



PUBLIC NOTICE

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WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU ANNOUNCES DETAILS CONCERNING THE LICENSING AND TRANSMITTER LOCATION REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR THE DEDICATED SHORT RANGE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE IN THE INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

By this Public Notice, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (“WTB” or “Bureau”) announces the details of the licensing and transmitter location registration process for the Dedicated Short Range Communications (DSRC) Service in the Intelligent Transportation Service (ITS).¹ The Bureau will start accepting applications for Part 90 DSRC Service geographic area licenses and, thereafter, permit DSRC licensees to register individual transmitter locations starting October 1, 2004.

I. BACKGROUND

On December 17, 2003, the Commission adopted a *Report and Order* establishing service rules for the DSRC service in the 5.850-5.925 GHz band (5.9 GHz band).² The primary purpose of DSRC is facilitate the use of radio-based technologies to improve traffic flow and traffic safety as well as allow for other innovative services to assist the traveling public.

II. GEOGRAPHIC AREA LICENSE

In order to operate site-based stations in the DSRC Service, an entity must first obtain a DSRC geographic area license. Once a DSRC license is obtained, licensees must register site-based transmitter locations prior to commencing operation. There is no fee for registering DSRC transmitter locations. Parties must have a DSRC geographic area license prior to registering transmitter locations. DSRC licensees cannot operate a site-based station until it is registered.

Application Filing Process for a DSRC Geographic Area License

NOTICE: FILING AND REGULATORY FEES ARE DISCUSSED IN SECTION IV.

¹ ITS is comprised of the Location and Monitoring Service, grandfathered automatic vehicle monitoring systems, and DSRC. See 47 C.F.R. §§ 90.351, 90.363, and 90.371.

² In the *Report and Order* released February 10, 2004, the Commission adopted rules for both unlicensed (Part 95) and licensed (Part 90) use of the 5.850-5.925 GHz band (5.9 GHz band). See Amendment of the Commission’s Rules Regarding Dedicated Short-Range Communication Services in the 5.850-5.925 GHz Band (5.9 GHz) Band, WT Docket No. 01-90, *Report and Order*, 19 FCC Rcd 2458 (2004) (*Report and Order*).

Applicants for geographic area licenses are encouraged to electronically file FCC Form 601 using the Universal Licensing System (ULS).³ Applicants can access the ULS web site at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls>. Applicants must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) in order to file applications and register transmitter locations in ULS. If the applicant does not have an existing FRN, it must register and obtain an FRN prior to filing a DSRC geographic area license application.⁴

Applicants for DSRC geographic area licenses will be required to file FCC Form 601 Main Form and Schedule D. Applicants should specify that they are filing an application in the IQ – Intelligent Transportation Radio Service and specify the purpose of the application as New (NE). When parties file electronically, the ULS will automatically load FCC Form 601.⁵ An FCC Form 601 Main Form is required for all filings and collects necessary administrative data to identify the filer, establishes the filer’s basic eligibility and qualifications, and classifies the filing. It also contains the required certifications and signature block. An FCC Form 601 Schedule D must be included with the application for the DSRC geographic area license. Because the geographic area license serves as a prerequisite for registering individual transmitter locations, an applicant will initially receive a single license for the entire frequency band.⁶

DSRC geographic area applications are assigned file numbers and all applications (and major amendments thereto) that are accepted for filing are listed on the Bureau’s weekly public notice of such applications. An application may be granted at any time if the Bureau finds that it meets all of the Commission’s requirements (*e.g.* meets qualification requirements, foreign ownership restrictions, payment obligations).⁷

Modifications to a DSRC Geographic Area License

Modifications to a DSRC geographic area license will be limited to data on the FCC Form 601 Main Form and Schedule D. Any such modifications should be filed on FCC Form 601 and should specify the purpose of the filing as modification (MD). No registered location will be deemed valid unless within the boundaries of the associated licensee’s licensed geographic area.

