Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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**DA 12-90** 

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## PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON REQUESTS FOR WAIVER OF THE JANUARY 1, 2013 VHF-UHF NARROWBANDING DEADLINE

## WT Docket 99-87

Comment Date: February 10, 2012 Reply Comment Date: February 17, 2012

The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau seeks comment on the following requests for waiver of the Commission's January 1, 2013 VHF-UHF narrowbanding deadline, codified at 47 C.F.R § 90.209(b), which requires private land mobile radio licensees in the 150-174 MHz and 450-512 MHz bands to operate using channel bandwidth of no more than 12.5 kHz or equivalent efficiency by January 1, 2013. The Bureau has filed these requests and any associated documents in Docket 99-87.

Party	<b>Date Filed</b>	Requested Waiver Date
Hillsborough Township, NJ	10/24/2011	12/31/2013
County of Hawaii, HI	11/25/2011	7/1/2014
Pittsylvania County, VA	12/12/2011	8/30/2013
Tennessee Highway Patrol	12/13/2011	1/1/2016
Winnebago County Sheriff's Office	12/15/2011	12/31/2013
South Lake Tahoe	12/15/2011	12/31/2014
Rockland County, NY	12/16/2011	7/1/2013
Mercer County, NJ	12/16/2011	12/31/2013
Monterey County, CA	12/20/2011	7/1/2013
Outagamie County, WI	12/23/2011	12/31/2013
State of Maine	12/22/2011	12/31/2013
Ocean County, NJ	12/22/2011	12/31/2017
NYC Transit	12/22/2011	6/30/2016
Blair County, PA	12/29/2011	6/30/2013
Spokane, WA	12/29/2011	1/1/2014
Iowa Department of Public Safety	1/4/2012	12/31/2014
Lancaster County, PA	1/6/2012	12/31/2013
Peoria County ETSB	1/11/2012	6/30/2014
Currituck County, NC	1/24/2012	6/30/2013
Iowa Department of Corrections	1/24/2012	1/1/2014
Pennsylvania State Police	1/25/2012	12/31/2014

On July 13, 2011, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, and the Office and Engineering and Technology released a *Public Notice* providing, guidance on the submission of requests for waiver of the narrowband deadline.<sup>1</sup> We seek comments evaluating the above-listed waiver requests in light of that guidance. In particular, we seek comment from parties whose UHF/VHF operations could be impacted by grant of a waiver to any of the above-referenced parties.

Interested parties may file comments and reply comments in response to one or more of the listed waiver requests on or before the dates listed on the first page of this *Public Notice*. All pleadings must reference WT Docket No. 99-87, and should identify the specific waiver request(s) to which the comments are directed. Parties may file comments using: (1) the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), (2) the Federal Government's eRulemaking Portal, or (3) by filing paper copies.<sup>2</sup>

- Electronic Filers: File comments electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS:
  <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/">http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/</a> or the Federal eRulemaking Portal: <a href="http://www.regulations.gov">http://www.regulations.gov</a>.
  <a href="Filers should follow the instructions provided on the website for submitting comments.</li>
- If multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, ECFS filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to <a href="mailto:ecfs@fcc.gov">ecfs@fcc.gov</a>, and include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Send filings by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). Address filings to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- Deliver hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings to FCC Headquarters at 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554 between 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Use rubber bands or fasteners to hold deliveries together. Dispose of all envelopes before entering the building.
- Send commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.
- Send U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail to 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, and Office of Engineering and Technology Provide Reminders of the January 1, 2013 Deadline for Transition to Narrowband Operations in the 150-174 MHz and 421-512 MHz Bands and Guidance for Submission of Requests for Wavier and Other Matters, *Public Notice*, 26 FCC Rcd 9647 (2011).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998).

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to <a href="fcc504@fcc.gov">fcc504@fcc.gov</a> or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

Address all filings to the Commission's Secretary, Marlene H. Dortch, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. Parties should also send a copy of their filings to Roberto Mussenden, Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, Room 7-B553, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554, or by e-mail to narrowbanding@fcc.gov. Parties shall also serve one copy with the Commission's copy contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc. (BCPI), Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC 20554, (202) 488-5300, or via e-mail to fcc@bcpiweb.com.

Documents in WT Docket No. 99-87 are available for public inspection and copying during business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. The documents are available for purchase from BCPI, telephone (202) 488-5300, facsimile (202) 488-5563, TTY (202) 488-5562, e-mail <a href="fcc@bcpiweb.com">fcc@bcpiweb.com</a>. These documents are also available for viewing on the Commission's website at <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs">http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs</a>.

Because of the policy implications and potential impact of this proceeding on persons not party to these applications, it is in the public interest to treat each waiver request as a permit-but-disclose proceeding under the *ex parte* rules. *See* Sections 1.1200(a) and 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200(a) and 1.1206. Therefore, subsequent to the release of this *Public Notice*, we will allow *ex parte* presentations that address issues involved in the subject waiver request will be allowed, provided they are disclosed in accordance with the requirements of Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).

For further information, contact Mr. Roberto Mussenden of the Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau at (202) 418-1428 (voice), (202) 418-7233 (tty), or via email at Roberto.Mussenden@fcc.gov.

By the Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

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