

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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> DA 11-1269 July 28, 2011

# AUCTION OF 700 MHz BAND LICENSES CLOSES

# WINNING BIDDERS ANNOUNCED FOR AUCTION 92

# Down Payments and FCC Forms 601 and 602 Due August 11, 2011 Final Payments Due August 25, 2011 Ten-Day Petition to Deny Period

### I. INTRODUCTION

1. On July 25, 2011, the Federal Communications Commission completed an auction of 16 licenses in the 700 MHz Band. This auction, which was designated Auction 92, raised (in net bids) a total of \$19,770,250 with 7 bidders winning a total of 16 licenses.

# II. AUCTION RESULTS

2. This Public Notice provides detailed information concerning winning bidders, down payments, final payments, refunds, FCC Forms 601 and 602 filing requirements, and licensing matters. Key information appears in the following attachments:

Attachment A:	"Winning Bids" lists winning bidders and both their total gross and net winning bid amounts.
Attachment B:	"Bidder Payment/Refund" lists down payments and final payments owed by winning bidders and refunds due, if any. <sup>1</sup>
Attachment C:	"Multi-auction Withdrawal Payment" lists amount(s) or refund(s) due for bidders in Auction 73 based upon reconciliation of final results of Auctions 73 and 92.
Attachment D:	"Default Payment" lists a default payment based upon reconciliation of final results of Auctions 73 and 92.
Attachment E:	"Instructions for Completing FCC Form 601 & FCC Form 602" provides detailed information about how a winning bidder should complete the required long-form application (FCC Form 601) and ownership

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The amounts listed in Attachment B are based on upfront payments and net winning bids.

disclosure report (FCC Form 602) for 700 MHz licenses won in Auction 92.

A copy of this Public Notice will be sent via overnight delivery to each qualified bidder.

3. Concurrent with the release of this Public Notice, the Commission is making available information previously withheld under the limited information procedures for Auction 92. Results files that include the identities of bidders and the net amounts of bids are now available on the web page for Auction 92 (<u>http://wireless.fcc.gov/auctions/92</u>) and in the FCC Auction System (<u>http://auctions.fcc.gov/</u>). The limited information results files (without the identities of bidders and the net amounts of bids) remain available on the web page for Auction 92. Additionally, the publicly-available applications to participate in the auction (FCC Forms 175) now display the licenses that were selected by each applicant. The applications are viewable in the FCC Auction System via the Auction Application Search (<u>https://auctionfiling.fcc.gov/form175/search175/index.htm</u>).

## III. POST-AUCTION PROCEDURES

### A. Down Payments

4. The Commission's rules require that within ten business days after the release of this Public Notice, in this case by **6:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on August 11, 2011**, each winning bidder in Auction 92 must have on deposit with the Commission enough funds to cover the down payment(s) on its winning bid(s).<sup>2</sup> Specifically, each winning bidder's total deposit must be twenty percent of the aggregate net amount of its winning bid. If a winning bidder's upfront payment is not sufficient to meet this requirement, the winning bidder must deposit additional funds to meet its required down payment.<sup>3</sup>

5. The amount now due from each winning bidder, if any, is set out in the "Additional Amount Due after Upfront Payment Balance Applied Due by August 11, 2011" column of Attachment B. Note that a payment and FCC Remittance Advice Form (FCC Form 159) are necessary only if a winning bidder's upfront payment does not cover the required total down payment (as reflected in Attachment B).

6. Wire transfers for down payments must be received by the Commission by **6:00 p.m. ET on August 11, 2011**. If the winning bidder fails to complete this down payment process, consistent with the payment method described in this Public Notice, by 6:00 p.m. ET on August 11, 2011, it will be in default.<sup>4</sup>

#### **B.** Final Payments

7. Each winning bidder will be required to submit the balance of the net amount of its winning bid(s) as set out in the "Final Balance Due by August 25, 2011 or (Refund)" column of Attachment B.<sup>5</sup> Each winning bidder must pay the full amount of the Final Balance Due shown in Attachment B by **6:00 p.m. ET on August 25, 2011** (or by 6:00 p.m. ET on September 9, 2011, along

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2107(b).