³ Pursuant to Section 1.913(d) of the Commission’s Rules certain categories of applicants are permitted to file their license applications manually. However, the Bureau urges all applicants to file electronically using ULS because “[I]icensees who continue to file applications manually risk dismissal of their applications for routine errors.” *See* Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Revises and Begins Phased Implementation of its Unified Policy for Reviewing License Applications and Pleadings, *Public Notice*, 14 FCC Rcd 11182, 11186 (WTB 1999). The Bureau has noted that “[m]any of the filing errors routinely made by applicants involve missing signatures, missing or invalid answers to mandatory questions, missing or incorrect fees, and technical information inconsistent with the applicant’s authorization,” and that using the ULS would nearly eliminate the filing of applications with these types of errors because the applicant receives real-time feedback online and is prompted to and must correct errors prior to submitting the application electronically.” *Id.* at 11185.

⁴ The FCC Registration Number (FRN) is the 10-digit number assigned to all entities (individual and corporate) that transact business with the FCC (including via ULS) and is not to be confused with the “registration of transmitter locations” discussed in Section III of the instant Public Notice. Applicants can obtain an FCC Registration Number (FRN) using the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau web site at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/> and select “CORES/Call Sign Registration” from the right hand menu under the heading of Licensing.

⁵ Applicants must consult and follow FCC Form 601-Instructions.

⁶ *See* 47 C.F.R. §90.377(b).

⁷ *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.945(b)(c).

Transfer and Assignment of DSRC Geographic Area Licenses

A licensee may assign or transfer its DSRC geographic area license using FCC Form 603. Licensees will not be permitted to partition or disaggregate their geographic area licenses. Therefore, licensees will only be permitted to assign or transfer the entire geographic license. Any transmitter locations registered under the geographic area license will remain associated with the geographic area license after assignment or transfer of said license.

Applications May be Filed Beginning October 1, 2004

Parties may file applications for DSRC geographic area licenses starting on October 1, 2004. Applications filed before October 1, 2004, will be dismissed.

III. INDIVIDUAL TRANSMITTER LOCATION REGISTRATION

A. Introduction

As noted above, the geographic area license is a prerequisite to registering individual DSRC site-based transmitter locations. Therefore, individual transmitter locations cannot be registered until a geographical area license is obtained.

B. Process for Registering Site-Based Transmitter Locations

- **Effective Date for Transmitter Location Registration Process**

A licensee may not initiate transmitter location registrations through ULS until after its geographic area license application is granted.⁸ ULS will accept electronic transmitter location registrations starting on October 1, 2004. Registrations filed before that date will not be processed. A licensee must have a DSRC geographic area license before registering transmitter location information.

- **How to Register Individual Transmitter Locations**

During the transmitter location registration process, individual site-based transmitter locations must be registered with the Commission in ULS. Locations that require coordination with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) will be done through the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee⁹ using the existing IRAC coordination process. FCC Form 601 has been revised to add Schedule M (Schedule for Location registration)¹⁰ to collect the necessary data elements. To register a location, licensees must use FCC Form 601 Main Form and Schedule M. The Bureau encourages licensees to register transmitter locations electronically in ULS. Upon initiating electronic registration by entering their FRN and password, licensees will be presented with a list of call signs assigned to their FRN. Licensees should click on the geographic area license (IQ radio service) call sign under which they intend to register their location, and then click on the link labeled "Register Location". Licensees should then click on the link labeled "Add New Location," clicking on this link will step through the process for registering a new transmitter location. This process must be repeated for each

⁸ See discussion of geographic area license filing procedures *supra*, page one.

⁹ The basic function of the Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) is to assist the Assistant Secretary in assigning frequencies to U.S. Government radio stations and in developing and executing policies, programs, procedures, and technical criteria pertaining to the allocation, management, and use of the spectrum.

¹⁰ Schedule M is the new FCC Schedule that must be used for location registration. The form may be accessed for electronic registration through ULS, downloaded from the FCC forms page at <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>, or ordered from the Forms Distribution Center at 1-800-418-3676.

location that is registered. Transmitter location registrations will not be placed on Public Notice unless they raise a matter of public significance, *e.g.*, environmental concerns.¹¹ If the proposed transmitter location requires environmental assessment, is located in a quiet zone,¹² or is in an area subject to international coordination, the DSRC licensee should so specify on the FCC Form 601 Schedule M and provide any necessary information required by the instructions and FCC Rules. The ULS electronic form performs edit checks as information is entered. If ULS finds an error, it may not allow the registration to be submitted until the error has been corrected.

