiver within a round).
last_best	char(1)	Indicator of last and best bids in the round
bidding_credit_pctg	float	Bidding credit percentage that the bidder may apply to their gross bid amount

F. Help

For technical assistance with using FCC software, contact the FCC Technical Support Hotline at (202) 414-1250 (V) or (202) 414-1255 (TTY). The FCC Technical Support Hotline is generally available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. *All calls to the FCC Technical Support Hotline are recorded.*