 $<sup>^{3}</sup>$  *Id.* In the event a bidder has withdrawn a bid and is subject to a bid withdrawal payment, the bidder's upfront payment will be first applied to satisfy the withdrawal payment before being applied toward its down payment. *See* 47 C.F.R. § 1.2104(g)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Section III. D., "Withdrawal, Default and Disqualification Payments," below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2109(a).

with the five percent late fee required by section 1.2109(a) of the Commission's rules), even if the winning bidder plans to apply for a tribal lands bidding credit.<sup>6</sup> Full and timely payment of winning bids and any applicable late fees must be made in accordance with section 1.2109(a) of the Commission's rules and must occur before action will be taken upon a winning bidder's long-form application (FCC Form 601).<sup>7</sup> Specifically, licenses will be granted only after the full and timely payment of winning bids and any applicable late fees, in accordance with section 1.2109(a).<sup>8</sup>

8. Wire transfers of final payments must be received by the Commission by **6:00 p.m. ET on August 25, 2011** (or by 6:00 p.m. ET on September 9, 2011, along with the five percent late fee required by section 1.2109(a) of the Commission's rules).<sup>9</sup> If the winning bidder fails to complete the final payment, consistent with the payment method described in this Public Notice, by 6:00 p.m. ET on August 25, 2011 (or by 6:00 p.m. ET on September 9, 2011, along with the five percent late fee) it will be in default.<sup>10</sup>

9. An applicant's request for a tribal lands bidding credit has no effect on the applicant's obligations to make any auction payments, including down and final payments, due before the award of the credit.<sup>11</sup> If a request for a tribal lands bidding credit is approved, the amount will be calculated and awarded prior to license grant.<sup>12</sup>

### C. Method of Payment for Down and Final Payments

10. All payments must be in U.S. dollars and made in the form of a wire transfer.<sup>13</sup> No checks, credit card payments, automated clearing house ("ACH"), or other forms of payment will be accepted. Each payment must be accompanied by a completed FCC Form 159.<sup>14</sup> A partially-completed copy of FCC Form 159 for the down payment and for the final payment will be sent to each winning bidder to facilitate submission of the correct payments.

11. Each winning bidder is responsible for ensuring timely submission of its payment and for timely filing of an accurate and complete FCC Remittance Advice Form (FCC Form 159). Each winning bidder should coordinate with its financial institution well ahead of the due date regarding its wire

<sup>8</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2109(a).

<sup>9</sup>*Id*.

<sup>10</sup> See Section III.D., "Withdrawal, Default and Disqualification Payments," below.

<sup>11</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2110(f)(3)(vi).

<sup>12</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Id.* A winning bidder that is found unqualified to be a Commission licensee will be deemed to have defaulted, its application will be dismissed, and it will be liable for the payment set forth in section 1.2104(g)(2) of the Commission's rules. *See* 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2104(g), 1.2109(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> The wire transfer must be initiated by the winning bidder through its bank authorizing the bank to wire funds from the bidder's account to the Commission's account designated to receive payments for financial obligations resulting from Auction 92.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Copies of the FCC Form 159 may be obtained by calling the Commission's Forms Distribution Center at (800) 418-3676 (outside Washington, DC) or (202) 418-3676. Copies of the FCC Form 159 can also be obtained via the Internet (<u>http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html</u>) or by calling from the handset of a fax machine the Commission's Fax Information System at (202) 418-0177.

transfer and allow sufficient time for the wire transfer to be initiated and completed prior to the deadline. The Commission repeatedly has cautioned auction participants about the importance of planning ahead to prepare for unforeseen last-minute difficulties in making payments by wire transfer.<sup>15</sup> The winning bidder should obtain confirmation from its financial institution that its wire transfer to U.S Bank was successful and from Commission staff that the winning bidder's payment has been received by the Commission in the proper account. For confirmation that the Commission has timely received the winning bidder's down payment or final payment in the proper account, each winning bidder may contact Gail Glasser of the Office of Managing Director's Auctions Accounting Group at (202) 418-0578, or Theresa Meeks at (202) 418-2945.

12. Down payments and final payments must be preceded by an accurate and complete FCC Remittance Advice Form (FCC Form 159). At least one hour before placing the order for the wire transfer (but on the same business day), the winning bidder must fax the completed FCC Form 159 to U.S. Bank in St. Louis, Missouri, at (314) 418-4232. Proper completion of the FCC Form 159 is critical to ensuring correct credit of a winning bidder's deposits. Each winning bidder must use in its FCC Form 159 the same FCC Registration Number (FRN) used for the applicant in the applicant's short-form application (FCC Form 175).

