FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION 445 TWELFTH STREET, S.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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# VERIZON WIRELESS AND SOUTH CANAAN (U.S. CELLULAR) SEEK FCC CONSENT TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF CELLULAR BLOCK B AND ASSOCIATED POINT-TO-POINT MICROWAVE LICENSES

ULS File No. 0004957491

## PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

Petitions to Deny Due: December 28, 2011
Oppositions Due: January 9, 2012
Replies Due: January 17, 2012

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Verizon Wireless") and South Canaan Cellular Communications Company, L.P. ("South Canaan"), collectively, the "Applicants," have filed an application pursuant to Section 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, seeking consent to the proposed assignment of the cellular Block B license KNKN800 and associated common carrier fixed point-to-point microwave licenses from South Canaan to Verizon Wireless. The proposed assignment of license involves two counties in one CMA in Pennsylvania. The Applicants state that Verizon Wireless will transition the customers acquired from South Canaan to Verizon Wireless's service within a period of nine to twelve months after closing. The Applicants assert that the proposed assignment will serve the public interest because it will enable Verizon Wireless to enter this market, which it currently does not serve, as a new competitor offering voice and 3G services, and that this entry into the market will enhance the breadth of wireless product and service offerings to South Canaan's customers. The Applicants also state that the existing cellular operations will be supplemented by Verizon Wireless's planned deployment of 4G LTE in the market in the near future.

Preliminary review of the application indicates that in the two counties, Verizon Wireless would hold, post-transaction, 59 megahertz of spectrum below 1 GHz.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> South Canaan is indirectly owned and controlled by United States Cellular Corporation ("U.S. Cellular"). *See* South Canaan Cellular Communications Company, L.P., Form 602, File No. 0004740257 (filed May 24, 2011)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 310(d).

# II. SECTION 310(d) APPLICATION

The following application for consent to the full assignment of the Cellular Block B license and associated common carrier fixed point-to-point microwave licenses from South Canaan to Verizon Wireless has been assigned the following file number:

File No.LicenseeAssigneeLead Call Sign0004957491South Canaan Cellular<br/>Communications Company, L.P.Cellco PartnershipKNKN800

# III. EX PARTE STATUS OF THIS PROCEEDING

Pursuant to Section 1.1200(a) of the Commission's rules,<sup>3</sup> the Commission may adopt modified or more stringent *ex parte* procedures in particular proceedings if the public interest so requires.<sup>4</sup> We announce that this proceeding will be governed by permit-but-disclose *ex parte* procedures that are applicable to non-restricted proceedings under Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules.<sup>5</sup>

Parties making oral *ex parte* presentations are directed to the Commission's revised *ex parte* rules. Parties are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain the presentation's substance and not merely list the subjects discussed.<sup>6</sup> More than a one- or two-sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required.<sup>7</sup> Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in Section 1.1206(b) as well.<sup>8</sup>

## IV. GENERAL INFORMATION

The assignment application referenced herein has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing. The Commission reserves the right to return any application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules or policies.

Interested parties must file petitions to deny no later than **December 28, 2011**. Persons and entities that file petitions to deny become parties to the proceeding. They may participate fully in the proceeding, including seeking access to any confidential information that may be filed under a protective order, seeking reconsideration of decisions, and filing appeals of a final decision to the courts. Oppositions to such pleadings must be filed no later than **January 9, 2012**. Replies to such pleadings must be filed no later than **January 17, 2012**. All filings concerning matters referenced in this Public Notice should refer to ULS File No. 0004957491.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.1200(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> On February 1, 2011, the Commission adopted a Report and Order amending and revising the Commission's rules on *ex parte* presentations. Amendment of the Commission's *Ex Parte* Rules and Other Procedural Rules, GC Docket No. 10-43, *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 11-11 (rel. Feb. 2, 2011). The revised rules were published in the Federal Register on May 2, 2011, and went into effect June 1, 2011. *See* 76 Fed. Reg. 24376 (May 2, 2011).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *Id.* § 1.1206(b).

Under the Commission's current procedures for the submission of filings and other documents, submissions in this matter may be filed electronically (*i.e.*, though the Commission's Universal Licensing System ("ULS")) or by hand delivery to the Commission.

- **If filed by ULS**, pleadings may be filed via https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/pleadings/pleadingsType.jsp.
- If filed by paper, the original and four copies of each filing must be filed by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of <a href="mailto:before">before</a> entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

One copy of each pleading must be delivered electronically, by e-mail or facsimile, or if delivered as paper copy, by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (according to the procedures set forth above for paper filings), to: (1) the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., at FCC@BCPIWEB.COM or (202) 488-5563 (facsimile); (2) Kathy Harris, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at kathy.harris@fcc.gov or (202) 418-7447 (facsimile); (3) Kate Matraves, Spectrum and Competition Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at catherine.matraves@fcc.gov or (202) 418-7447 (facsimile); and (4) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, at jim.bird@fcc.gov or (202) 418-1234 (facsimile).

Copies of the applications and any subsequently-filed documents in this matter may be obtained from Best Copy and Printing, Inc. in person at 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, via telephone at (202) 488-5300, via facsimile at (202) 488-5563, or via e-mail at FCC@BCPIWEB.COM. The applications and any associated documents are also available for public inspection and copying during normal reference room hours at the following Commission office: FCC Reference Information Center, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. The applications are also available electronically through ULS, which may be accessed on the Commission's Internet website. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice) or (202) 418-0432 (TTY). Contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations for filing comments (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.) by e-mail: FCC504@fcc.gov; phone: (202) 418-0530 or TTY: (202) 418-0432.

For further information, contact Kathy Harris, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at (202) 418-0609, or Kate Matraves, Spectrum and Competition Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at (202) 418-7878.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See FCC Announces Change in Filing Location for Paper Documents, Public Notice, 24 FCC Rcd 14312 (2009).