PUBLIC NOTICE

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WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU AND OFFICE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY APPROVE SPECTRUM ACCESS SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR GOOGLE FOR FULL SCALE COMMERCIAL DEPLOYMENT IN THE 3.5 GHZ BAND IN AMERICAN SAMOA

GN Docket No. 15-319

1. With this *Public Notice*, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) and the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) (collectively, WTB/OET) of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission or FCC) approve Google LLC's (Google) request to operate as a Spectrum Access System (SAS) administrator in the 3.5 GHz band (3550-3700 MHz) in American Samoa.[1]

2. On January 27, 2020, WTB and OET approved four SAS administrators, including Google, for full scale commercial deployment in the 3.5 GHz band.[2] Each SAS administrator, including Google, was certified to operate in the contiguous United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Guam.[3] In the January 27, 2020, Public Notice, WTB and OET noted that if "a SAS operator intends to operate in additional U.S. Territories and Possessions, it must submit a filing in GN Docket No. 15-319 detailing the additional territories that it plans to cover."[4] Further, these "supplemental filings must include all information necessary for WTB/OET to make a determination regarding the SAS's ability to provide service to each territory, including terrain maps and associated ESC sensor coverage information (where applicable)."[5]

3. On April 26, 2021, after close consultation with the DoD, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) filed a letter that described protection

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[1] *See* 47 C.F.R. 96.63(e).

[2] *Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Approve Four Spectrum Access Administrators for Full Scale Commercial Deployment in the 3.5 GHz Band and Emphasize Licensee Compliance Obligations in the 3650-3700 MHz Band Under Part 96*, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 117 (2020 WTB/OET) (*SAS Certification Public Notice*) (contains procedural history of SAS approval process). WTB and OET subsequently approved two more SAS administrators for commercials operations. *See Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Approve Spectrum Access System Administrator Amdocs for Full Scale Commercial Deployment in the 3.5 GHz Band*, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 3687 (2020 WTB/OET); *see also Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Approve Spectrum Access System Administrator Key Bridge Wireless for Full Scale Commercial Deployment in the 3.5 GHz Band*, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, DA 21-289 (WTB/OET Mar. 9, 2021).

[3] *SAS Certification Public Notice*, 35 FCC Rcd at 120, para. 5.

[4] *Id.*

[5] *Id.*

criteria for federal operations in and around American Samoa.[6] Instead of employing an Environmental Sensing Capability to protect the DPAs, a scheduling portal will be used. The portal-activated DPAs will be referred to as P-DPAs.[7] SAS administrators in American Samoa are required to communicate with the portal on a regular basis and protect any P-DPA during scheduled activities. Consistent with the methodology that is used to protect certain federal facilities in the contiguous United States, federal operators may schedule operations in given frequency ranges using the portal.[8] The additional protection requirements for American Samoa will be captured in the Portal DPA KML file (P-DPAS.kml) on NTIA's website.[9]

4. On May 4, 2021, Google filed its request to operate as a SAS administrator in American Samoa in the 3.5 GHz band.[10] In its American Samoa request, Google agreed to immediately implement the P-DPA approach and communicate with the scheduling portal on a regular basis and protect any P-DPA during scheduled activities.[11] Google is approved to provide service consistent with the methodology described in NTIA's American Samoa Protection Letter in the 3550-3650 MHz band in American Samoa for the remainder of its five-year term[12] subject to ongoing compliance with the Commission's rules and instructions, as described in the *SAS Certification Public Notice*.[13]

By the Acting Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, and the Acting Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology.

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[6] *See* Letter from Charles Cooper, Associate Administrator, Office of Spectrum Management, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, to Ronald T. Repasi, Acting Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, FCC, and Joel Taubenblatt, Acting Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, FCC, GN Docket Nos. 17-258 and 15-319 (filed Apr. 26, 2021) (NTIA American Samoa Protection Letter); *see also* 47 C.F.R. 96.15(a).

[7] *Id.* at 2.

[8] SAS administrators may use the same scheduling portal that is currently used to protect P-DPAs in the contiguous United States to protect federal operations in American Samoa. *See SAS Certification Public Notice*, 35 FCC Rcd at 119, para. 5; *see also Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology Establish Procedure and Deadline for Filing Spectrum Access System Initial Commercial Deployment Proposals*, GN Docket No. 15-319, Public Notice, 33 FCC Rcd 7390, 7393, para. 7 (WTB/OET 2018).

[9] The 3.5 GHz band KML files used by the SAS operators are available on NTIA's website: https://www.ntia.doc.gov/fcc-filing/2015/ntia-letter-fcc-commercial-operations-3550-3650-mhz-band.

[10] Letter from Megan Anne Stull, Counsel, Google LLC, and Andrew W. Clegg, Spectrum Engineering Lead, Google LLC, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, GN Docket No. 15-319 (filed May 4, 2021) (American Samoa Request).

[11] *Id.* at 2.

[12] The five year term runs from when Google was certified as a SAS administrator on January 27, 2020. *See SAS Certification Public Notice*.

[13] *See* NTIA American Samoa Protection Letter; *see also SAS Certification Public Notice*, 35 FCC Rcd at 118-120, para. 5.