13. To submit funds by wire transfer, the winning bidder will need the following information:

ABA Routing Number: 021030004 Receiving Bank: TREAS NYC 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045 ACCOUNT NAME: FCC ACCOUNT NUMBER: 27000001 OBI Field: (Skip one space between each information item) "AUCTIONPAY" APPLICANT FRN: (same as FCC Form 159, block 21) PAYMENT TYPE CODE: (same as FCC Form 159, block 24A: "D092") PAYOR NAME: (same as FCC Form 159, Block 2) LOCKBOX NO: #979088

14. Questions concerning the calculation and submission of down payments, final payments, the FCC Form 159, and refunds should be directed to Gail Glasser at (202) 418-0578.

#### D. Withdrawal, Default and Disqualification Payments

15. The Commission imposes payment obligations on bidders that withdraw provisionally winning bids during the course of an auction, on those that default on payments due after an auction closes, and on those that are disqualified.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See, e.g, Letter to Lee G. Petro from Margaret W. Wiener, Chief, Auctions and Spectrum Access Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, DA 10-1270, 25 FCC Rcd 9046 (2010); Letter to David G. O'Neil from Margaret W. Wiener, Chief, Auctions and Spectrum Access Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, DA 08-622, 23 FCC Rcd 4765 (2008).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> See 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2104(g), 1.2109.

### 1. Bid Withdrawal Payments from Previous Auctions

16. Because Auction 92 is now closed, the Commission can calculate and assess final bid withdrawal payments owed as a result of withdrawals of provisional winning bids on licenses that were unsold in Auction 73. Attachment C identifies bidders that owe withdrawal payments to the Commission as a result of bids withdrawn in Auction 73. Any upfront payments or down payments that the withdrawing bidder has deposited with the Commission will first be applied to satisfy the withdrawal payment amount before being applied towards a winning bidder's down payment.<sup>17</sup> Forthcoming orders will assess such payments, and will specify due dates for the payment of any such obligations.

### 2. Default Payments from Previous Auctions

Because Auction 92 is now closed, the Commission can calculate a final default payment owed as a result of the default on licenses in Auction 73. Such payments are identified in Attachment D. Forthcoming orders will assess such payments, and will specify due dates for the payment of any such obligations.

### 3. Bid Default/Disqualification Payments from Auction 92

18. If a winning bidder defaults or is disqualified after the close of the auction (i.e., fails to remit the required down payment within the prescribed period of time, fails to submit a timely long-form application, fails to make full payment, or is otherwise disqualified), the defaulting bidder will be subject to the payment obligations described in section 1.2104(g)(2).<sup>18</sup> These payment obligations include both a deficiency payment, equal to the difference between the amount of the defaulter's bid and the amount of the winning bid the next time a license covering the same spectrum is won in an auction, plus an additional payment equal to a percent of the defaulter's bid or the subsequent winning bid, whichever is less.<sup>19</sup> The additional default payment for Auction 92 licenses was set at fifteen percent of the applicable bid.<sup>20</sup>

19. If a winning bidder fails to remit the required down payment within ten business days after the Commission has released this Public Notice, in this case by August 11, 2011, the bidder will be deemed to have defaulted, its long-form application will be dismissed, and it will be liable for a default payment as described above.<sup>21</sup>

20. If a winning bidder fails to pay the balance of its winning bid in a lump sum by the applicable deadline as specified by the Commission, it will be allowed to make a late payment within ten business days after the payment deadline, provided that it also pays a late fee equal to five percent of the amount due.<sup>22</sup> If a winning bidder fails to pay (a) the balance of its winning bid by the payment deadline on August 25, 2011, or (b) the balance of its winning bid plus the late fee by the late payment deadline on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 1.2104(g)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2104(g)(2). See also 47 C.F.R. § 1.2109.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Id. See also Auction 92 Procedures Public Notice, 26 FCC Rcd at 3386 ¶¶ 203-04.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Auction 92 Procedures Public Notice, 26 FCC Rcd at 3386 ¶ 204.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2104(g)(2), 1.2109(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2109(a).