When an individual transmitter location has been approved, the licensee will be notified by letter that its location registration has been posted in ULS as accepted. Individual transmitter location registrations will be available for public inspection through ULS electronically. However, the printed copy of the DSRC geographic area license will not be updated to reflect location registrations and will not be re-issued when individual links are registered under that call sign.

- **Transmitter Locations that require Coordination with NTIA/IRAC**

The FCC will coordinate a transmitter location with NTIA/IRAC if required. Licensees need not provide any special information or take any special action other than using the FCC Form 601 Main Form and Schedule M as described above. If, during the NTIA/IRAC coordination process, it is determined that additional information is required, the transmitter location registration will be returned to the licensee. If the licensee provides the needed information within 60 days of the date of the return notice, it will keep its original registration date unless the new information modifies the transmitter location registration, in which case the date will be advanced to the date the new information is provided. If the licensee fails to timely provide the information within 60 days of the return notice, the transmitter location registration request will be dismissed.

- **Modifications and Amendments to Transmitter Location registrations**

Licensees are strongly encouraged to use electronic filing to modify the technical data on an individual transmitter location registration using FCC Form 601 Main Form and Schedule M. After entering their FRN and password electronically, licensees will be presented with a list of call signs assigned to their FRN. Licensees should click on the geographic area (IQ radio service) call sign containing the location registration data they wish to modify, and then click on the link labeled “Register Location.” Licensees will then be presented with a list of transmitter locations associated with the geographic area license. Transmitter location information can then be modified by clicking on the desired link. This process must be repeated for each location that is modified.

To amend the technical data on an individual location registration that has not yet been approved, licensees must use FCC Form 601 Main Form and Schedule M. After entering their FRN and password electronically, licensees will be presented with a list of call signs assigned to their FRN. Licensees should click on the link labeled “My Applications” and then click on the link labeled “Pending” to display a list of pending registration requests which can be amended. A registration request can be amended by clicking on the file number of the desired request and then clicking on the link labeled “Update.” The previously entered data from FCC Form 601 Schedule M will be displayed and the licensee will be allowed to change the data. This process must be repeated for each location that is amended.

¹¹ See, *e.g.*, 47 C.F.R. § 1.933(a)(3) (categories of information of public significance include special environmental considerations as required by Part 1, FCC Rules).

¹² See 47 C.F.R. § 1.924.

- **Transfer and Assignment of Registered Transmitter Locations**

Transfer or assignment of a geographic area license, will include all locations registered under that call sign. Currently, partial assignment of individual location registration is not possible on ULS.

IV. FILING AND REGULATORY FEES

The DSRC Service, which is licensed under Part 90 of the Commission's Rules, requires filing fees pursuant to Section 1.1102 of the Commission's Rules and regulatory fees pursuant to Section 1.1152 of the Commission's Rules.¹³ However, certain applicants are exempt from filing and/or regulatory fees.¹⁴ Nonexempt applicants for new, geographic area licenses must use the following filing and regulatory fees codes:

- New geographic area license applications: fee type code PALR.
- Modification of geographic area license applications: fee type code PALM.
- Assignments of Authorization: fee type code PALM.
- Transfers of Control applications: fee type code PATM.

Individual transmitter location registrations on ULS are not subject to filing fees.

V. FURTHER INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE

Questions regarding the application filing and location registration procedure outlined in this Public Notice may be directed to the ULS Hotline at 1-888-CallFCC Option #2. Questions regarding this *Public Notice* may be directed to Rebecca Williams or Tracy Simmons, Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division, WTB, 717-338-2646.

Action by the Chief, Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

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¹³ See 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1102 (item 6) [filing fees for Land Mobile PMRS]; 47 C.F.R. § 1.1152 (item 4) [regulatory fee for Land Mobile]. Additional information about the Land Mobile Services fees is available in the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Fee Guide. See Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Fee Filing Guide, Effective August 10, 2004, (<http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form1070/2003/2003feeguide.pdf>).

¹⁴ See 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1114, 1.1162 (exemptions from filing and regulatory fees, respectively).