September 9, 2011, it will be deemed to have defaulted, and it will be subject to applicable default payments.<sup>23</sup>

21. The Commission will review an applicant's long-form application only after receipt of full and timely payment for the winning bid amount and any applicable late fees. The relevant license will be granted only after determination that the applicant's long-form application meets Commission requirements for grant.<sup>24</sup>

22. A bidder that is found to have violated the antitrust laws or the Commission's rules in connection with its participation in the competitive bidding process may be subject, in addition to any other applicable sanctions, to forfeiture of its upfront payment, down payment, or full bid amount, and may be prohibited from participating in future auctions.<sup>25</sup>

### E. Refund of Excess Payments

23. Upfront monies on deposit that are in excess of an applicant's Auction 92 obligations may be refunded to the payer of record as identified on the FCC Form 159. To be eligible to receive a refund, an applicant must submit a refund request and provide wire transfer instructions. Each applicant can provide this information by using the Commission's Integrated Spectrum Auction System ("ISAS") and clicking on the "See Wire Transfer for Refund Purposes" link under the Post-Auction section of the My Auctions web page by **August 25, 2011**. After this date, an applicant must send a written request for refund, along with the necessary wire transfer instructions and the applicant's FRN, by fax to Gail Glasser of the Office of the Managing Director at (202) 418-2843. Any questions concerning refunds should be referred to Gail Glasser at (202) 418-0578.

## F. FCC Form 601

24. Prior to **6:00 p.m. ET on August 11, 2011**, each winning bidder must electronically submit a properly-completed long-form application (FCC Form 601) for all licenses for which it was the winning bidder in Auction 92. Attachment E provides instructions for completing the long-form application and describes how certain information will be automatically transferred from a winning bidder's short-form application (FCC Form 175) to its long-form application (FCC Form 601).

25. An applicant that fails to submit the required long-form application before the specified deadline and fails to establish good cause for any late-filed submission shall be deemed to have defaulted and shall be subject to the payments set forth in section 1.2104(g) of the Commission's rules.<sup>26</sup>

## G. Tribal Lands Bidding Credit

26. The Commission has implemented a tribal lands bidding credit to encourage the growth of wireless services on the lands of federally-recognized tribes. For information relating to the tribal lands bidding credit, see Attachment E.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2104(g)(2), 1.2109(a), 1.2109(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2109(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2109(d).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2104(g), 1.2107(c).

#### H. FCC Form 602

27. Pursuant to sections 1.919 and 1.2107(f) of the Commission's rules, an applicant for a license in an auctionable service must, at the time of submitting its FCC Form 601, have on file with the Commission a current ownership disclosure information report (FCC Form 602) providing the applicant's complete and accurate ownership information.<sup>27</sup> As explained in Attachment E, filing an ownership disclosure information report (FCC Form 602) is a separate requirement from, and in addition to, the ownership reporting requirements associated with filing an FCC Form 601, Exhibit A.<sup>28</sup> A winning bidder should carefully follow the instructions set forth in Attachment E when filing its ownership disclosure report.

#### I. Maintaining Accuracy of Information

28. After the auction closes, each applicant must make all changes to its information in the Commission's Universal Licensing System using FCC Form 601.<sup>29</sup> With the release of this Public Notice, applicants are no longer required to maintain the accuracy and completeness of information furnished on their short-form applications and exhibits.

### J. Application Processing, Petitions to Deny, and License Grant

29. After its initial review of the long-form applications, the Commission will issue a public notice listing the applications that are acceptable for filing. Pursuant to section 1.2108(b) of the Commission's rules, interested parties will have ten days from release of that public notice to file petitions to deny any of these applications.<sup>30</sup> An applicant may file an opposition to any petition to deny within five business days after the filing deadline for petitions to deny its long-form application.<sup>31</sup> Replies must be filed within five business days after the filing deadline for oppositions to a petition to deny a long-form application.<sup>32</sup> The Commission reminds all parties and their counsel that the Commission intends to use its authority fully to deter the filing of frivolous pleadings.<sup>33</sup>

30. After the long-form review process, if the Commission determines that additional payment from an applicant is due, the Bureau will provide further instructions in a future public notice or by demand letter.<sup>34</sup> If the Commission determines that an applicant is otherwise qualified, that there are no substantial and material issues of fact, and that no additional payments are due, the Commission will issue a public notice announcing grant of the license to the applicant.<sup>35</sup>

<sup>29</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.65.

30 47 C.F.R. § 1.2108(b).

<sup>31</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2108(c).

<sup>32</sup> Id.

<sup>33</sup> See "Commission Taking Tough Measures Against Frivolous Pleadings," *Public Notice*, FCC 96-42, 11 FCC Rcd 3030 (1996).

<sup>34</sup> Commission staff may determine, for example, that a winning bidder is not entitled to the level of bidding credit that it has claimed and may require an additional payment to cover the amount of any percentage discount for which it was not eligible.

<sup>35</sup> See 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2108(d), 1.2109(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.919, 1.2107(f).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> The FCC Form 601 ownership reporting requirement can be fulfilled by referencing the file number, date, and name of filer of the appropriate FCC Form 602. See discussion in Attachment E.

## IV. OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### A. Maintaining Prohibition on Certain Communications

31. To ensure the competitiveness of the auction process, the Commission's rules prohibit auction applicants for licenses in any of the same geographic license areas from communicating with each other about bids, bidding strategies, or settlements, unless such applicants have identified each other on their short-form applications as parties with whom they have entered into agreements under section 1.2105(a)(2)(viii).<sup>36</sup> As explained more fully in the *Auction 92 Procedures Public Notice*, this prohibition began at the short-form application filing deadline at 6:00 p.m. ET on May 11, 2011 and continues until the down payment deadline, which is **6:00 p.m. ET on August 11, 2011**.<sup>37</sup>

32. The prohibition on certain communications applies to all applicants in Auction 92 (unless they have identified each other on their short-form applications as parties with whom they have entered into agreements under section 1.2105(a)(2)(viii)) regardless of whether an applicant became a qualified bidder or actually participated in the bidding, and the prohibition continues for all applicants until the down payment deadline regardless of whether an applicant is a winning bidder or needs to make an additional payment by the down payment deadline.<sup>38</sup> Each applicant in this auction certified its compliance with section 1.2105(c) when its short-form application was filed.<sup>39</sup>

### B. Return of SecurID® Tokens

33. The SecurID<sup>®</sup> tokens distributed to qualified bidders are tailored to this auction and will not work for future auctions. Each bidder should return its SecurID<sup>®</sup> tokens to the Commission for recycling. The Commission will send each bidder, along with the copy of this Public Notice, a pre-addressed, stamped envelope to return its SecurID<sup>®</sup> tokens. Each bidder should return the tokens by **August 11, 2011**.

## C. Contact Information

34. For further information, contact:

**News Media** 

**Wireless Telecommunications Bureau** Matt Nodine at (202) 418-1646

Licensing Information Service Rules, Policies, Regulations Licensing Issues (including filing of Forms 601 and 602), Engineering Issues Due Diligence, Incumbency Issues **Mobility Division** Michael Connelly (legal) or Keith Harper (technical) at (202) 418-0620

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.2105(a)(2)(viii), 1.2105(c). See also Amendment of Part 1 of the Commission's Rules – Competitive Bidding Procedures, WT Docket No. 97-82, Seventh Report and Order, FCC 01-270, 16 FCC Rcd 17546 (2001); Order on Reconsideration of the Third Report and Order, Fifth Report and Order, and Fourth Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, FCC 00-274, 15 FCC Rcd 15293, 15297-98 ¶¶ 7-8 (2000).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> See Auction 92 Procedures Public Notice, 26 FCC Rcd at 3347 ¶ 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> *Id.*, 26 FCC Rcd at 3345-47 ¶¶ 8-13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.2105(a)(2)(ix).

### **Auction Payment Information**

Wire Transfers Refunds

### Auction 92 Information

General Auction Information, Process, and Procedures

Auction Rules, Policies, and Regulations

### **Accessible Formats**

Braille, large print, electronic files, or audio format for people with disabilities

# **FCC Internet Sites**

FCC Auctions Accounting Branch Gail Glasser at (202) 418-0578, or Theresa Meeks at (202) 418-2945, or (202) 418-2843 (fax)

Auctions and Spectrum Access Division Lisa Stover, Project Manager, or Debbie Smith, Auction Analyst, at (717) 338-2868

Lynne Milne at (202) 418-0660

**Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau** (202) 418-0530 or (202) 418-0432 (TTY) <u>fcc504@fcc.gov</u>

http://www.fcc.gov http://wireless.fcc.gov/auctions http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls

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